

**Minutes
Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting**

October 2, 2012

Members in Attendance: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Amey, Baker, Beck, Berghoef, Dakkuri, Daubert, Dinardo, Dixon, Drake, Fox, Griffin, Hanna, Isler, Jewett, Joyce, Klatt, Luplow, Marion, Moore, Nagel, Nazar, Nystrom, Schmidt, Stone, Todd, Wancour

Members absent with cause: Haneline, McLean, Thapa

Members absent: Boncher, Ciaramitaro, Cook, Jiao, Lovsted, Prakasam, Richmond,

Ex Officio and Guests: Adjejanju, Blake, Durst, Eisler, Garrison, Kurtz, Pilgrim, Teahen, Reifert

1.	Vice-President Berghoef convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and opened the floor for comments
2.	<p>Approval of Minutes.</p> <p>Senator Alspach moved to approve the September 4, 2012 minutes as written. Senator Griffin seconded. Secretary Isler noted that a few misspellings had been corrected and the comments of Senator Nystrom were being moved to the open forum. Motion passed with one abstention.</p>
3.	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>A. Senator Alspach encouraged Senators to attend the Sports Speaker series, which had Greg Kelsner speaking on October 4th. Kelsner was a member of the 1979 championship Michigan State University basketball team.</p> <p>B. Senator Dakkuri requested that the President make a report at the November meeting on the use of release time and/or stipends for Senate duties: for officers and committees.</p>
4.	<p>Officer Reports</p> <p>A. Vice-President Berghoef responded to a request at the September meeting stating that it was not in the charter that issues require a second reading. Additionally, the current charter allows for any motion to be made from the floor. But it assists the process of the Senate when motions may be sent in advance. It is a greater concern that everyone's voice is heard. In recognizing speakers, the presiding officer will try to alternate between for and against and allowing all to speak once first. There is no October Senate conversation but upcoming visits will feature Bill Potter discussing retention and Angie Roman of Career Services. The bulk of committee appointments were made September 21 and Student Government representatives will be appointed shortly. There were several new faces volunteering and some requests continue to come in. A follow-up message will be sent shortly. The chairs lunch will be held October 25 and thanks go to all senators for recruitment efforts. The Distinguished Teacher Award deadline was extended to October 4, so continue to send in nominations.</p> <p>B. Secretary Isler reported that the 2nd reading rule was not found in either the current charter or the one preceding it. The final time a second reading was used that could be tracked in the minutes was in the December 2001 meeting concerning the academic program review recommendations. It was no longer used for new curriculum issues in the spring of 2001. No rules were changed or discussed that could be found within the minutes.</p>
5.	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>A. University Curriculum Committee</p> <p>Senator Alspach said that she wished to focus more on the policies as a committee rather than the administrative details. When those issues come up they are put on hold for the committee (as reflected in the report). Some discussion points in addition to the action have been added to the Senate report. There are no action items for the Senate today. She noted there has been some discussion from programs about the new requirement in the manual to require program outcomes on checksheets submitted to the UCC. Senator Drake asked why this was done? Senator Alspach noted that it needs to be there so that both advisors and students understand what needs to be done to complete a program (not interested in format of checksheet but the content involved). Senator Drake asked why was this the UCC and what authority did they have to require this? Could they block proposals without this? Senator</p>

	<p>Alspach said they have not done so but these outcomes are required also for MyDegree and TracDat. Senator Schmidt asked who entered stuff into Tractdat? Senator Alspach said it was departmental level Senator Schmidt said that this appeared to be a heavy-handed move to make the UCC a more important committee. Senator Nystrom asked if the UCC would also be approving the Gen Ed checksheet? Senator Alspach said only those curriculums going through the UCC process would be affected. Senator Hanna asked about the B.S. in Architecture/Sustainability and when it would be coming before the Senate. Senator Alsapch said this was just a minor cleanup and did not require a senate vote. Senator Nagel asked if we approved this last meeting. Senator Alspach said yes and it is in Form D.</p> <p>B. General Education Task Force Vice-Provost Blake said that at the two hall meetings there was a clear agreement to reduce the number of outcomes and they were working on that. At the November Senate meeting they may have the new list of outcomes. Senator Hanna asked when they would be mapping the outcomes to courses and have an implementation plan for the Senate? Senator Blake said they were working on that but would not be ready at the next meeting.</p> <p>C. Student Government No report.</p>
6.	<p>University Curriculum Manual revisions. Add section 3.6 Senator Alspach moved to remove this from the table. Senator Jewett seconded. Currently the motion had an open amendment removing the definition of seminar. Senator Schmidt asked if this was discussion only on the amendment and noted that the definition of seminar could be modified within the original motion. Senator Moore spoke in favor of having the seminar definition, as it was limiting to have none. Senator Dakkuri asked how seminar can define how a class is run by a professor and splits hairs. Senator Morgan said that a student run class is how he would define a seminar. Senator Schmidt asked for clarification over whether this discussion was over the amendment or original motion. Senator Klatt noted that it was a lack of definition of the word which has caused the confusion. Senator Wancour said she appreciated the more clear-cut definition. Senator Schmidt called the question. The amendment was defeated with 7 votes in favor of it, 14 against and one abstention.</p> <p>The original motion discussion resumed. On the Form F, this adds the seminar option o the top line. Senator Jewett asked how hours would equate to credit hours- would it be similar to a lab or is it purely contact hours? Senator Alspach said it was contact hours and the credit hour was up to the colleges. Senator Wancour asked if a separate grade could be attached? Senator Schmidt said that both FSUS classes and applied seminars do not follow this definition and that a seminar should not be defined only by a mode of instruction. Senator Nystrom noted the question of credit hours for a lab v. seminar was a workload issue. Senator Alspach agreed that was more of contract issue. Vice-President Berghoef called the question. The motion passed with 17 in favor, 4 against and 3 abstentions.</p>
7.	<p>Announcements</p> <p>A. President Eisler encouraged everyone to vote against proposal 5 which requires a supermajority to pass any revenue increases. He said that no tax ever passed by the state legislature would follow this agreement. He also commented on recent MSPERS rulings- he said that there are two different suits. The one which effects Ferris employees is the 3% suit. The renovation of the Rankin Student Center is a high priority and they are looking at the creation of the new University Center. It would serve as a counterpoint to FLITE, the academic center to the quad. Consultants were on campus and senators were encouraged to give opinions on traffic flow patterns. Budget forums would be scheduled soon. The Ferris Foundation gala was scheduled for November 2nd at the J.W. Marriot in Grand Rapids. Senator Nystrom asked whether the President had any positions on other ballot issues. President Eisler said officially not- he only made the stance on proposal 5 as that was a requirement of all the members of the Presidents Council to send the supporting letter. Senator Beck asked when Helen Ferris would be closed. President Eisler said that it would be used as parts of Rankin Center was renovated and would not longer be used as a dorm.</p> <p>B. Academic Affairs had no report.</p>
11.	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>A. Senator Griffin noted that there were several upcoming Political Engagement Project (PEP) events. The Young Republicans and Young Democrats were co-sponsoring viewings of all presidential debates in the Business building. On October 23rd, political commentator Tim Scubick would be speaking and on</p>

	November 15 th Richard Scher from the University of Florida would be speaking.
12.	Senator Dakkuri moved to adjourn at 11:11 a.m. Senator Marion seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Isler
Secretary