

**Faculty Senate
Washburn University**

*Minutes of March 9, 2009
Kansas Room, Memorial Union*

Present: Berry, Bowen (VPAA), Byrne, Camarda, Chorba, Concannon, Croucher, Duncan, Jackson, Kaufman, Kerchner, Khan, Lunte, Manske, McGuire, Melick, Naylor, Patzel, Porta, Pownell, Prasch (President), Ray, Routsong, Russell, C. Schmidt, S. Schmidt, Sharafy, Shipley, Sullivan, Unruh, Walker, Wynn

- I. The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:33 PM.
- II. The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of Jan. 26, 2009 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks.
 - A. Prasch reported that the final resolution of the issue of compensation for scholarly/creative WTEs is now posted on the Faculty Senate website. The policy resembles the plan VPAA Bowen outlined recently to the Senate.
 - B. Prasch reported at the budget shortfall was recently discussed at two Town Hall meetings and that Wanda Hill's budget is posted on President Farley's website. Prasch said he imagines that the comments and discussions conducted at the meetings will soon be featured on the site as well.
 - C. Prasch called senators' attention to the recent (9 March) email from Russ Jacobs about the need for a new at-large senator. More information will be forwarded when nominations are in.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Regents.
 - A. The President reported that the BOR has not met since the Senate's Jan. 26 meeting. Prasch stated that he will attend the March 20th BOR meeting and will report back to the Senate with the proceedings on March 23.
- V. Faculty Senate Committee Reports.
 - A. The minutes from the Faculty Affairs Committee meeting of Dec. 10, 2008 were approved.
 - B. The minutes from the Faculty Affairs Committee meeting of Feb. 9, 2009 were corrected (the sentence about "Old Business: under II was deleted) and approved.
 - C. The minutes from the Academic Affairs Committee meeting of Feb. 9, 2009 were approved. The Proposed program changes and deletions in English (Action item 09-05 a), the proposed minor in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies (b), and the Changes for the Bachelor of Arts in Music Degree (c) were approved as well.
- VI. University Committee Minutes.
 - A. The minutes from the Library Committee meeting of Feb. 16, 2009 were accepted.
 - B. The minutes from the Faculty Development Committee meeting of Feb. 6, 2009 were accepted.
 - C. The minutes from the International Education Committee meeting of Feb. 5, 2009 were accepted.
 - D. The minutes from the Assessment Committee meeting of Dec. 9, 2008 were accepted.
 - E. The minutes from the Executive Committee of the University Graduate Council meeting of Jan. 7, 2009 were accepted. The Senate took up the Clinical Nurse Leader Proposal

(Action Item 09-04) as a second reading since the Graduate Council had already discussed it and voted in support of it. The action item passed unanimously.

VII. Old Business.

A. The vote of no confidence in Mike Gunter as head of Information Systems and Services (ISS) (Action Item 09-01) will take place on March 23. Prasch reported that the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate met March 6 and agreed, in response to a request from VPAA Bowen, to allow a further delay of action on the No Confidence motion to allow Gunter ample time to formulate a response.

B. Several senators debated the pros and cons of the revision of the catalog language on repetition of courses (Action Item 09-02) document.

1)As a friendly amendment, Prasch suggested adding “subject to departmental approval” to immediately follow “Undergraduate courses may be repeated.” Several senators raised new problems with the suggested language.

2)S.Schmidt then made a motion to send the document to the AAC for tweaking. Eight senators voted in favor of the motion and 11 opposed it, so the motion failed.

3)Prasch proposed the following alternative language: after the sentence “Undergraduate courses may be repeated,” this sentence was added: “Courses for which grades of Ds and Fs are recorded can be retaken without departmental approval; courses for which a grade of C, or pass, or higher are recorded will require departmental approval.”

4)Some senators still had doubts about the language and someone made an amendment to go back to “Undergraduate courses may be repeated, subject to departmental approval.” The motion failed.

5)The Senate returned to the aforementioned alternative language “courses for which grades of Ds...”. Sixteen senators voted in favor of the motion and 9 voted against it. The action item then passed.

VIII. New Business.

A. Senators discussed the College of Arts and Sciences Academic Affairs Committee proposal at length and the action item (09-03) closed on first reading.

IX. Information Items.

X. Discussion Items.

A. The FAC asked the Senate to discuss the Proposed Domestic Partner policy the Benefits Committee delivered to the President in 2003. Prasch expressed his support for the proposed policy, calling it long overdue. C. Schmidt raised the issue of missing dates in the document and another senator mentioned that if Washburn were to approve the policy that the State of Kansas might cut the university’s funding. It was mentioned that none of the other Regents institutions have adopted this document.

XI. Announcements. There were none.

XII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 PM.