

Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Meeting
Monday, April 9, 2018
3:15 p.m. -- HELM 108-B

Meeting Called to order 3:18

Attendance: Jen Hanley, Janet Applin, Molly Kerby, Elizabeth Gish, Matt Shake, Colin Farrell, Andrea Jenkins, Doug McElroy (David Lee), Susann Davis, Joe Shankweiler, Kirk Atkinson, Kristin Wilson, Jim Fulkerson, Jim Berger, Liz Sturgeon, Andi Dahmer, Liz Sturgeon, Eric Kondratieff, Claus Ernst

[Copy of Agenda](#)—Berger, Wilson. Approved minutes

A. Approve minutes of March SEC Meeting:

1. [SEC 3-5-2018 Meeting Minutes](#)

B. Reports

1. Chair (Eric Kondratieff)

-Resolution of support for COSFL

-IT folks, sequestered about \$3200 for upgrades in Faculty Senate room in Helm. Have IT rezone the switches so that we can buy a cheaper projector, new computer, new monitor--\$5400—10% contingency. We've got the money to do this.

a. Special Guest: COSFL Representative (Molly Kerby)

i. [COSFL Statement on Tenure Language on KY Budget Bill HB 200 \(3-29-18\)](#)

Kerby: Tenure can always go away—the difference with this report is that they only have to give 10 days notice instead of a full year.

Kondratieff: Gives the Board of Regents (BOR) too much power to make determination.

Kerby: This is a slippery slope--the entire purpose is to eliminate tenure. Several universities are looking at this—EKU, Murray, if schools get on board we could all be in trouble. We need to look to our R1s for leadership, even though we are not R1, we still need to maintain the same kind of standards. WKU is third in line.

Kondratieff: We need to send the resolution either from SEC or from Molly because there is not enough time to go to full senate.

Kerby—NKU, Murray, UL, EKU—walk out on Thursday from 12-1 EST—lunch hour walk-out. Get the press involved and have faculty assemble in one place for an hour. (11-12 our time.) This protest came out of the meeting on Saturday.

Kondratieff: What is the point of the walk-out? President Caboni and WKU administration supports the AAUP

Kerby: publicity, school newspapers, TV stations. Walk-out—basically over the tenure stuff, but students and staff are usually supportive

Berger: Is the issue the 10 days notice of termination?

Kerby: it's a slippery slope and we are concerned about precedent and fall-out

Berger: There are other things to remove tenure, budget, low enrollment, financial exigency, eliminating tenure is not new.

Kerby: Giving 10 days notice is new

Berger: We want to make sure we understand what is actually happening

Kerby: There was a senate resolution from EKU where they slashed department, programs

Wilson: Why put this out there—is it in the legislature’s interest?

Kerby: Focus on the liberal arts. BA in Chemistry at EKU gone, most things that went down were theater

Kondratieff: The KY Board of Education will have several openings this year. Regardless of contractual obligations this budget only lasts for 2 years and it is not a mandate, but it does open up the door for the BOR to ignore contracts and AAUP best practices, dismiss departments by fiat—and “under utilization” is ambiguous, leaving students holding the bag if they have to change majors

Kerby: In two years you can do a lot of slashing

Wilson: Accreditation requires teaching things out,

Berger: SACOCS—6-year teach out

Kerby: But they can substitute core classes

Wilson: SACS can’t slow them down if they want to do it

Atkinson: Walk-out is a double-edged sword—some people will support, others will look at it askance, need senate involved, get constituents on board, they have more influence. This is not a business decision, sweeping away students.

Kondratieff: We need to devise a brief resolution in support of what President Caboni has already said in his email—to continue AAUP best practices, endorse the COSFL statement, KY AAUP needs to come from them.

2. Vice Chair (Liz Sturgeon)

Last month, new at large senators picked committees where there were openings. Next meeting we will have the rest of the senators caucus for the new committees.

Applin: Will we get a list of members for next year?

Sturgeon: The most recent list will be distributed at the next meeting.

3. Secretary (Jen Hanley)

4. Committee Chairs

a. Academic Quality Committee (Kirk Atkinson; Report posted):

i. [Report: AQ Meeting and Proposed Policy Change for Withdrawal Dates](#)

Atkinson: We have been working on two issues: 1) Academic probation policy: Sharon Mutter is heading that committee; 2) Extension of the drop date: Jim Fulkerson is heading that committee.

We have a draft for the academic probation policy. SGA contacted the committee and sent us their draft resolution to see what people were thinking. Upcoming meeting on Monday

Dahmer: SGA unanimously passed the first resolution

Sturgeon: What is the extension?

Fulkerson: Currently, our date is two weeks earlier than any others in the state and we want it to be more in line with everyone else

Berger: How does this mesh with the enrollment census date?

McElroy: Early 20s in October—21-26. Past the withdrawal date?

Berger: Won’t we be bumping up against the census date if we move the withdrawal date?

McElroy: Is our proposed withdrawal date is early enough for students to enroll in a second bi-term class?

