Western Kentucky University
University Senate
Meeting Minutes
17 January 2019, 3:45 p.m.
Faculty House

A) Call to order
- A regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Kirk Atkinson at 3:46 p.m.
- Members present (substitute): Kirk Atkinson, Melanie Autin, Terry Ballman, Jason Bergner, Tim Brotherton, Dan Clark, Aquesha Daniels, Susann Davis, Pitt Derryberry, Carl Dick, Lacretia Dye, Claus Ernst, Travis Esslinger, Colin Farrell, Stacey Forsythe, Jim Fulkerson, Dawn Garrett-Wright, James Gary, Natasha Gerstenschlager, Steven Gibson (Steven Bonham), Elizabeth Gish, Dominique Gumirakiza, Tim Hawkins, Lawrence Hill, Jean-Luc Houle, Angie Jerome, Guy Jordan (David Marquez), Pat Kambesis, Jim Lindsey, Kim Link, Lauren McClain, Mac McKerral, Patti Minter, Kurt Neelly, Morteza Nurcheshmeh, Leslie Plumlee, Matt Pruitt, Dianna Ransdell, Mark Schafer, David Serafini, Jo Shackelford, Joe Shankweiler, Christy Spurlock, Ajay Srivastava, Tammie Stenger-Ramsey, Heather Strode, Dana Sullivan, Carol Watwood, Mary Wolinski, Amber Belt (guest), Danita Kelley (guest), Emily Dewetter (guest), Marko Domancic (guest)

B) Approve December 2018 minutes
- C. Watwood motioned to approved. P. Minter seconded. Passed unanimously.

C) Reports, Part I
- *Chair – Kirk Atkinson*
  1) On a conference call tomorrow with people from National Council for Faculty Senate
     - Still working on getting charter solidified
     - Will ask them about annual membership fee
       - Provost has already proposed to add this amount to our Senate budget
  2) Have meeting with President Caboni in the morning
     - Will discuss questions asked by faculty and will report back with answers
  3) I serve on university-level CAPE committee. I also serve as an *ex officio* meeting for Academic Affairs. I'll be sitting in on those meetings.
     - C. Dick – Is the Senate chair being an *ex officio* member of CAD new?
       - K. Atkinson – Yes. That's something I requested. I think this would be better because I could get the information from the meetings directly versus second hand.
- *Vice Chair – Dan Clark (no report)*
  1) Later this semester, new departmental Senators will be elected to new two-year terms
- *Secretary – Jason Bergner (no report)*
- *Coalition of Senate/Faculty Leadership for Higher Education – Molly Kirby (no report)*
- *AAUP Representative – Margaret Crowder (no report)*

D) Committee Reports and Recommendations
- *Academic Quality – Heather Strode (no report)*

1) FYI: Tomorrow the Faculty Welfare and Academic Quality committees will work together to address concerns from the prior Senate meeting
- *Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities – Lauren McClain (report posted, endorsed by the SEC)*
  1) L. McClain motioned. Unanimous approval.
  2) We plan to review in more detail the parental leave policy and see if it is sufficient.
  3) Working with Budget committee to review the merit and hopefully develop best practices.
- *Budget and Finance Committee – Jim Berger (report posted, endorsed by the SEC)*
  1) M. McKerral motioned. Unanimous approval.
- *Colonnade General Education Committee – Mary Wolinski (report posted, endorsed by the SEC)*
  1) M. Wolinski motioned. Unanimous approval.
  2) We'll have a special meeting for discussion of international subcategory addition to Connections on 24 Jan at 3:45 in Grise 441
     - I'll send out the proposal form for that subcategory
  3) We need another at-large member
     - Anyone interested in serving should contact D. Clark
- *Graduate Council – Carl Dick (report posted, endorsed by the SEC)*
  1) C. Dick motioned. Unanimous approval.
  2) Chair of curriculum committee resigned, and a temporary chair has agreed to serve
- *Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – Janet Applin (report posted, endorsed by the SEC)*
  1) M. Autin motioned. Unanimous approval.
- *Faculty Handbook Committee – Kate Hudepohl (no report)*

E) Old Business
  1) Senate Charter changes draft, 2nd reading
     - A. Jerome motioned. L. McClain seconded. Unanimous approval.
     - A. Jerome offered a friendly amendment to add gridlines. Accepted.
     - C. Dick – The GC is going to move to approve new bylaws. Do we need Senate approval?
       - K. Atkinson – I don't think so. You can bring it forward as an information item if you wish.

F) New Business
  - In near future, when building changes begin around the library, the SEC is going to be swallowed up. What do we want to do? What space do we want to use for SEC meetings? There's no voting here…just something to think about.

G) Reports, Part II
  - *Advisory Report, Faculty Regent – Claus Ernst*
    1) The Board hasn't done anything since the last Senate meeting.
    2) Governor invited all Board reps to a meeting
       - Speaker from AZ State
       - How can they have such success with retention vs. us?
         - They have a very data-driven, scientific approach to this…requires a lot of training

- They have a lot of 1st-generation students, significant minorities, and have a lot of other similarities to WKU
- They have also taken an appropriation hit from the state
- M. McKerral – I'm an alum from there. They are an R1 school, and they have a ton of money
- *Advisory Report, Provost – Terry Ballman*
  1) New CITL interim director is Dr. Marko Dumancic
     - He will work with faculty across disciplines to develop assessment plan
  2) I've approved 16 sabbatical requests for the 2019-20 year
  3) Today, we hosted the 6th annual Student Success Summit
- *Advisory Report, SGA President – Stephen Mayer*
  1) K. Atkinson – Stephen has stepped up many times to help us. If we need to poll students or get other data, they are happy to help us.

H) Information Items
- CourseLeaf software for UG (R. Plemons)
  1) R. Plemons – We are excited about moving to this online catalog. We're also excited about the curriculum management aspect of this software.
  2) Some courses have prerequisites that are vague (e.g. "or higher") and we want to do a one-time cleanup before releasing the catalog with CourseLeaf in the fall.
     - We also want to look at suspended courses and see if you want to delete them.
     - We are also going to look at "permission of instructor." We want to eliminate this is a prereq. We can't monitor this and requires you do an override. We think it will save you time to clean this up and (perhaps) put a general statement that all courses are available with the permission of instructor since that is the reality.

I) Adjournment
- S. Davis motioned. Unanimous approval.