

**WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE  
Regular Meeting, 28 November 2017, 4:00 p.m.  
Capitol Rooms - University Union**

**ACTION MINUTES**

**SENATORS PRESENT:** M. Allison, B. Bellott, V. BU2V It ND R. Hiro-Wendt, A. Hyde  
(reference), N. Lino, B. Locke, S. Macchi, H. McIlvaine-Newsad, B. Perabo, J. Plos, R. Porter (via  
ce), S. Rahman, T. Roberts, S. Rock



programs, but smaller institutions strongly objected, so the IBHE has already pulled those numbers back.

Associate Provost Parsons related that low enrolled programs were first identified in 2015. By November 30, she provides information on what is happening with each program to the IBHE; since the process will not be completed by that date, she says that they are all in program review. She stated that in even years, she is required to report what has transpired since the previous odd-year review. She added that even though each institution is different, they all need to look at their programs in relation to the numbers. In addition to low enrollments, institutions are also required to report high cost programs (not only those high cost programs that are identified as being low enrolled but the ten highest costing undergraduate and graduate programs at the institution).

Senator Boynton asked how double majors are counted since the second major provides as much support to students as the first. Associate Provost Parsons responded that IBHE counts by head only for the first major, but she provides information about second majors as part of supporting documentation. Senator Boynton asked if there has been any recognition at the state level that the number of students is decreasing across the board so holding steady at the same numbers makes no sense since all institutions are fighting for future students. Associate Provost Parsons remarked that Illinois is not only

faculty. Senator Hironimus-Wendt remarked that Sociology has only 50 majors but generates a lot of student credit hour production; Associate Provost Parsons said this would be a justification for retaining this program.

2. Enrollments by Gender  
(Seth Miner, Director, Admissions)

Mr. Miner provided Faculty Senate with data provided by Institutional Research and Planning showing that 24.4 percent fewer female than male students enrolled as freshmen in Fall 2017 on the Macomb campus compared to Fall 2016 – a 27.2 percent reduction

Harris about being more proactive to promote that WIU is a welcoming campus and trying to get that information out to parents in communications from the University. He added that letters from the Mayor of Macomb and SGA President will go out in February to build on that message.

Parliamentarian Kaul asked if the question of why fewer female than male freshmen enrolled in WIU this fall is an appropriate one for Admissions to answer. He agrees that Faculty Senate needs to carefully look at these numbers but thinks Admissions may not be the place to look for answers because there are extraneous factors at work. He pointed out that Admissions is not responsible for telling certain students that WIU does not want them to enroll; they want every eligible student, regardless of gender or race. Chairperson Rock asked if Admissions sees a difference in yield rates by gender; Mr. Miner replied that females yield higher. Chairperson Rock asked if Admissions is tracking gender for Fall 2018 applications; Mr. Miner replied that Admissions typically tracks ethnicity, but they can track gender as well.

Mr. Miner brought notecards for senators to complete to encourage undecided accepted students to come to WIU next fall; senators are asked to complete five notecards apiece.

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Ms. Russell related that the UHDS annual satisfaction survey was just completed. UHDS selects about half of their locations in residence halls and the University Union to survey every year because those locations are supported by students. Surveys gauge the level of satisfaction in regard to quality of food, speed of service, presentation of food, and other factors. This fall's survey resulted in about 854 responses, about 77 percent of which were from residence ic(v)11(e)-2Cyp2 haus rddvelg rp(h)2(1)21(v)1ses 2(c)12(o)2(m)13(el)5Wugfronfu(p)s

money, but they often would prefer to eat at Burger King. UHDS tries to use UNIV 100 and other venues to reinforce this message. He believes the “swipe program” used by other institutions is a “big racket” because students are charged for 21 meals per week when they really only eat 13. He stated that WIU’s is a “true fairness meal plan.”

Ms. Russell told senators that UHDS has access to all the data as to what students are choosing to eat. She can sit down with students to help them make their meal plans work. Senator Allison asked if students do not typically eat three meals per day. Mr. Biernbaum responded that only 17 percent of students eat breakfast. He added that UHDS is very data driven because they do not receive any state funding. UHDS is market driven and needs for students to be happy with their meal choices. He said that UHDS is not trying to oversell; \$1,785 per semester is intended to cover 13 meals per week. Students can purchase a “plus plan,” but Mr. Biernbaum never encourages them to do that because there is no reason to buy this ahead of time when they may not need it. Ms. Russell added that the amount spent on food also depends on where students are eating since the University Union charges nine percent sales tax on food purchases while residence halls do not charge tax.

Chairperson Rock observed that some faculty and staff participate in the UHDS survey





not including any mention of retention. She related that in the new shorter survey students are not asked probing questions about their instructors, but students are asked if their peer mentors and instructors have helped them transition to college and have

Senator Allison is concerned with the lack of faculty buy-in for UNIV 100, adding that she has also not “bought in.” She sees lack of faculty buy-in as a huge red flag and would like to know the perceived reason for it. Associate Provost Parsons stated that teaching UNIV 100 either becomes part of the faculty member’s regular load if they are currently under 22 or becomes overload if the faculty member is at or over 22. In Fall 2013, there were 100 sections of UNIV 100; 17 of the instructors were faculty, and 58 were non-faculty. In Fall 2017, there were 58 sections of UNIV 100; seven instructors are faculty members, and 40 are non-faculty. Associate Provost Parsons theorized that part of the problem may be that UNIV 100 uses a prescribed type of syllabus; there is a lot of potential for flexibility within the course, but she has heard from some faculty that they do not want to be told what they have to teach and would rather develop the course as they wish. Associate Provost Parsons explained that UNIV 100 is a course that all students take, and it needs to be a common experience. Students move through UNIV 100 as a team and have all the same





told senators that WIU partners with the College Board, who wanted the University to be part of a pilot program on non-cognitive retention indicators. He related that as part of this new program, the University is considering first-year students, either during Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) or within FYE classes,





same question, and cuts had to be made somewhere. He added that Senator Hironimus-