

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, February 6, 2007– 10:00 a.m.  
West Campus Community Center**

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

II. **Attendance**

*Officers Present:* President Richard Griffin, Secretary William Papo, Vice-President Khagendra Thapa

*Officers Absent:* None

*Senators Present:* Abbasabadi, Bandstra, A., Bandstra, J., Beistle, Berghoef, Borst, Carter, Cron, Dakkuri Danley, Drake, Hancock, Haneline, Hanna, Hettiarachchy, Jewett, Karafa, Klatt, Klope, Kouider, Liszewski, McMartin, Nagel, Nelson, Purvis, Sanderson, Schmidt, Sun, Taylor, Thomas, Tymes, Van De Mark, Watson, Weemaes

*Senators Absent:* Cline, Kavanaugh (excused), Potter

*Ex-Officio Members Present:* President David Eisler, Elizabeth Schmidt

*Ex-Officio Members Absent:* VPAA Michael Harris

*Guests:* Leonard Johnson, Tom Oldfield, David Nicol, Roberta Teahan, Weslie Bonham, Pat Klarecki, Mary Forintos

III. **Approval of the January 9, 2007 Minutes** – Motion by **Senator Papo**, with support from **Senator Sanderson**, to approve the minutes as written.

IV. **Open Forum**

**Senator McMartin** distributed information regarding FLITE. She reported that there will be an on-line survey in March, with several prizes being awarded. See Attachment A of these minutes.

Several Senators expressed their opinions regarding the search for the Vice President of Academic Affairs, urging that the search process be expedited as quickly as possible.

**Senator Jewett** expressed a concern about the Senate Executive Committee minutes. **President Griffin** responded that several approvals had not been received, but that the minutes would be posted to the website no later than Friday, with or without approvals.

V. **Reports**

**President Griffin** explained that parking would no longer be allowed in the circle drive in front of the West Campus Community Center, as it is a fire lane. A memo regarding this change was distributed via email to all Senators.

**Dr. Thapa, Senate Vice President**, reported that the International Education Committee recently distributed the call for nominations for the International Educator of the Year. Committee member Watson stated that the nomination process has changed slightly, hoping to garner more nominees. Only a name need be submitted to the committee. All nominees will then receive a form to complete and return to the committee.

The recently established **Strategic Planning Council** has begun meeting. They will be meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

**Senator Liszewski, Senate Election Chair**, reported that Senate Elections will be held on March 27 and 28. Faculty members will be voting electronically. Nomination forms will begin arriving in mailboxes by the end of the week. All nomination forms must be returned to the Senate Office by Friday, March 2, 2007. Candidate lists will be posted on March 12, 2007. All election information will be posted at the Academic Senate website.

VI. **Committee Reports**

**University Curriculum Committee – UCC Chair Leonard Johnson** told Senators that three proposals have been acted upon since the January Senate meeting; one is on this agenda for Senate approval later in the meeting. His report is Attachment B of these minutes.

## VII. New Business

**A. Academic Policy and Standards Mission Statement Revision – Committee Representative Schmidt** gave a brief overview of the old mission statement. The revised statement is Attachment C of these minutes. **Senator Schmidt, with support from Senator Haneline, moved to adopt the revised mission statement.**

**Senator Dakkuri offered the following friendly amendment:** In line two, change plans to standards. Original motion makers accepted the friendly amendment. In item #2, remove the word grading and regulations. Motion makers again accept the friendly amendment. **Motion carried.**

**B. Mathematics Minor in Elementary Education – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Sun, to approve the new minor. Mary Forintos, Math department faculty and proposal author,** was available to respond to questions and concerns. She explained that this proposal meets or exceeds newly revised State of Michigan standards. University Curriculum Chair Johnson urged that the proposal be forwarded immediately to the State for approval. **Motion carried.**

## VII. Announcements

**FSU President David Eisler** thanked Senators for their input on the VPAA search. He told Senators that the Chief Diversity Office, Dr. David Pilgrim is now in his office. If you have questions or concerns, please contact him. Applications for the Honors Program are up by 200 applications. One of our nursing students was recently honored for assisting an individual after being struck by an automobile. Another student, Kalley Olson and an alumnus, Jill Cooper, administered CPR at the University Recreation Center until Public Safety Officer Bill Saunders arrived to administer a defibrillator. The student was transported to MCGH and then airlifted to a hospital in Grand Rapids, and will make a full recovery after rehabilitation. These devices were the result of a campus committee working in obscurity. The University is really struggling with the cold weather. He asked staff to call Physical Plant if we see problems with the heat or water systems, as they may not be aware, and with such frigid weather, changes can happen quickly. He reminded us also to close windows and doors when we see them ajar or open. He reported that the State of State address is tonight.

**Pat Klarecki, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs** reported that on March 15, Division wide plans will be presented all day long. **Senator Alice Bandstra** questioned non-tenured faculty learn of how they are to be evaluated. **VP Klarecki** stated that training for adjunct faculty began this academic year.

## VIII. Open Forum

**Senator Schmidt** voiced concerns regarding the policy for incompletes.

**Senator Haneline** requested a moment of silence in honor of Dr. William Sakalauskas and Dr. Ada Lou Carson. Both were Arts and Sciences emeriti who passed away recently.

## IX. Adjournment – 11:18 a.m.

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William Papo, Secretary

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Richard Griffin, President