

**Washburn University
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
May 7, 2018
3:00 PM – Forum Room, BTAC**

PRESENT:

Barker, Erby, Grant (Erin), Hockett, Jackson, Jolicoeur, Krug, Kwak, Mazachek, Memmer, Petersen, Prasch, Schmidt, Schnoebelen, Sheldon, Stacey, Steffen, Todwong, Wasserstein, Watson, Watt, Wohl, and Worsley

ABSENT:

Black, Cook, Fredrickson, Garritano, Grant (Emily), Hickman, Mansfield, Mark, Modelmog, Ockree, Scofield, and Sourgens

GUESTS (including newly-elected Senators):

Ball, Beatie, Byrne, Cook, Menager, Menninger-Corder, Morse, Ricklefs, and Wilson

- I. President Schmidt called the meeting to order at 3:33pm.
- II. The Faculty Senate meeting minutes of April 16, 2018 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks:
 - Schmidt thanked Senators for their service and for allowing him to serve as President for the past two years. He offered a special thanks to the executive committee for their service.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents: NONE
- V. VPAA Update—Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek:
 - Mazachek thanked everyone for their input at last Thursday's General Faculty meeting and for their feedback on various initiatives this year.
- VI. Faculty Senate Committee Reports: NONE
- VII. University Committee Reports: NONE
- VIII. Old Business: NONE
- IX. New Business: NONE
- X. Discussion Item:
 - The Strategic Plan was presented for discussion by Mazachek. Prasch said he would like Gen Ed to be discussed under number 1 of the plan. Barker also asked that we reconsider the ordering of items to emphasize the culture of teaching/learning versus graduation rates and retention rates. Watt agreed with being uncomfortable with the focus specifically on graduation in 1-A versus learning or career preparedness. Schmidt concurred with the idea that we should focus on quality education and effective progression through curricula rather than boiling success down to numbers. Morse commented on the same sentence, suggesting that we can emphasize these ideals by including the phrase "academic culture." Jackson said

that we might want parallel construction on the word “engagement” between items 2 and 3. Petersen commented on 1-A, noting that if we list out specific items for measure in this manner, they become “THE” outcomes for how we measure/clarify how we define a quality student; he suggested that we might want to reconsider that perception. Schmidt wondered where WTEs and similar programs might fit in with the language; Mazachek indicated that this was a comment she had previously heard and they need a new item to clarify it. Morse wondered about 2-D; she thought we might want to emphasize diversity a bit more strongly than just “celebrating” it, adding that perhaps we can put celebrating diversity in the academic engagement section? Sheldon agreed with Morse noting that “celebrating” seems more akin to a high school level of education whereas “raising cultural competency” is a more challenging goal for the college setting. Wohl felt that we shouldn’t make it a specifically-stated goal to make students taxpayers and donors (2-F), and commented that we should focus on more than athletics. Wasserstein said colleges are often shifting to focus on “inclusion” instead of just diversity; we might want to consider this. She added that in 3-G, we might want to alter the language to “respectful” away from “civil.” Steffen offered that we could add a sub-point to add activities beyond sports to be more inclusive of student engagement; Morse agreed. Erby said that's she supports adding a point about academic engagement. On 5-A, Watt said the word choice of “thoughtful” is a bit weird. Watt also noted that in 4-A, the wording “talent levels” might want to be reconsidered. Paul Byrne suggested adding something about the new academic freedom/expression committee. Petersen said that we might want to add something about environmental sustainability or some kind of connection between the campus and the environment to reflect what other campuses are doing. Watt wondered if this would be the last reading; Mazachek said that all of the feedback will be taken into consideration and it will be sent out to the Board of Regents in June. She added that it would probably come back after the summer and said that if anyone had further comments to please send them her way.

XI. Special Orders:

- President Schmidt welcomed the newly-elected senators.
- The Senate conducted elections for the Faculty Senate Officers for 2018-2019
 - President: Rick Barker was nominated. Barker was elected.
 - Vice President: Izzy Wasserstein was nominated; Wasserstein was elected.
 - Secretary: Erin Grant was nominated; Grant was elected.
 - Parliamentarian: Matthew Cook was nominated; Cook was elected.
- Barker added that we need representatives from missing schools on the executive committee (specifically from Business and Nursing) ASAP.

XII. Information Items: NONE

XIII. Announcements:

- Prasch announced that the History Department would be screening *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* this coming Wednesday at 7pm.

XIV. President Barker adjourned the meeting at 4:05pm.