Atkinson: Most students can't find courses in the second bi-term anyway, at least according to their anecdotal evidence

McElroy: We need to make sure we purge our rolls before the census date—the ones who register but never show up. If they are still on there it can hurt retention. Strategies by enrollment management to identify phantom students by other means.

Atkinson: academic dismissal has a good draft.

Kondratieff: current semester, withdrawal date is before Spring semester, but the proposed date is after 60% of the semester has passed.

Move to Accept the AQ report: (Atkinson), unanimous

b. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee (Patti Minter; No Report)

Kondratieff for Minter: Remind faculty to fill out the work life survey by April 11. President Caboni is listening and does want to hear faculty input. Also, FWPRC is meeting about COSFL and drafting a resolution.

c. Budget and Finance Committee (Jim Berger; No Report)

d. Colonnade General Education Committee (Jerry Daday; Report posted)

i. [CGEC Report and proposal for RELS 341 \(Colonnade - Connections - Social & Cultural\)](#)

Fulkerson: REL 341: Religion and the Environment action item, move for approval, **Second Hanley, unanimous**

e. Graduate Council (Kristin Wilson; Report Posted):

i. [Grad Council Report](#)

Wilson: Move to accept the report, Jenkins second. Unanimous.

Wilson: graduate council guidelines—updated, membership from the six academic colleges, has to be revised. Senate charter needs to be updated?

Kondratieff: Yes, but it has to have two readings—two successive senate meetings specifically.

Wilson: Can we remove the section from the by-laws and only have it in the senate charter.? Changing the representation to a proportional representation—conversations but no decisions have been made officially.

f. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Janet Applin; Report Posted):

i. [UCC Report](#)

Motion to approve: Applin, Berger, unanimous

g. Faculty Handbook Committee (Kate Hudephol; No Report)

Meeting, but nothing to report.

5. Advisory Reports

a. Faculty Regent (Claus Ernst)

Ernst: BOR meeting at the end of April, long-term debt obligations will be discussed. Ann Meade has promised data comparing us to other regionals.

Atkinson: We need to prime board about concerns with the language coming forward—tenure removal. Allowing the BOR to make decisions about tenure unilaterally is a bad idea.

b. Academic Affairs (Provost Lee)

McElroy: Nothing substantive, emails about interim appointments across campus. Expect to communications out this week regarding the re-organization and re-structuring University College. Effectively wordsmithing communications to get them to the right people saying the right things. David hopes to have this out by Wednesday. Make it obvious where faculty are going for election purposes.

Sturgeon: University senate has four departmental senators from University College.

Kondratieff: There are still open spots, if they end up in colleges with open seats, they get them. Surfeit means we can ask people to voluntarily step down.

Gish: I've been moved to religion. What happens?

Hanley: This has happened in the past, we might want to find out what they did before

Dahmer: Students have inquired if the departments moved from University College are at more risk than other departments?

McElroy: Nothing specific, generally, whenever you are talking about curricular, it has more to do with individual programs than the structure, we've fused and unfused, moved things around before; but organizational restructuring is different—it is more about the programs. We have precedent for all permutations

Ernst: When you re-write the charter if you don't fix the number of administrative units you will still be confused.

Wilson: When will we have information about the second round of cuts?

McElroy: The governor's thrown a wrench in our plans, we don't know what our hard number is until Frankfort makes its decisions. We don't know what the plan is moving forward. Process/exercise to get people's thinking started—best ideas, best of worst solutions organized. No concrete target. Pension funding, performance funding, fixed cost increases, enrollment decline for next fall. Don't know what this means for changes and reductions.

Kondratieff: Dean search information?

McElroy: Dean's search was to slow down and wait for the provost interviews to be completed so the favored candidate can have input on the dean selection.

Kondratieff: Separate open forums set up—right before senate meeting in faculty house.

c. SGA (Andi Dahmer)

Legislative updates: successfully passed: withdrawal date legislation, cultural competency legislation—to ensure that there is basic cultural competency training before beginning committee work—to avoid discrimination against race, LGBTQIA

First read: Ice contingency plan for those who are physically disabled, WKU has 29 miles of sidewalks

H2O fountains in dormitories to make them re-fillable

Informational Item: food insecurity is a major campus problem—reliable access to a reasonable amount of nutritious food on campus. National trends indicate there are major issues with food security and access to nutritional food. WKU survey 100 students: 2018—11% responded they go hungry often because of insufficient funding for food. 35% reported they got fast food because there wasn't funding for nutritious food purchases. 17% missed class because of food-related problems. Campaign from pub relations majors—faculty to begin the conversation about food insecurity and its effects on students. Staff also experience food insecurity. Starving to learn—website shows the access students have to on-campus options. Amanda Shircliff—senior PR major
Kondratieff: A student wants to speak to senate and have them endorse a blurb for the syllabi. What if we just include it in our reference to the syllabus website—condense it.
Wilson: Cultural competency training—how often?
Dahmer: Left it open—hoping for once a year, but left it up to people to decide

Motion to adjourn: Berger, Jenkins,
Closed 426.

C. Old Business:

D. New Business:

E. Information Items: