

**Faculty Senate  
Washburn University**

*Minutes of March 12, 2012  
Kansas Room*

Present: Angel, Arterburn, Averill, Barker, Bird, Blank, Byrne, Dodge, Edwards, Fernengel, Gonzalez-Abellas, Isaacson, Kaufman, Kelly, Mazachek, Melick, Menzie, Morse, Ockree, Pembroke (VPAA), Perret, Pilgram, Rich, Roach, Routsong, Schmidt, Sheldon, Wagner, Weigand, Wohl

- I. The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:32 PM. Steve Angel presiding.
- II. The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of February 13, 2012 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks.

President Angel welcomed members and remarked that VP Pembroke would be addressing several items during his presentation. Angel reported that the Washburn BOR will be meeting this week and will vote on promotion and tenure and emeriti. One of the action items they will be discussing is the \$13 million addition/renovation of Morgan Hall to create the new face of Washburn. It will serve as a one-stop center for new students. Angel also reported that the consent agenda contains an item concerning the continuation of shared leave.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Regents: there has been no BoR meeting since the last faculty senate meeting.
- V. Report from the Units – Library : Cal Melick & Sean Bird

Melick reported from the library program review that gate counts at the library are increasing dramatically. Annual totals are increasing as well; the library gets crowded with limited seating. As proposed by WSGA, the library is now offering extended hours on Sunday thru Thursday. The library is open until 2 am, staffed with student assistants and security. After 11 pm, entrance is by use of student or faculty id. In addition, library staff are teaching IS 170 – Research and WU 101 – First Year Experience. Because of increased teaching, the classrooms are full and activity has increased. From the first cohort of FYE students, it appears students have both higher GPA and retention than those students who were not enrolled in the fall. The library also has a new assistant Dean of Student Success and Retention. They have increased tutoring options with the tutoring and writing center, including extended hours. The library has recently added a new technology, SYNERGY, which is a federated search tool that allows search of multiple databases at one time. The facilities at the library are constantly being strained and as a result, they are utilizing compressed shelving on the lower level to free up group study space. The library has also added the following services: smart phone apps and access to mobile databases, text a librarian, worldview satellite broadcasts, and laptop checkout in the library.
- VI. Report from the VPAA – Dr. Pembroke

VP Pembroke asked Senators to reflect on the timing of Sibberson Awards. Based on requests from the funding family, the award is typically not announced until the semester after a student graduates, with the awardee returning the semester after they have graduated. Only the finalists are announced at graduation. Pembroke asked Senators to consider whether they awards, based on the highest GPA of the commencement class, should be calculated by the semester immediately prior to graduation, or should we just assume that students with 4.0 GPA will complete their degree with a 4.0.

VP Pembroke reported to Senators that in the next 2-3 weeks, all faculty would be asked to have a photo taken or submit a photo; they would prefer business casual instead of formal. VP Pembroke also reported that work on the faculty handbook is continuing. If there are particular issues, please send your comments to committee members. Senators Angel, Arterburn, Kaufman, and Roach are on the committee.

- VII. Faculty Senate Committee Reports –
  - A. Minutes from the Academic Affairs Committee of January 26, 2012 were accepted.
  
- VIII. University Committee Minutes
  - A. Graduate Committee Minutes of January 26, 2012 were accepted
  - B. Interdisciplinary Committee Minutes of November 15, 2011 were accepted
  - C. Assessment Committee Minutes of January 27, 2012 were accepted
  - D. Library Committee Minutes of February 15, 2012 were accepted
  - E. Assessment Committee Minutes of February 17, 2012 were accepted.
  
- IX. Old Business. –
  - A. 12-01 – International Education Credit Proposal : Kelly McClendon from International presented the rationale and overview of the proposal to give elective credit, up to 12 hours, in 200 level intensive English courses. After discussion, the item was approved.
  - B. 12-02 – Civic Engagement – Poverty Studies Minor: Dr. Rick Ellis, LinC, provided the overview of the proposal. After discussion, the item was approved.
  
- X. New Business – none
  
- XI. Information: Shaun Schmidt reminded senators that Apeiron registration is open until March 15. Apeiron will be held on April 20.  
  
Tracy Routsong reminded senators that the Nall Speak-off is April 4.
  
- XII. Discussion: Jennifer Wagner, chair of the Electoral committee, reminded senators that there are 4 at-large positions on the Senate that are due for election this spring. She encouraged senators to recruit candidates and told senators the announcement would be sent to general faculty on Tuesday, March 13.
  
- XIII. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 9.
  
- XIV. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm