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CWU Faculty Senate Minutes - 04/06/11

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REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, April 6, 2011, 3:10 p.m.
BARGE 412
Minutes

Senators: All senators or their alternates were present except: James Avey, Tom Cottrell, Ralf Greenwald, Terrance McCain, Rodrigo Murataya, Don Nixon, Warren Plugge, Robert Pritchett, Allison Scoville, Ronald Tidd, Matthew Wilson and Dale Wright

Visitors: Marji Morgan, Kirk Johnson, Roy Savoian, Tracy Pellett and Sheryl Grunden

CHANGES TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Agenda was approved.

MOTION NO. 10-39(Approved): APPROVAL OF MINUTES of March 9, 2011

COMMUNICATIONS – None

FACULTY ISSUES: Senator Gray presented data she and a graduate student collected from students in 13 sections of English 101 taught fall quarter. They tried to determine why some students did not pass with a grade qualifying them to take English 102. Fifty-five students of 308 (18%) did not pass the course. These students fell into two categories—those who had skill-related problems and those who probably would have passed had they attended class and turned in all assignments. The results of the study raised questions regarding admissions and placement: (1) Students with skill-related problems had an average admission-index score below the cut-off of 28. Most of these students would have been admitted via “holistic scoring.” Does this admission process need to be improved? (2) Students who have a score below 500 on the SAT verbal are required to take the Compass test. However, the average Compass scores do not appear to distinguish between students with skill-related problems and those without. The SAT verbal score and the SAT written score (which Admissions does not consider) seem to be better predictors of skill levels. Should one of these tests be used instead of the Compass? Senator Gray will be redoing the study using the English 101 courses for winter quarter. Senator Bartlett indicated he has noticed that more students are failing Philosophy 201 or receiving D's. Senator Glasby said that the same type of numbers would bear out in Mathematics as well. Dr. Pellett reported that writing courses within the General Education program are being assessed this year, which should help give some data. Dr. Pellett felt the placement tests need to be investigated further. Dean Morgan mentioned Accuplacer, which is a better test than the Compass test.

PRESIDENT: President Gaudino reported on the current budget situation in Olympia. Currently there are two versions of the budget out. One is the Governor's and the other is the House budget. We are currently waiting for the Senate to present their budget either Friday or Monday. There are net reductions in operating revenues, after tuition increases are factored in, in both of the current budgets. There is a proposal to withhold several million dollars at the beginning of the budget and would release the funds once the university has met some performance standards that have not been set yet. The assumption is that there will be a tuition increase. One internal change that the university will be making is charging the auxiliary services an appropriate overhead. There has been an underestimation of the true cost of business for those services such as dining services, conference center and the bookstore. George Clark is working on a model to bring the overhead charge to an appropriate level as well as looking at what each of the services can absorb. The capital budget is looking better than expected. They separated the budget into two separate bienniums. Central currently has projects in both years. One is the utilities project to replace underground piping and wiring. In the second year there is design money for Sameulson and Science II. There is also pre-design money for the Nutrition Science and Exercise building. The university is also trying to get authority to pursue the Albertson's property if it is viewed as advantageous to the university. President Gaudino gave some background on the Greek Life Task Force. There had been conflicting decisions made about Greek life on campus. The President's cabinet will not authorize Greek life on campus until an acceptable proposal has been presented. Authorization had been given to four groups who are in the first stages of colonization. Some chapters don't need university approval to organize off campus. The task force that has been formed is taking a look at this issue and will report on their results. The information systems updates are starting to get there. Two projects were coupled together and MIST is starting to produce results. The cabinet has seen these results and they will be posted on the website soon. One of the recommendations that came out of the Faculty Shared Governance committee was a recommendation to review the standing committees at the university. Recommendations for changes to the university policy and procedures regarding committees are being reviewed before PAC. The state of the current website that lists committees is not

good. The website design has been moved from IT to the public relations office. They are working on several design templates and new management system software.

PROVOST: The Provost reported on the Proposal for Seamless Learning Model of Student Life. This proposal is out for consideration and there will be an open forum to solicit feedback as well. A survey will be set up off of the Provost website. The AVP for Student Success position will be eliminated the end of June, as well as the AVP for Student Life and Director of Housing. The Provost indicated that these changes would not take away resources from academics. One of the hopes for this structure would be to increase more curricular and co-curricular activities.

OLD BUSINESS - None

REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

SENATE COMMITTEES:

Executive Committee: None

Academic Affairs Committee: None

Bylaw and Academic Code Committee:

Motion No. 10-15(Approved, 1 nay): "Recommends the changes to Section III. C.4 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws regarding election of the Faculty Senate chair-elect as outlined in Exhibit A."

Motion No. 10-16(Approved): "Recommends the changes to Section IV.C of the Academic Code regarding election of the Faculty Senate chair-elect as outlined in Exhibit B." How college representatives are elected is delineated in the Academic Code.

Curriculum Committee: No report

Evaluation and Assessment: Senator Snedeker reported that the Assessment of Academic Administrators survey will go out this week. Faculty will have a month to respond (May 6th). This will give the committee a month to put the data together and present whatever reports will be made available. There have been some conversations with the President on how this information will be used. Senator Snedeker asked Senators to encourage the faculty in their departments to participate in this process.

General Education: Senator Čuljak reported that the committee has not yet met this quarter. They will be meeting next Monday and every week until the proposal is done.

Faculty Legislative Representative: Mathew Manweller reported on activities in Olympia. The legislature is in a stage where if a bill is still alive, it has a good chance to survive. The primary driver of higher education reform is found in House Bill 1795. This proposal gives institutions absolute tuition authority. One proposal is institutions can raise tuition up to 9% and anything above that percentage, half of that must go into financial aid for students. There is a proposal to withhold 3.6 million of budgeted money from institutions until they meet some metrics that will be determined later by the Governor. One mandate would be that any student with a community college degree will be given junior status and will be considered to have met core university requirements. All of the performance agreements that were made several years ago will be repealed. Western Governor University may become the 8th public university in our state. The Senate is scheduled to release their budget on Monday. The session may go into May this year.

CHAIR: Chair Bransdorfer reported that they would be sending out the call for nomination for the Faculty Legislative Representative soon. There will be two Executive Committee vacancies next year. One vacancy will be in COTS and the other in COB/LIB. We will be working on the call for committees later this spring. Chair Bransdorfer reported on the Greek Life Task force. The informal survey he did received 140 responses from faculty. 70% were opposed to a Greek life system at Central, 20% were in favor and 10% had arguments both pro and con.

CHAIR-ELECT: Chair-elect Loverro reported on the Multi-Modal Analysis Task Force. They are hoping to build on the current online strategic plan, rather than replacing it. The group is looking at ideas beyond the pros and cons of online learning. Such ideas as online and blended learning for place and time shifting, courses for students who are not geographically isolated, but are not able to take courses during normal hours, courses that

don't follow traditional quarters, yearlong courses, courses that could start at anytime. Continuing Education is playing a large part in these discussions.

STUDENT REPORT: No report

NEW BUSINESS - None

Meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Exhibit A

The current language in the **Bylaws** governing election of the chair-elect is:

III.C.4. Between the last Senate meeting of the Academic Year and June 16th the Chair-Elect shall convene the newly-elected Executive Committee for purpose of electing a new Chair-Elect.

It is recommended that this language be amended to read as follows:

III.C.4. **At the last Senate meeting of the Academic Year the Senate shall elect a new Chair-Elect. The current Chair will provide a list of eligible members of the Executive Committee and will oversee the election process.**

C. Officers

1. Terms of office: Election to the position of Chair-Elect assumes a three-year commitment to the Executive Committee: the first year as Chair-Elect, the following year as Chair, and the third year as immediate past Chair.
2. Chair
The Chair shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Senate, at any Faculty Forum, and at general faculty meetings upon request by the president of the university. The Chair shall serve as official representative and spokesperson of the Faculty Senate in communication with the faculty, and in this capacity shall have ex officio membership upon all major administrative committees. As chief executive officer of the Senate, the Chair shall coordinate and expedite the business and budgets of the Senate and its committees.
3. Chair-Elect
The Chair-Elect shall serve in the place of the Chair in the latter's absence. In the event of a vacancy in the Chairship after the beginning of the Chair's term of office, the Chair-Elect shall become the Chair and serve as such for the remainder of the Chair's term of office, and a new Chair-Elect shall be elected. The Chair-Elect shall serve as the liaison between the Council of Faculty Representatives and the Executive Committee.
4. ~~Between~~ At the last Senate meeting of the Academic Year and June 16th the Chair-Elect shall convene the newly-elected Executive Committee for purpose of electing a new Chair-Elect shall elect a new Chair-Elect. The Current Chair will provide a list of eligible members of the Executive Committee and will oversee the election process.

Exhibit B

The language in the **Academic Code** concerning election of the chair-elect is in the first part of Section IV.C:

IV.C: Officers of the Senate

In accordance with the Faculty Senate Bylaws, the faculty will elect members of the FS Executive Committee, which in turn will elect its principal officers, with such powers and duties as set forth in this document and transmitted by the Senate.

It is recommended that this language be amended to read as follows:

IV.C: Officers of the Senate

The faculty will elect members of the FS Executive Committee, with such powers and duties as set forth in this document and transmitted by the Senate. **The Senate will elect the Chair-Elect of the Executive Committee**, with such powers and duties as set forth in this document and transmitted by the Senate.

Note that we are recommending that the words 'In accordance with the Faculty Senate Bylaws' be removed, on the principle that the Bylaws are subsidiary to the Code rather than (as suggested by the removed language) the reverse.

C. Officers of the Senate

~~In accordance with the Faculty Senate Bylaws, the faculty will elect members of the FS Executive Committee, which in turn will elect its principal officers, with such powers and duties as set forth in this document and transmitted by the Senate. The Senate will elect the Chair-Elect of the Executive Committee, with such powers and duties as set forth in this document and transmitted by the Senate.~~ The Faculty Senate Chair shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Senate, at any faculty forum, and at general faculty meetings upon request of the president of the university. The Chair shall serve as official representative and spokesperson of the faculty and the Senate in communication with the faculty, the Board of Trustees, the administration, the student body, and other groups regarding matters that are not mandatory subjects of bargaining. In this capacity, the Chair shall have membership on select university committees and councils. As chief executive officer of the Faculty Senate, the Chair shall coordinate and expedite its business and committees.

The Chair, Chair-Elect, and Faculty Legislative Representative shall receive reassigned time to perform their duties according to Section III E. This reassigned time shall be 50% and 25% respectively, and a percentage for the faculty legislative representative to be determined by the president.