

University Senate Meeting
Thursday, March 22, 2018 -- 3:45 p.m.
Faculty House

Call to order: 3:46

Attendance

Lori Alexander, Audrey Anton, Jim Berger, Scott Bonham, Pamela Chandler, Kirk Atkinson (Jim Lindsey), Jerry Daday, Susann Davis, Marko Dumancic, Keri Esslinger, Travis Esslinger, Elizabeth Gish, Dominique Gumirakiza, Jen Walton-Hanley, Timothy Hawkins, Lawrence Hill, Kate Hudepohl, Guy Jordan, David Lee (Doug McElroy), Donielle Lovelle (Lauren McClain), Nurcheshmeh Morteza, Leslie Plumlee, Matt Pruitt, Dale Rigby, Kandy Smith, Christy Spurlock, Joe Shankweiler, Dana Sullivan, Carol Watwood, Alison Youngblood, Tamela Smith, Emy Dehetter, Jim Lindsay, Janet Applin, D'Lee Babb, Laura Bain-Selbo, Tim Brotherton, Neale Chumbler (Danita Kelley), Dan Clark, Thad Crews, Aquesha Daniels, Julie Lyn Barber, Colin Farrell, Jim Fulkerson (Merrall Price), Jean Luc Houle, Jarrett Johnson (Nancy Price), Pat Kambesis, Soleiman Kiasatpour, Ben Lennertz, Kim Link, Patti Minter, Sharon Mutter, Elizabeth Norris, Heather Payne-Emerson, Beth Pyle, Dianna Ransdell, Kelly Reames, Jo Shackelford, Matt Shake, Ajay Srivastava, Heather Strode, Kristin Wilson, Maribeth Wilson, Julia Mittelberg, Natasha Gerstenschlager, Melanie Autin, Mac McKerral

[Copy of Agenda](#)

A. [Approve February 15, 2018 Minutes](#)

add: Kristi Branham to attendance for last month
Jordan, Watwood—Approved Unanimously

B. Reports - Part I (non-standing committee and advisory in section F)

1. Chair – Liz Sturgeon for Eric Kondratieff

-No chair report, at the provost search

2. Vice Chair – Liz Sturgeon

-No report

-Update on at-large elections—no election was held because there were not enough candidates

3. Secretary – Jen Hanley

-No report

C. Committee Reports and Recommendations

1. Academic Quality: Kirk Atkinson (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

a. [Report: AQ Meeting 23 Feb. 2018](#)

Atkinson absent, replaced with Sharon Mutter, no action items

-Academic Advising probation policy is under review because as it stands currently it is ambiguous—they use a graduated scale to determine good standing

-This is creating problems because students who are in good standing with low GPAs can have delayed graduation date.

- Also inhibits reports for intervention.
- Considering pushing for 2.0 GPA for good standing.

-Drop Date. WKU has the earliest in the state and committee is discussing extending the drop date and looking at the ramifications.

Vote: Unanimous, report accepted.

2. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities: Patti Minter (No Report)

Minter: No report

- Faculty Work Life Survey has gone live and it will close in early April.
- This survey is a temperature gauge for faculty's attitudes towards work life conditions.
- The full survey (including all comments) is shared with the BOR.
- Deadline to complete the survey is April 3

3. Budget and Finance Committee: Jim Berger (No Report)

Berger: We met with Anne Meade and Indu Chhachhi

Resolution forthcoming in new business.

No Action items, just meeting with Budget Council.

Move to approve the report. Unanimous

4. Colonnade General Education Committee: Jerry Daday (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

Daday: consider the two items separately—PS course and Modern Language

- [CGEC Report](#)
- [PS 304 State Government \(Colonnade Connections - Systems Category\) - Proposal](#)
- [World Language Proficiency Resolution Update](#)

Daday

-Background: Band-Aid students with two years of high school language have fulfilled the language requirement through 2019. Modern Language Department (MLD) was asked to bring back solutions by February to address the situation of backlog.

-Working group with Doug MacElroy to discuss the issue, but we did not address curriculum.

-Four options—1) Eliminate the language requirement entirely; 2) extend the Band-Aid; 3) implement a new test in place of the STAMP test. This test could either be purchased or created in-house; 4) Increase the number of seats in 101/102

-Minutes of the Colonnade meeting of Feb. 20 are available on the shared drive.

-Issues raised by provost in memo, also addressed in the meeting.

