

Faculty Senate
Washburn University

Minutes of August 26, 2013
3:00 PM Kansas Room, Memorial Union

Present: Arterburn, Ball, Berry, Chamberlain, Edwards, Francis, Frank, Fernengal, Florea, Friesen, Jackson, Kitts, Lunte, Mach, McMillen, Mercader, Pembroke, Perret, Roach, Rubenstein, Russell, Schbley, Sheldon, Stevens, Stoner-Hawkins, Sun, Wagner, Weigand, Weiner, Wisneski, Wood

- I. The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:05 PM, Matt Arterburn presiding.
- II. The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of August 13, 2013 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks
President Arterburn asked for comments on the time shift to 3 PM (from 3:30 PM) for Faculty Senate meetings. He will contact today's absent senators to gather their thoughts on the change.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents
None
- V. Report from the VPAA, Dr. Pembroke
QUALITY INITIATIVE PROJECT. VP Pembroke reported that proposals for the University-wide Quality Initiative Project had been reviewed. Assuming approval by HLC, President Farley has agreed to fund a center for teaching excellence that would focus on 1) diversity practices, 2) high-engagement practices, 3) assessment practices, 4) technology practices, and 5) general pedagogy. Among other benefits, the center will include funds for speakers and faculty development stipends. The center will have a ½ time director, ½ time staff person, and advisory board of faculty members from related University committees.

FINK/FARLEY PROFESSORSHIPS. VP Pembroke reported that Fink Visiting Professors and Farley Professors would enrich the University teaching environment. Fink Visiting Professors will have short term appointments (e.g. three [3] days). Their assignments might include serving as guest lecturers or engaging with the community. A link will allow faculty to nominate candidates, especially those in leadership positions. Farley Professors will have semester or school year appointments. Travel stipends will be available. Washburn professors or retired faculty will have an opportunity to apply. Further information will be forthcoming.

DIVERSITY CLIMATE SURVEY. The forthcoming generally positive results will be posted shortly.

ALS DEGREE. Pembroke reported that the University (CAS, Academic Affairs) is exploring the possibility of allowing students to apply work completed at the University (e.g. 75 hours) towards a general liberal arts Associate Degree.

VISION 2022 DOCUMENT. The Vision 2022 Document is an extension of the original Strategic Plan. It is posted on the Washburn University website. Faculty are encouraged to send prompt, thoughtful feedback to their deans.

ENROLLMENT. Pembroke reported that the 2014-15 budget is in the earliest stages of development. The budget will reflect the University's ability to grow or stabilize enrollment, which is down somewhat from last year. Other factors affecting the 2014-15 budget include sales tax revenues, state funding (which may be down 1.5%), and litigation involving K-12 funding.

To improve enrollment and retention, five initiatives are underway: The Transfer Committee, Gateway Committee (to improve student performance in gateway courses), Online Experience Committee, Retention Committee, and ACE Program. The ACE Program involves accelerated credit. The Kansas Board of Regents approved the policy of up to twenty-four (24) hours of college credit for high school students, and the University is exploring a capstone experience which brings students to campus for their last nine (9) hours.

HEALTH CARE. Pembroke affirmed that University expenditures for health care affect funds left for raises, travel, and other faculty priorities.

VI. Faculty Senate Committee Reports
None

VII. University Committee Minutes
A. The Assessment Committee Minutes of May 2, 2013 were accepted.
B. The Research Grants Committee Minutes of May 9, 2013 were accepted.

VIII. Old Business
None

IX. New Business
The Faculty Senate Committee members for 2013-14 agreed to meet after the Faculty Senate meeting to elect chairs and set meeting times.

Arterburn reported that in choosing senators for the Faculty Senate Committees, the FS Executive Committee tried to achieve a balance between continuing and new members. He also reminded senators that they may have been assigned as Faculty Senate Representative to a University Faculty Committee, as well as to a Faculty Senate Committee.

X. Information Items

The next Faculty Senate meeting is set for September 23, 3 PM. At this meeting, senators can enjoy refreshments provided by the VPAA's office.

XI. Discussion Items

None

XII. Announcements

None

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.