

Western Kentucky University
Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2021
Zoom

Introduction:

- **Members present (Substitute):** Julie Shadoan, Laura Bohuski, Shane Spiller, Patricia Todd, Uta Ziegler, Francesca Sunkin, Janet Applin, Daniel Clark, Tony Paganelli, Mac McKerral, Cheryl Stevens, Guy Jordan, Liz Sturgeon, Jason Bergner, and Aaron Hughey.
- **Guest Present:** Rheanna Plemons, Amber Scott Belt, Rob Hale, Jennifer Hammonds, Bruce Schulte, Tony Glisson, and Susan Howarth.
- J. Shadoan called a regular meeting of SEC to order at 3:15pm

Zoom meeting begins at time code 16:00

https://wku.zoom.us/rec/share/smbU4yG_JPeT7sQcYVrTBg9Ki3-XoOaYKUBi6cUg8WCQsyvwOQ8jhBkBmqQZzZEg.WGfwTqVmhYnb3YRk

A. Approve minutes of previous month's SEC Meeting:

1. SEC Meeting Minutes 11.30.2020; F. Sunkin, A. Paganelli (8y, 0 n, 0 abs) Motion Approved.
 - Motion to Rearrange agenda for Susan Howarth, Tony Glisson, and Provost to give presentation: G. Jordan, L. Bohuski. Motion Approved.
 - **Presentation 19:10—43:30:**
 - Voluntary Separating Incentive Program, planning to roll out on Thursday Morning. Want feedback on this from Senate.
 - This is a program to allow people to separate/leave Western if they desire before retirement age and to keep some health care support.
 - Voluntary and no one can be forced to do so and can change their mind by a certain date.
 - Laid out deadlines for application and withdrawal from program.
 - Question about applications and notifications if application is approved or denied, about if too many people leave from one department or leave in general, is there a financial issue that has generated this, will job lines be retained to fill required positions for a department or college, question about age requirement, and retirement.

B. Officer Reports

1. Chair - Julie Shadoan
2. Vice Chair - Daniel Clark
 - Departmental senator elections February and March. Begin thinking about who the chair for your committee will be next year.
3. Secretary - Laura Bohuski

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Francesca Sunkin: (No report)
 - Will be reviewing pass/fail policy and SITE questions.
2. Budget and Finance, Guy Jordan: (No report)
 - Meeting with Jennifer Breiwa Smith Director of Government and Community Relations and our legislative liaison in this upcoming semester about higher ed budget.
3. Colonnade/General Education, Patricia Todd: (Report posted)
 - Motion for approval of Colonnade (11y, 0 n, 0 abs) Motion Approved
4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Daniel Clark: (Report posted)
 - Working on Handbook amendments. Motion to approve report (11y, 0 n, 0 abs.) Motion Approved
5. Graduate Council, Aaron Hughey: (No report)
6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Liz Sturgeon: (No report)

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. Faculty Handbook: (No report)
2. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL): (No report)
3. American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Margaret Crowder: (No report)

E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller
 - Regents expressed gratitude of Faculty's hard during this time.
2. Provost, Cheryl Stevens
 - Been working on VSIP and had Big Red Restart meeting last week.
 - J. Applin: Question about Covid restart; Access to vaccines, higher ed employees seen as essential workers, guidance on clinical workers. Is the information forthcoming?
 - U. Ziegler question about enrollment.
3. SGA President, Garrett Edmonds (absent)

F. New Business:

1. Senate Charter Change
 - a. Faculty Handbook Committee
 - If you have anything other changes to the handbook, please send to Julie.
 - i. Chair position
 - ii. Committee status
- b. Others?

2. Follow Up Faculty Survey

a. Wellness

- Any plans for another survey, particularly about wellness. Want thoughts before I send this onto Faculty Welfare.
- M. McKerral: Question about the change in health vendors.

3. Faculty Work life Survey Revisions

- This survey is done by Faculty Welfare every Spring. Have gotten suggestions of questions we should add about the Efficacy of Faculty Senate and Academic Support Units. Wanted to get SEC's thoughts about changing/adding questions.

a. Faculty Senate Efficacy

b. Academic Support Units Efficacy

- Concerns about length of Survey
- Putting academic support in a different survey, concerns about evaluating Senators as they are volunteers, not being paid. Faculty senate questions might be better in another survey, but academic support units would fit in. Many support units on campus, so would have to be specific about what units we're talking about. Maybe need a different survey from Faculty Welfare.

4. Colonnade Course Assessment

a. Director Position Announcement

- R. Hale: Hoping to create this position this semester. Want a position that can direct and help promote Colonnade to its fullest potential. Molly Kirby is working to craft this position.
- G. Jordan: Question about colleges wanting to have this position created and giving Colonnade direction over to an administrator. Colonnade Committee currently determines the direction of Colonnade.
- R. Hale: Not set in stone yet, could be the committee doing this work instead of a person. We want the faculty to be on board with this position.

5. Athletics Budget

a. Per Discussion at December 2020 Senate Meeting

- Want a comprehensive look at the budget projections versus reality.
- Try to have S. Howarth pull together the budget for Senate.

G. Old Business:

1. Program Coordinator, Administration Response to Resolution on CHHS

a. Committee Formation

- Provost recommending a committee be formed to figure out standardizations for Coordinators across entire campus.

2. Spring 2021, Class Time

a. Restart Committee Recommendation

- Committee recommended maintaining new class times, provost will discuss with Taskforce Committee.

3. Faculty Ombudsperson(s)

- a. Status: Understanding that President intends to move this month on Ombudsperson.

4. Regent Election

a. Status, OAG Opinion re: eligibility to vote (part-time instructors):

- Nothing forthcoming from this office.

Adjournment: L. Bohuski, Mac McKerral; 4:27