-Straw poll vote in Colonnade—led to passing resolution: Give the Modern Languages the chance to develop an in-house test or buy an off the shelf placement test and see where students need to land in terms of language.

-Resolution extends Band-Aid through next catalog year.

Wilson: There are a large number of students who wouldn't graduate without the "band-aid," is there evidence that students applied for graduation?

Daday: Since Feb 20, there have been meetings with Academic Affairs, creating the pilot test will be really tough and will take time and effort. The Initial resolution called for information by Feb. 15—trying to get stuff in place before TOP for spring registration. Since discussion last month—pilot will take longer than October. In my personal opinion, the resolution needs to be tweaked. Pass it and the provost can veto it. Reject it or amend it.

Wilson: Foreign Language faculty, do they have the support to make this happen?

Ke Peng: Working in-house have five different majors and we are working in different teams to develop a placement test—Arabic, French, Chinese. We have data from final exams in all these courses. German and Spanish are still working things out and are using a combination of test items.

-2) In terms of the reliability: we have internal linguist who can work on the data and can seek help from other depts. To validate the data.

Daday: There was a vibrant discussion from the SEC, minutes are available

Shake: Give modern languages a chance, but there is an unrealistic time line. Option 3's time line is too optimistic. Proper test development takes time to make perfect. What effect does this have on students considering coming to WKU? I recommend amending the resolution to push the time line back one year—give Modern Languages time to coordinate with other units, extend the current waiver for one more year. Spend the time from now until Spring 2019—to create the test and then pilot them in Summer 2019. Tackle the revisions in the next academic year. The report is missing what steps test developers will take to see if the test they create addresses proficiencies, disabilities, sample size, cheating, norms for performance across playing fields, cut off scores, resources needed, etc. Affects all potential WKU students.

Daday: Colonnade debated whether we should purchase an off-the-shelf test or develop one in-house.

-Colonnade committee did not delve into the details of what the pilot would look like. But yes, October seems overly ambitious

Youngblood: In the December meeting the reason this became an issue is that students refused to take the STAMP test. Why will this be different?

Daday: The Stamp test proficiency test, takes too long and is too expensive. Issues of where to take the test unresolved. The revised test will be easier for student to take.

Davis: The test by Avant Assessment, can be taken from home—takes 45 minutes. The STAMP test is supposed to be proctored

McKerral—Agree that there are good questions about the pilot and legitimacy. Not sure I agree on another year on language moratorium. Decisions we make are important. Getting pushed up against TOP is ridiculous. We have no data about why students don't come. Bigger question is graduating seniors—bad advising. Working group only have three disciplines into this—history and journalism are also in Potter, I feel like the university senate has a gun held to its head because of students landing on campus in 2 weeks. Report states: working group decisions are based primarily on resources—money. This is an academic issue—graduating students what about the quality of the degree they students receive. There is merit in looking at ways to enhance degree programs through emphasizing languages. Journalism has a strong relationship with modern languages—we

actively encourage students to minor in a language. Departments other than journalism who might have wanted and provided valuable insights into the discussion. We shouldn't be making decisions based on a flock of people descending to campus.

Daday: This is an advising issue. Likely students will get advised into a 101/102 at Top. How do we want to advise students?

McKerral: Value of the benchmark chart?

Daday—what other universities are doing

McKerral: The impact of the chart is confusing—one hand we are unique, the other hand we need to be like everyone else

Daday: if the table is relevant than it would be the first option

Ernst—validity of tests, disciplines get to do the tests they know what they need. Tests need regular tweaking, if modern language can

Daday—sample size, get students to participate, etc. Not arguing how we assess students. We are all qualified—not about the ability to create the tests. Driven by TOP.

Hanley: Students need to be held accountable—and yet, in none of the conversation have I heard any mention of the role of students in not completing their STAMP test. It's all about throwing advising under the bus. I think we need to factor in some student responsibility.

Pruitt: In a typical TOP day, how many students attend?

Daday: The pilot is undefined, provost is against doing it at Top

Mutter: Why isn't option 1 a good option—let programs determine their own language requirements

Daday: Some discussion about BA vs BS—some discussions going with option one would benefit adult learners, but there was a consensus at Colonnade that we want to fix it before we eliminate it

Magee: Understand option one—doesn't require students to have the pre-college requirement.

Mutter: Some debates about language at the high school level. Some programs having a language is important. That would address the issue. Why is that a problem?

