

Faculty Senate Meeting September 18, 2013

In attendance: Umit Akinc, Martha Alexander-Miller, Ed Allen, Sarah Bodin, Dan Bourland, James Cotter, Kevin Cox, Carol Cramer, Will Fleeson, Candelas Gala, Michele Gillespie, Sam Gladding, Michael Hughes, Tim Janke, Hank Kennedy, Nina Lucas, Ken Middaugh, Paul Pauca, Cathy Seta, Gale Sigal, Michelle Steward, Lynn Sutton, Rosalind Tedford, Jeffrey Weiner, Mark Welker, Linda McPhail, Anne Boyle, Mary Deshazer

Welcome and Updates from President, Hank Kennedy

Hank Kennedy welcomed 11 new senators with an expiration term of 2017 and one that replaced David Levy with a term date of 2016. The new senators are: Claudia Kairoff, college (on leave during fall semester), Will Fleeson, college, Nina Lucas, college, Peter Siavelis, college, Paul Pauca, college (replaced David Levy, term expires 2016), Mark Welker, graduate school, Jeffrey Weiner, medical school, Martha Alexander-Miller, medical school, Wilson Parker, law school (member of executive committee, member at large), Jim Cotter, schools of business (former Faculty Senate President, current chair of resources committee), Tim Janke, schools of business, and Rosalind Tedford, library.

Direction and Goals of 2013-2014 Faculty Senate: Hank Kennedy (H.K.) expressed his goals for the Faculty Senate this year. He would like to see the Faculty Senate continue its trajectory, initiated in 2010 and associated then with the revision of the bylaws, to become increasingly a "faculty" organization designed and devoted to increased faculty governance. In appointing this year's standing committee membership, H.K. initiated a new procedure of: a) only appointing members to respective committees who volunteer for such appointments (i.e. discontinuing the practice of assigning all elected faculty members to committees); and b) appointing appropriate members of the faculty who are not members of the elected faculty senate (including emeritus faculty) to standing committees as nonvoting advisers. Additionally, H.K. will endeavor to construct agendas for the Faculty Senate meetings which are linked to specific projects and issues related to faculty governance."

New Officers and Composition of Executive Committee: Gale Sigal, Vice President, Cathy Seta, Secretary, Wilson Parker, Member-at-Large, and Carol Cramer, Staff Advisory Council. The executive committee is comprised of the officers and chairpersons of the standing committees.

Hank Kennedy expressed his gratitude and thanked Dan Bourland, past President and Mike Hughes, former President for their hard work and contributions to the Faculty Senate.

Update and Discussion of WFHS issues: The executive committee has submitted a written document to CAFR requesting that they look into issues related to the Medical School's new policy regarding salaries and funding. Dan Bourland provided some background information to the Senate regarding these issues. These issues include questions regarding how the policies came to be, the impact of this process on tenure and extant policies and procedures regarding (15%) salary reductions. The EXCOM of the Senate submitted a series of questions to the CAFR regarding these issues and asked that they be addressed as soon as possible, given their urgency.

Update re: Sexual Harassment Policy: Dan Bourland reported that in spring of 2013 the Senate Executive Committee conducted a thorough review of the proposed policy received from the legal department regarding sexual harassment. The EXCOM submitted their comments and suggestions regarding this policy to the legal department last spring. The “ball is now in their court” and we are expecting a revised draft from the legal department.

Update re: Protection of Minors Policy: The tragic events at Penn State have heightened all universities’ awareness of issues related to the protection of minors on campus. WFU hosts many minors on campus in summer camps, project pumpkin, and other events. An *ad hoc* committee of the Senate, chaired by Michael Hughes, has been formed to formulate suggested policies that can be enacted to facilitate the protection of these minors. This committee will report their recommendations to the Faculty Senate and to the Provost as soon as their report is completed.

Prospective Business

Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Committee on Athletics: H.K. established this committee on September 11, 2013, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Senate. A report submitted to the Faculty Senate in March 2013 by COIA (Coalition of Intercollegiate Athletics) was the impetus for creating this Senate committee. Article II, section 7 in the Senate bylaws permits the Senate President to create *ad hoc* committees as deemed appropriate.

Jane Albrecht, WFU’s COIA representative recommended that there be communication between this new *ad hoc* committee and COIA. Hank Kennedy suggested that the chair of the Athletics Committee serve on this new committee and issued an invitation to interested Senators to join the committee.

Standing Committees: Goals and Agendas

Resources: James Cotter informed the Faculty Senate that his committee intends to gather information on how University resources are allocated. His plans include:

- Meeting with Hof Milam to discuss the SRI committee results
- A review of the past financial performance of the university and the budget for the coming years
- Maintaining contact with the Board of Trustees of the university through their finance committee

University Integration: Dan Bourland reported this committee would seek opportunities across campus involving research and other educational experiences. Last year the committee worked on streamlining procedures for undergraduates involved in internships. Another aspect of this integration process is to pursue opportunities to improve communication, such as establishing the same email domain for the medical school and the university.

Senior University Appointments: Michael Hughes explained this committee gives a voice in recipients of honorary degrees. Additionally this committee is involved in senior level appointments. He invited Senators to provide feedback to his committee.

Fringe Benefits: Hank Kennedy reported for Peter Siavelis. Some of the topics this committee will explore this year are listed below.

- Proposed parking fee changes
- Tuition concession policy (SRI, considering changes to existing policy)
- Recent benefit cuts with regards to medical school
- Retirement benefits
- PTO benefits
- Retirement benefit funding errors recently revealed by the university

New Business

Ed Allen was elected as chair of the Collegiate Senators for 2013-14. All elected Faculty Senate members from the college serve on this committee.

Dan Bourland mentioned that all Senators from the Medical School are automatically on FRC.

The meeting closed with comments from the new Faculty Senate President expressing that he is honored to be the new president. He expressed the Senate's gratitude to Amalia Wagner for her help and support.

Adjourned: 5:30pm