

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
January 11, 2011  
West Campus Community Center**

**Minutes**

**I. Action Items**

A.	The Minutes of the December 7 meeting were approved (Jewitt, Joyce).
B.	The Minutes of the December 14 meeting were approved as amended (Jewett, Sanderson).
C.	The creation of a Graphic Design AAS Concentration within the AIMC Degree was unanimously approved (Heaphy, Alspach).

**Attendance**

Senators attending	Alspach, Berghoef, Bokina-Lashaway, Boncher, Brandly, Colley, Compton, Cook, Dakkuri, Daugherty, Drake, Fox, Gillespie, Haneline, Hanna, Heaphy, Isler, Jewett, Joyce, Klatt, Liszewski, Lukusa Barnett, Marion, McNulty, Nagel, Nash, Rewers, Reynolds, Sanderson, Skrocki, Sun, Taylor, Thapa, Wagenheim
Senators absent with cause	Griffin, Luplow, Prakasam
Senators absent	Boncher, Maike
Ex Officio and Guests	Eisler, Teahen, Flickinger, Burcham, Coon, Cron, Johnston, McKean, Nicol, Potter, L. Johnson (UCC), Mike Cairns, Carol Quigley

See the Narrative for Reports and Announcements.

**Narrative**

**II. Open Forum**

A.	Sen. Alspach announced that the Political Engagement Project (PEP) will hold a "round up" luncheon on Thursday, January 13 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Private Dining Room of the Rock for current and interested faculty members.
B.	Sen. Alspach encouraged Senators to participate in the activities scheduled to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy beginning Monday, January 17 and concluding on Wednesday, January 18.
C.	Leonard Johnson announced that SPARC (Strategic Planning and Review Council) will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 3:00 pm in West Campus Community Center. He reminded Senators that the minutes and agenda of SPARC were available online.

**III. Reports**

A.	President Haneline had no report at this time.
B.	Vice President Berghoef reported that the newly elected Senators representing the Non-Tenure Track Instructional Faculty had been appointed to committees. Sen. Bernadette Fox will serve on the Library/Historical Archival Committee. Sen. Beth Reynolds will serve on the Professional Development Committee. He will be meeting with the Task Force reviewing Senate Committees to examine their findings and to discuss further review and recommendations, which might include interviewing additional faculty or administrators.
C.	Secretary Alspach thanked Sen. Berghoef and Sen. Jewett for their contributions to the amending of the minutes from the December 14, 2010 special meeting with the Provost. She alerted Senators to the pending faculty referendum on the Charter revisions approved by

		the Senate in December.
IV. Committee Reports		
	A.	Sandy Balkema reported on the preparations for the Higher Learning Commission Site Visit in April. She provided Senators with bookmarks and a handout summarizing the key features of the Self-Study, "Shaping Our Future", noting that this document was also available online at the HLC link.
		She reported that the site visiting team would be finalized in the next few weeks; and she encouraged Senators who might know anyone on the team to contact the HLC Steering Committee. The schedule for the visit is in preparation as well, allowing for the members of the site visiting team to make requests for visits and interviews. The Academic Senate is scheduled to meet on April 19 to have conversation with the HLC team.
		She shared the third student video entered in the Video Contest.
		She shared a one-page summary of Section III of the Self Study, the "Institutional Snapshot", which focuses on statistical descriptions of the Ferris student population.
		She reported that an awareness campaign had begun, featuring a series of "potty posters" designed by the Journalism and Technical Communication majors and posted in all the public restrooms on campus. The posters feature the University Mission and Core Values.
	B.	Leonard Johnson reported the work of the University Curriculum Committee in December, and answered questions. He alerted Senators to the action item on the agenda in New Business.
	C.	Sen. Skrocki reported for the Task Force reviewing Senate Committees. She announced that all committees had provided data and that the review rubric data was ready for analysis. The Task Force will confirm with VP Berghoef that all Senate committees are represented in the data. Then they will determine a scheme for weighing the rubric variables.
	D.	Don Flickinger announced that the General Education Task Force will be holding two town hall meetings to discuss Personal and Social Responsibility on Jan. 26 and Jan. 28 at noon in the Rankin Center room 125-127. He thanked Fred Heck for writing the syntheses of the town hall discussions to date. The GETF intends to bring Outcomes for Senate discussion at the March meeting. Pres. Haneline invited Senators to send comments to heckf@ferris.edu.
	E.	Bill Potter presented the Academic Advising Team Report which has been approved by the Deans Council and President Eisler. Senator Sun and Leonard Johnson were members of the team. Dean Potter responded to questions about staffing to meet the mandate of the report, indicating that Colleges would be empowered to create their own mechanisms to meet needs.
V. New Business		
	A.	The creation of a Graphic Design AAS Concentration within the AIMC Degree was unanimously approved (Heaphy, Alspach). Dean Nicol explained that this decision would give students an alternative if their portfolios were not accepted into the Graphic Design program. There was discussion about the additional General Education credits required by the College of Business and the potential for growth in the Graphic Design faculty.
	B.	Pres. Haneline withdrew the Academic Affairs Policy Letters from the agenda at the present time. However he encouraged Associate Provost Roberta Teahen to briefly explain the focus of the Internet Course Listings policy. She highlighted the importance of monitoring online offerings by requiring all online instruction to use the Ferris Connect platform. She pointed to the importance of documenting student participation. She advised Senators that the policy provides University protection for online instructors.
		There was lengthy discussion of the implications of this policy.
	1.	A concern was raised about the need by some programs for more space in the online

		environment than was provided by the University.
	2.	AP Teahen reported that the U.S. Department of Education appears to be reaffirming the Carnegie definition of credit hour by instructional time on task, rather than on learning outcomes. She suggested that, since federal aid is affected by this policy, we need to respond to it.
	3.	Discussion about the definition of a “blended” course ensued.
	4.	A question was raised about using other platforms than Ferris Connect. AP Teahen reiterated that the policy requires online instructors to go through Ferris Connect to access any other software products they required their students to use.
	5.	Much discussion of time on task in online environments and attendance policies ensued.
		Pres. Haneline suggested, with support, that the terms “100% internet”, “partial internet” and “web enhanced” corresponded to the descriptors used by the policy.
		Pres. Haneline said that he hoped that all the policy letters listed on the agenda will be addressed by the Senate at the February Senate meeting. He recognized Jim Nystrom, chair of the Senate Academic Policy and Standards Committee. Prof. Nystrom felt that while the current documents addressed by the Internet Course Listings policy are outdated, the timelines may be too short to implement all policy guidelines by Fall '11.
		There was discussion about the guidelines for certifying online instructors and courses. Nystrom confirmed that at some point all online courses will have to conform to the policy.
		Pres. Haneline asked that the policy under consideration be posted to the Senate website for faculty review.
VI.	Announcements	
	A.	University President Eisler briefed the Senate on his perception of the budgeting process under new Governor Snyder. He answered questions.
		He announced that he will present a “dashboard” of 50+ indicators of public data to the University community next week, and he invited feedback.
	B.	Associate Provost Flickinger reported on behalf of Provost Erickson that the announcement of the Core Review team will be made next week.
VII.	Open Forum	
	A.	Sen. Heaphy announced that intercollegiate team competition on mergers and acquisitions, coordinated by ACG of Western Michigan, will take place on January 22 in the IRC.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.		