Magee: Option is open to all departments to have language requirements.

Davis: pre-college curriculum does, others don't. Tasks in Modern Languages is to develop a plan to allow students to fulfill the requirement without a backlog. We have reviewed the strengths and weaknesses. Language gives students cultural competence to thrive and look at socio-political changes. Would agree with Shake's amendment, option 2 does not show learning outcomes. Option 3 rewards student achievements, preserves programs with high degrees of performance, addresses implementation issues. Faculty should own curricular decisions. Any decision is principle-based.

Bonham: Time line—Option 3 test two purposes—placement or determine proficiency. Two tests; placement or STAMP test so you can test out completely. If we had a placement test

Daday—Cost of the stamp test

Wilson: Susann, how many languages can be tested in the STAMP test? Only test for the languages for which we have an expertise? How many students

Daday—Languages on Colonnade website, where we have expertise.

Wilson—For students out of our expertise

Daday—there are other options for students with unique languages, option three does not supersede other languages

Shake: Amend the resolution to carry it back a year?

Daday—if we give the pilot until next summer, kick the Band-Aid for two years.

Reluctant to put a time line on it.

Dahmer: Rep of SGA, dual language student. Not exactly on benchmark this is a quality that makes us unique—cultural proficiency, what’s going on here is a placement test, most study abroad programs have a placement test, this is a feasible time line. Kicking it down the road—there are students who are freshmen who are already planning on not taking the language. Disagree—this can be integrated into a TOP Day—UK can, so can we. Important to look into those options.

Wilson: Motion to accept what was done in Colonnade, **Second, Youngblood.**

Smith: Can make a subsidiary motion to amend it?

Hudepohl: Having the extension with a definite date is a good idea. One year extension, students need to be responsible for themselves.

Daday: Every student who is here has their language requirement taken care of. This is for new students

Youngblood: Large undertaking, is Modern Languages getting any help?

Davis: We have course releases this semester because 101-102 announcement tanked enrollment

McKerral: \$35 fee—we charge our students a buttload of fees for stuff they don’t want, why not have one that can benefit them. Regardless of our decision—look at how the testing can be done at TOP. Windows of opportunity when they want to sit down and take a rest from the dog and pony show that drains the blood from their veins.

Hudepohl: **Can we just say extend everything by one year exactly, Pruitt Second.**

Daday: October 2019—would cover 18-19 catalog year, something should be done before Spring TOP.

MacElroy—remember if you extend pilot time line, the Band-Aid needs to be extended as well. Need to think about the recruiting cycle—schools are trying to understand what students are expected to do.

Daday: Extend everything one year, gives time

Leonard: Why do we have to extend the Band-Aid. Was it considered to take the old version as the default?

Daday: Still not enough seats in 102 to meet the demand. 3000 students, 2300 seats.

McClain: Why move things back a year? Couldn’t we just push this back to December? Why a full year? Is it feasible to wait until December?

Daday: Pilot in the summer we could have data, and then we could act. Let’s not kick this down the road again.

Shake: If you ask people who are experts in test development, this doesn’t take place in a few months. Agree with Jerry don’t want to end up in October with unfinished.

Wilson: One pilot assumes the test items will be valid—a year, gives time for two

McKerral: It seems like the amendment is the best alternative. Can kicking exercise that has been going for four years. The problem has existed longer—working group bases its premise on resources, somebody needs to be attentive to what resources it needs. Plans without money—MacElroy will take that back to the provost

Motion: Accept the report of the Colonnade with amendment to extend the pilot testing to 2019, and the “band-aid” to the 2019-2020 year.

Vote: 3 opposed, Rest Yes.

PS 304: Vote: yes.

- i. [Attachment 1 - World Language Proficiency Workgroup Report](#)
- ii. [Attachment 2 - World Language Requirement Option #3 endorsement](#)

5. Graduate Council: Kristin Wilson (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

- a. [Grad Council Report](#)

Wilson: motion to approve. Unanimous

6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Janet Applin (Report posted; Endorsed by SEC)

- a. [UCC Report](#)

Kandy: approved

7. Faculty Handbook Committee: Kate Hudepohl (No report)

D. Old Business

E. New Business

Berger: Senate resolution addressing the Aramark contract in place. Locks us in for 20 years and over time charges exorbitant meal fees to commuter students. Undue burden on students; resolution for President Caboni to ask that he renegotiate the contract.

