

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

**Regular Meeting, 7 February 2023, 4:00 p.m.
Via Zoom**

ACTION MINUTES

SENATORS PRESENT: D. Atherton, D. Banash, D. Barr, M. Bernards, D. Brown, G. Cabedo-Timmons, A. Carr, C. Chadwell, P. Eathington, L. Ebert Wallace, D. Hunter, S. Macchi, K. Perone, B. Petrocovich, E. Shupe, Y. Tang, B. Thompson

Ex-officio: Craig Whetten, Parliamentarian; Provost Manoochehr Zoghi

SENATORS ABSENT: J. Albarracin, S. Bailey, B. Bellott, J. Land, T. Lough, B. Polley, J. Wroblewski

GUESTS: Joe Cantu, Julie Cox, Katrina Daytner, Dennis DeVolder, Lorri Kanauss, Rick Kurasz, Sarah Lawson, Sue Martinelli-Fernandez, Patrick McGinty, Lindsay Meeker, Kristi Mindrup, Russ Morgan, Mark Mossman, Lorette Oden, Renee Polubinsky, Linda Prosis, Jeremy Robinett, Jim Schmidt, Amber Schultz, Eric Sheffield, Sebastian Szyka, Boh Young Lee

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. January 24, 2022

APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED

II. Announcements

Provost Zoghi announced that the search for the Vice President for Finance and Administration has been finalized, and only contract signing remains, so the name will be announced soon. The search for a Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations was recently launched; Brad Bainter will serve as Interim Vice President until that person is hired. Provost Zoghi stated that there are a number of other searches ongoing, including the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services, which is in its final stages. He added that candidates will soon be coming to campus for that search, and he will provide an update on that at a later date.

Chair Thompson asked what kinds of issues were discussed with the legislators during their visit and

the April council meeting. Senator Carr stated that Dean Christopher Merrett will speak about the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, for which he acts as Director, at that meeting, and there may be other speakers from the IBHE, Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), and legislators.

Senator Carr noted that the IBHE FAC has working groups on a range of topics. Senator Carr serves on working groups on early college and on online remote learning; they are working on a handout on things to consider regarding early college credit and whether it is advisable for an institution. Other working groups include one on mental health, which has been focused on student mental health but is now also doing a survey on faculty mental health, and a working group on , which has included public comments from members serving on the Illinois Commission on Equitable Funding. y

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is happening in Florida. Senator Banash replied he was thinking more of technical things, such as how hours are moving between universities, similar to topics which came up at Faculty Senate last semester. Senator Carr responded that nothing like that has been communicated to the IBHE FAC. She does not think the IBHE in general is interested in micromanaging the curriculum side, and when there is a state need, such as the early childhood issues seen recently, the legislature gets involved. Chair Thompson thinks the university will see more legislation like this. Senator Carr stated that the IBHE responds to those kinds of legislation and also initiates some. She added that, because they are between webmasters, the IBHE FAC has not been able to

at risk; and 3) continuing to partner effectively with the Foundation Office because a smaller percentage of WIU's scholarships come from Foundation dollars than institutions where Vice President Schultz has worked in the past, and a larger piece of that pie is provided by institutional dollars. Vice President Schultz thinks the university needs to flip those two figures so that a larger portion of student aid comes from Foundation funding. She noted that institutional scholarships, institutional grants and waivers, and student employment are budget expenditures, whereas funding from Foundation, federal or state financial aid, or third party payers is considered revenue. She pointed out that WIU has \$26 million going out annually on what would not have to be an institutional expenditure.

Chair Thompson asked if there are plans to decrease student employment since it is highlighted in red on the fiscal reality handout. Vice President Schultz replied she does not think there are plans to reduce student employment; this figure is highlighted in red because it is an expenditure. The immediate changes that Enrollment Management plans to implement include:

- elimination of the Visitor Scholarship;
- replacing the St. Louis and Chicago Leatherneck Awareness .ca-1.6 (a--t)-4.6 (. L)2.3 80 Tw 7.

because they have done this successfully at other campuses for many years, so it would probably be far less expensive for them to do the needed analysis and come up with a plan for WIU than it would be for the university to get fully staffed and do the analysis in-house.

Chair Thompson asked if the discount rate can be changed without necessarily changing the tuition rate. Vice President Schultz responded that Ruffalo Noel Levitz could do an analysis of both scenarios at the same time if desired; they would look at WIU's current discount rate and cost and conduct a cost analysis study. Vice President Schultz would prefer to look at the current discount rate and fix that before undergoing a massive shift on cost, but the consultants would provide advice on what they think would be best for WIU, and then the university can determine in-house what would be the best route. She would not like to see the university adjust both tuition and the discount rate at the same time because that is too much change to understand the impact.

Chair Thompson asked when the analysis might start. Vice President Schultz replied that if the university enters into a relationship with Ruffalo Noel Levitz, they would start the analysis immediately mn(t)-2.6 [(a)[(a)-1.76 [(a)[(Tc 0 (c)-1.2dbs)-2.3 (48 0)10.8 (V)asc10.9 (w nd t)-4

Dr. Cox told senators CAGAS was asked to revisit the policy they approved in September to

college. He is forming a task force and already has eight or nine members. He asked the

Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration faculty member Jeremy Robinett told senators this wording is proposed in order to make sure that faculty, as well as students, are aware of the policies and procedures that WIU has in place for military students. He noted that there are both statutes and certain accommodations in place in case students have trainings, drill, or active duty during the semester, but sometimes students and faculty are not aware of them. He stated that sometimes either faculty or students will take action that is not in accordance with those policies and procedures, so adding this statement to the syllabus will provide a way for the entire university community to become more aware of them.

Chair Thompson asked if the institution notifies faculty when a student is activated; Dr. Robinett replied it does not. He stated that if it becomes known that a unit or group of students is to become activated, the Veterans Resource Center will reach out to students in that category. Dr. Robinett noted that faculty sometimes forget that veteran/military status is a protected class; students are not automatically identified to the university as being in the National Guard, Reservices, or active duty.

