

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting
Tuesday, April 6, 2004, 10:00 a.m.
President's Room, Rankin Center**

I. Call to Order: President Papo called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Attendance

Senators Present: Abbasabadi, Aiken, Bandstra, Berghoef, Carter, Cron, Dakkuri, Dickinson, Drake, Ferdowski, Griffin, Hanna, Hettiarachchy, Jewett, Jakobowski, Johnson, Jones, Liszewski, Lovsted, Marine, Martin, Nagel, Nelson, Papo, Parks, Sanderson, Schmidt, Thapa, Tymes, Watson, Wilson.

Senators Absent: Aiken (excused), Conati, Konrad (excused), Loesch (excused), Stein (excused), Vermeer (excused).

Guests: William Potter, Nancy Hogan, Chuck Matrosic, Roxanne Cullen, David Eisler, Laurie Chesley, Doug Haneline, Carol Quigley, Richard Cochran, Joanne Gerst, David Nicol, Tom Oldfield, John Jablonski, Ron McKean

III. Approval of the March 3, 2004 Minutes – were approved with one correction. In item IV, Open Forum, the last item, the Rube Goldbergs, replace "Mechanical Engineering Technology" with "interdisciplinary team representing five College of Technology programs."

IV. Open Forum

Senator Hanna read a letter from the Survey Engineering Department about a recently approved new course GEOG311- Social Aspects of GIS. He expressed concerns about duplication of expensive software licensing. A complete copy of that memo is Attachment A of this document.

Senator Schmidt expressed a concern that policy is being created without the university community being made aware. To explain his statement, he found that the on-line catalog has definitions and other information about general education that is inconsistent with the written documentation. Some of the wording from the original documents has been changed to eliminate words and change words. His main concern is the web presence of the university catalog. Since we no longer have a written version of the catalog, the danger is the promulgation of new policies without the input of the faculty. He will send a formal request to the Vice President for Academic Affairs about this issue and will also request a current listing of General Education Committees formed, meeting times, and membership.

V. Committee Reports

Senator Drake, University Curriculum Committee Chair, presented a list of recent actions taken. See Attachment B of this document. The Curriculum Manual has been updated to reflect the change in the requirements for minors and is available on the web.

Senator Dakkuri, Senate Vice President, reported that Senate Committee minutes are now on-line, and will be updated as the Senate Office receives them.

Senator Dickinson, Elections Committee Chair, announced everyone should have received a memo reflecting the outcome of the election. He reported that the election went smoothly, and that the electronic balloting in two colleges went well. His hope is that all elections will be held electronically.

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Student Government Resolution 04-01-05** - Moved to adopt named resolution that places text copies in the Library. A friendly amendment to change "ask" in the second to the last line to "encourage" was accepted. President Papo called the question; vote, by division of the house was 13 yeses, 13 noes. **President Papo** voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- B. University Guidelines for Developing Graduate Programs** – Moved to adopt and recommend to the Vice President for Academic Affairs as University policy the new document, "University Guidelines for Developing Graduate Programs." Committee Chair, Nancy Hogan, distributed the revised draft document, stating that reference to NCA standards for graduate faculty has been removed. **President Papo** called the question, motion carried.
- C. Academic Affairs Policy Letters** – Moved to adopt the recommended revisions of three Academic Affairs Policy Letters: "Developmental Courses." FSU Seminar (FSUS) 100," "Competency / Placement in Reading, English, and Mathematics." The maker of the motion has withdrawn the policy entitled "Competency / Placement in Reading, English, and Mathematics" from consideration. **Chair Jablonski** answered questions. Following discussion, **President Papo** called the question. Vote by division of the house was 13 yeses, 14 noes. The motion was lost.
- D.** Moved to adopt a series of options for further Senate consideration that adjust the University Calendar for Thanksgiving Break and Easter Break. **Senator Jewett** moved to divide the motion into the first about Thanksgiving Break and a second about Easter Break. He suggested a friendly amendment to add to both motions the language: ". . . Forward to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, who should consult with the Ferris Faculty Association. . . ." (See Attachment C for complete wording). **President Papo** called the question on the Thanksgiving Break motion. Motion carried. Following a brief discussion regarding the Easter Break calendar change, **President Papa** called the question. Motion carried.

VII. New Business

- A. Computer Networking Minor** – **Senator Drake, (Second Senator Thapa,)** moved to support the new minor. Ron McKean was available to answer questions, following a brief discussion, **President Papo** called the question, motion carried.
- B. Academic Affairs Policy Letters**
- A. MACRAO Articulation Agreement Provisos (Attachment D)**
 - B. Retention of Student Work, Grade Records, and Grade Appeals (Attachment E)**
- Following a discussion, **Senator Stern, (Second, Senator Parks)** moved to support the provisos as written, motion carried.

Senator Dakkuri, (second ,Senator Thapa) moved to send the Academic Affairs Policy letter (Item IV. C of these minutes) that failed to pass at this meeting to the Academic Policy and Standards committee for further review. Motion carried.

- C. Report of the Distance Education Task Force** – **President Papo** opened discussion on the document

VIII. Announcements

President Eisler thanked Senators for their hard work this semester and reminded them of the following important meetings

- April 15, at 2:00 pm in the Dome Room, "Preparing for Our Future" campus presentation
- April 19, at 3 pm and April 20, at 2 pm, a question and answer forum will be held regarding the Preparing for Our Future presentation, both meetings are in the President's Room, Rankin Center
- April 22, at 11:00 am in the Mecosta Room, Open Forum with students regarding 2005 Tuition and Fees
- April 29, at noon, the Legislative Luncheon in Lansing.

Interim Vice President Oldfield reminded Senators of a teleconference on April 18, entitled "Re-thinking Retention." A Perkins Compliance visit is scheduled for April 20, and the Faculty Recognition Dinner is on April 22.

President Papo thanked Senators for their work on the Academic Senate, and reminded them that the last Senate meeting of the Academic year will be on April 27, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The second hour of the meeting will be used for the election of the 2004-2005 Academic Senate Executive Committee.

IX. Adjournment – President Papo adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

Robert Loesch, Secretary

William Papo, President,