Second: Hanley

Pruitt: Is this really a fee when you get something out of this? Should there be another option? Aramark will not agree with this—instead extend the time period of the contract. More ways to work with Aramark. Get them bargaining with us to change current contract.

Clark: proposal originally had more items. 1) Allow MPD rolled over from board plans to mandatory dollar plans. Any leftover dollars from campus meal plans—could be rolled over into commuter. 2) Require to WKU to use previously unused dollars and 8% commission to defray the cost of meal plan dollars for students, especially commuter students. If we have good ideas keep them on there to give them something to work with.

McKerral: Don't disagree with points. Moving into the area of negotiating the contract in the senate, the real issue is that this is a bad and unfair contract that needs to be re-negotiated. Way to make our point without getting the contract back on the table—and then we can look at the response and contribute to the ideas.

2) Railing against this contract since it became public, signed by president in June. Our BOR doesn't understand that it has statutory obligations—BOR should have paid closer attention—contract for lots of money by president leaving anyway. BOR—claimed to be caught by surprised—undermines confidence in the BOR at the time. We need to make the point this is a bad contract to make it better.

Ernst: Our president has the authority to negotiate contracts, this contract was negotiated by him [Pres. Ransdell], we put this contract out, the terms were defined by us to get money for new buildings. BOR if chief exec signs contract it comes as information item only. BOR were not fully aware

Pruitt: Second paragraph end with the first sentence and leave out the methods of negotiation. Change fees to cost.

Berger: I would be amenable to accepting the amendment, but the committee needs to agree.

Pruitt: Motion to amend the resolution on the table by replacing fees with costs, and end the second paragraph with the opening sentence and remove the rest. Second Hudepohl

Clark: In favor of changing fees to costs, but I am against the truncation the contract.

McKerral: Resolution as amended is more effective

Bonham: Agree with previous speaker—taking off points a and b makes it unclear about what we want to happen. We need language to reduce the cost of students to make that explicit.

Hudepohl: First paragraph addresses the reasons we want this, important to have a public resolution drawing attention to this thing that happened. Important to support SGA—horrible

Connor: SGA resolution—two support the renegotiation of the Aramark contract to get rid of excessive fees. Caboni is concerned about what renegeing on a contract does to WKU reputation.

Smith: point of order: two separate issues—fees vs costs, one to address second paragraph

Vote: All those in favor of the amendment changing fees to costs, end second paragraph with a period: Favor: Yes, 4 opposed.

Vote on resolution: Accepting resolution, unanimous

Dahmer: SGA passed a similar resolution approved unanimously.

F. Report - Part II

1. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education – Molly Kerby
2. AAUP representative - Margaret Crowder
3. Advisory Reports:
 - a. Faculty Regent – Claus Ernst

Surprised how BOR works voted on items—approval of sabbatical items, informal discussion about how the bylaws should change and what the BOR votes on should change. President Caboni has to accept restrictions on what contracts he can negotiate. Different items moving forward.

b. Provost – David Lee, represented by Dough MacElroy

Memo Sent to Faculty-All please see attached document.

Doug MacElroy—class meeting times policy was approved by the president's cabinet with recommended amendments in effect at this point. Implementation Spring 2019 scheduling cycle.

Wilson: Elimination of University College affects representation on senate, etc. Will provost offer direction about representation?

MacElroy: There are a lot of moving pieces no real information as of yet. Involved in some but not all. Working through all of those things ASAP. Details forthcoming shortly. Some elements more pressing than others. Systematic approach.

Wilson: valuable members of grad councils moving to other colleges, want to vote them in
Need information by the May meeting.

MacElroy—will pay attention to those deadlines

McKerral: Shifting tides of bodies into department. Issues in faculty in handbook---from one unit to the next regarding T & P and post-tenure review, continuance. People being moved from one unit to the other will need to be addressed in the faculty handbook.

c. SGA President – Andi Dahmer _-Connor

Updates: hosted women in university leadership forum. Legislation: Big Red rents, laptop chargers, etc. students can rent.

Withdrawal date: working with faculty, to push it back

Passed: Stoles for lavender graduation, shirts for sex assault prevent, first gen college scholarship, Bill for grad students—1-hr course, campus job requires 4.5 hours

Making SGA more representative—ICET and Non-traditional students.

Motion to Adjourn

Hanley, McKerral 5:13 pm

G. Information Items