

**Faculty Senate  
Washburn University**

*Minutes of March 23, 2009  
Kansas Room, Memorial Union*

Present: Arterburn, Berry, Bowen (VPAA), Byrne, Camarda, Concannon, Croucher, Duncan, Jackson, Jacobs, Kaufman, Kerchner, Khan, Lunte, Manske, Melick, Porta, Prasch (President), Ray, Russell, C. Schmidt, S. Schmidt, Sharafy, Shipley, Sidlinger, Sullivan, Unruh, Walker, Wunder

- I. The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:31 PM.
- II. The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of March 9, 2009 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks.
  - A. Before his opening comments, Prasch ceded the floor to Russ Jacobs, Chair of the Electoral Committee. Jacobs reported that 4 nominees are on the ballot for At-Large senator and said the candidate bios were on the FS website and that the ballot would go out no later than April 6. Jacobs asked whether the senators wanted to keep with a traditional paper ballot or move to an electronic one. Senators debated the pros and cons of each method and decided to keep the paper ballot, at least for the short term.
  - B. Prasch summarized the recent events regarding the vote of no confidence in Mike Gunter. He stated that since Gunter had told Wanda Hill that he wanted to attend the meeting the day of the vote and that since he could not attend the one on March 23, that the Executive Committee voted to give him one last postponement. Prasch emphasized that he did not agree with Kenneth Hackler's policy regarding the language he proposed be changed in Action Item 09-01, but that that was the language the Senate would be voting on at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. He stated that Gunter had been invited to the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting and declared the Senate would hold the vote of no confidence regardless.
  - C. Prasch reported that some of the language on the FS website had been tampered with, but stated that he agreed to some of the changes Hackler demanded, including the removal of the appendix. Bowen emphasized that the changes were made to protect the faculty and Prasch stated that the faculty would fight any attempt to remove the revised language of action item 09-01 that Hackler approved.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Regents.

The President reported that the BOR met March 20 and its main business was tenure and promotion and the extension of Chartwell's dining services contract for another ten years. He stated that at the financial committee meeting, members viewed Wanda Hill's presentation that she gave at the Town Hall meetings. Prasch then emphasized the fact that the Board did not include on its agenda the action item to reorganize the Academic Affairs Committee that

was passed at January's General Faculty meeting. He discussed the various implications, including the Executive Committee reestablishing membership this semester of the AAC.

V. Faculty Senate Committee Reports.  
There were none.

VI. University Committee Minutes.

A. The minutes from the International Education Committee meeting of March 5, 2009 were accepted.

B. The Executive Summary of the Academic Integrity Committee was accepted.

VII. Old Business.

A. Vote of no confidence in Mike Gunter as head of Information Systems and Services (ISS) (Action Item 09-01).

1)Prasch gave the background on the language changes requested by Ken Hackler (reference to the appendix was eliminated and the terms "stonewalling" and "dishonesty" were replaced with "has lost the trust of the faculty"). A motion was made to amend Action Item 09-01 and it was seconded.

2)Senators from the Law School were asked to comment on the language of the action item since some senators wondered whether the Senate needed some provisions from a lawyer other than the university attorney. It was agreed that the Senate did not. Various senators then proposed language changes and once a consensus on the language was agreed upon, a vote was called to pass the action item as amended. The action item passed as amended.

3) Prasch then suggested that the senate set provisions for the vote. The following stipulations were agreed upon by the Senate in regard to the vote of no confidence:

a) Prasch said that he would request that a written response from Gunter to the motion to be delivered to Courtney Sullivan, FS secretary, in time to be included with that agenda, that is, by April 6.

b) The Senate decided to allow during the April 13 meeting time (for a maximum of 30 minutes) for Gunter to address the assembly. (No limit on the length of Gunter's written response to the motion was set).

c) It was agreed that if Gunter attended the meeting, that discussion would follow his presentation and could include questions directed to him.

d) It was agreed that the vote would be carried out at the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting and that there would be no further delays of final action on these issues.

e) The vote will be carried out by paper ballot and the tally recorded in the Senate minutes.

B. Prasch suggested that the College of Arts and Sciences Academic Affairs Committee proposal (Action Item 09-03) be pushed back to the next Senate meeting because no one from the School of Nursing was able to attend the meeting and therefore could not give input on the item. Senators agreed that the action item be pushed back to the April 13 meeting.

VIII. New Business.

A. Karen Ray, Chair of the Academic Integrity Committee, gave the background on Notification of Infraction—Academic Impropriety Form (Action Item 09-06), stating

the AIC recommended the university implement the form since there are currently no recording mechanisms for academic impropriety at WU. VPAA Bowen stated that she feels strongly that such a measure is needed. Some senators expressed concern that with the form comes a policy which has not yet been voted upon by the Senate. Prash suggested implementation language and it was decided to eliminate the suggestion to record the infraction in a registry. The motion made to close at first reading passed.

IX. Information Items.

X. Discussion Items.

A. Bowen announced that the VPAA's office is interest in getting feedback from faculty about taking roll at the end of the first week of classes, a retention strategy designed to focus early attention on students who have already disappeared from class by that point.

B. The VPAA has asked the Faculty Senate to conduct an election to name 3 faculty to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee. She asked that the election be university wide (not limited to Senate members) and noted that those chosen must be available for meetings during the summer and that no remuneration can be provided.

I. Announcements. There were none.

II. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 PM.