

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
Regular Meeting, 8 March 2016, 4:00 p.m.
Capitol Rooms -University Union

ACTION MINUTES

SENATORS PRESENT: S. Bennett, V. Boynton, J. Brown, A. Burke, G. Cabed, Timmons, D. DeVolder, K. Dodson, R. Hironimus, Wendt, S. Holt, K. Kapale, C. Keist, N. Lino, B. Locke, J. Myers, K. Pawelko, T. Roberts, T. Sadler, B. Siever, A. Silber, F. Solomonson, J. Westerhold
Ex-officio: Nancy Parsons, Associate Provost, Anna Deitz, Parliamentarian

SENATORS ABSENT: D. Halverson, C. Pynes

GUESTS: Andy Borst, Craig Conrad, Katrina Daytner, Margaret Hoffmann, Tammy Killian, Charles Lydeard, Stacey Macchi, Sue Martinez, Fernandez, Kyle Mayborn, Heather McIlvaine, Newsad, Dovile Svirupskaitė, Lora Wolff, Jeannie Woods, John Wozniak

Vice Chair Myers acted as chair in the absence of Chairperson Pynes.

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. February 23, 2016

Corrections:

x

CHANGE OF MAJOR APPROVED

3. Curricular Requests from the Department of Biological Sciences

a) Request for New Courses

- (1) BIOL 476, Special Topics, 3 s.h., repeatable for different topics to 9 s.h.
- (2) MICR 476, Special Topics, 3 s.h., repeatable for different topics to 9 s.h.

NEW COURSES APPROVED

4. Curricular Requests from the Department of Theatre and Dance

Motion:

Senator Roberts is not comfortable calling the discussion at Senate an “ambush.” He pointed out that Faculty Senate is the last sanctioned place for these types of discussions to occur. He does not think there was a cabal to undermine this course and believes that the Senate is a legitimate place to flesh out these issues.

Senator Keist understands that Faculty Senate is the place for these types of discussions, but also wants department representatives to be aware of issues so that they have opportunity to address them prior to coming to the meeting rather than be caught in conversations for which they may not be prepared. Senator Keist added that this happened to her one when bringing a curricular request to Faculty Senate.

Senator Silbrer noted that it is important to attend those meetings prior to Senate at which these concerns can be raised. Associate Provost Parsons agreed, stating that communication is vital for a well machine. She stressed that those who receive curriculum packages as representatives of groups such as Faculty Senate and CCPI should be bringing items of interest to the attention of those in their departments and colleges. She stated that this oversight should occur as early as possible. These types of conversations do not need to happen in future. She added that the department chair is not the only one that can raise concerns; it helps to have a unified effort to involve everyone in the process.

Senator Boynton stated that Faculty Senate is intended to be a deliberative body, not a rubber stamp, and it provides one last chance to question items of curriculum before they go on to the Provost for approval. Associate Provost Parsons stated that, likewise, at the college curriculum level it is important to think globally and consider potential overlap in areas beyond one’s own discipline or college.

A. Proposed Addition of FYE Language to Course Syllabus Policy

The proposal asks that this statement be required for all FYE course syllabi:

First Year Experience students will learn how to successfully transition to the university and discuss how to live well as a student (physically, intellectually, socially/civically and emotionally) in UNIV 100. FYE Y courses will connect the material being learned in UNIV 100 to the topics covered in their department specific or pre-professional Y classes so that students are not only learning the material regarding how to transition (UNIV 100) but also have an environment where they can apply these tools for success (Y course). If

Senator DeVolder believes the first part of the paragraph reflects general objectives for FYE

