

Faculty Senate Minutes **July 12, 2016**

Primarily paperless, wou.edu/facultysenate

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.

Better Know a Colleague (informal gathering, optional)

3:30 – 5 p.m.

Business Meeting

1. Call to order at 3:32
2. Call of the roll
Senators in Attendance: Joel Alexander, Rob Winningham, Zeonon Zygmunt, Thaddeus Shannon, Diane Tarter (for Kevin Helppie), Mary Harden, Michael Phillips, Lyra Behnke, Elisa Maroney, Bob Hautala, Jennifer Taylor, Claire Ferraris, Carol Harding (for Jaime Marroquin), Thomas Rand, Kit Andrews, Erin Baumgartner (for Amy Harwell-first half), Amy Harwell (present for second half), Cheryl Beaver, Laurie Burton, Shaun Huston, Isidore Lobnibe, Scott Tighe, Greg Zobel (for Ken Carano), Marie LeJeune, Bryan Dutton (for Mike Baltzley), Janeanne Rockwell-Kincannon (for Sue Kunda), Paul Disney.
Ex-officio in attendance: Adele Schepige, Melanie Landon-Hays, Stephen Scheck, Rex Fuller.
3. Corrections to and approval of minutes from previous meeting.
Approved
4. Institutional Reports
 - 4.1. Adele Schepige, Faculty Senate President
 - Senate Committees Charge, Chair and Member duties-- Last year the executive committee asked all faculty senate committees to provide information about the role of the committee and what members usually do. That information is now posted on the Faculty Senate website under the Committees link.
 - Academic Affairs Meeting—Almost all academic service areas are short staffed or need more room to operate. We should keep this in mind when working with these offices.
 - New Faculty Orientation Meeting—Robert Monge will be making some tutorials for new faculty to help new faculty settle in better.
 - WOU Foundations Board—we need a new representative for the WOU foundation Board. Meet on Saturdays: October 1, December 3, March 4, and June 3. If interested in serving, contact Adele or Tommy Love.
 - Emeritus Status Guidelines—review and suggest some guidelines for emeritus status. Current guidelines are in the faculty handbook on page 11. Academic Requirements Committee will be a good place to review this. Will be taken up in the Fall.

4.2. Rex Fuller, University President

- Thanked faculty for attending commencement. There was an improvement in the time that was committed, saving 45 minutes to an hour. It remained a respectful ceremony.
- NW Commission—traveled with Provost Scheck to Seattle. Interviewed with the commission for an hour. They seemed to positively recognize work that was done. We were able to demonstrate more work done in assessment than what they identified. There will be a report from them asking us to make progress in that arena. It should come next month, and will also carry over to our next cycle.
- Strategic planning is working on the mission, intersection of values, and core themes. We will be using this report to work on this. Aiming make decisions that these core themes are appropriate.
 - This group began in late April and is meeting throughout the summer. Town Hall meetings will be held in the Fall on October 5th and 6th. There are a number of working groups and we are really pleased by the depth of conversation and commitment of the committee. Documents will be ready to review by the Fall, there should be documents for the Board of Trustees to review by January of 2017. Group is right on timeline—a tribute to the committee.
 - Strategic Planning Fall—many conversations are scheduled among governance groups. The hope is that these documents resonate with the entire campus going forward. Once the documents are agreed on, there will be an alignment of all the other pieces in the plan: technology supporting the mission, transparency, and master plan of space. Goal is to sync and link.
- There were no questions from the senators.

4.3 Stephen Scheck, University Provost

- Appreciative comments to Karen Sullivan Vance and Alex Kunkel for the academic advising and learning team that hosted the conference in June. There were a lot of attendees there, including Debi Brannon, Laurie Burton, Jennifer Moreno, Diane Tarter, and Katherine Schmidt. There will be a continued conversation about good advising and how this plays a role in retention.
- Faculty are doing good work with SOAR. Last one will be next Saturday, the 23rd. These are incredibly important in terms of making an impression on students about the value of coming to WOU. This year the great unknown is what the Oregon Promise will do. It won't enhance...the question will be how much it will diminish the freshmen class.
- Appreciative of the Boston group that attended the American Association of Colleges and Universities General Education Working Conference. Carol Harding will reference some of that later in today's meeting.
- Would the faculty at WOU like to have representation on HECC policy? Soliciting nominations for two different advisory committees that would help establish state policy: 1) expand the dual credit oversight committee (extant committee and Dave McDonald is on it representing OUS

admissions officers). This committee enforces quality control and program review for accelerated learning. It's the statewide committee that does the accreditation / assessment of those programs. This committee is heavily represented by community college personnel. They've done this a long time. HECC is looking for a representatives form a big school or true school. WOU can forward names. The commitment is about four quarterly meetings per year with the real work beginning in 2017. This committee will oversee all forms of accelerated learning (Willamette Promise, AP, etc.) and 2) Math people, Senate bill 1540 asking the HECC to come up with ideas to create more math majors in the state. Assumption, more math, technology equals tax revenue. Representative from a true campus and a large campus. Preferably a current or former department head: Math or Math Education. If interested, send in your name; it's very valuable to be represented there.

- This Friday, Oregon IDesign, instructional design will be held on campus. If interested, contact Dan Clark. The registration is available on the Center for Academic Innovation's website.
- July 27th, Emily Plec is hosting and all day free conference for fostering collegiate success workshop. Focus is on how we support students who have come out of the foster care system.
- On August 1st and 2nd, Greg Zobel is hosting a caption studies virtual conference with help from UCS and disability services. It is a nationwide, online conference that is free. Information is available at captionstudies.wou.edu.
- Encouraged faculty to participate in on-campus activities. The food is good and it builds community.
- Fielded a question from Joel Alexander: noticed an uptick in my advisees concerns and the sophomores and freshmen. Sophomores seem to have an increase in complaining that they can't register at this time. Complaints have gone up. Response: will continue to look at—courses they were blocked from were no higher than prior years, they just knew they were blocked. With the registrar and advising office, continue to make tweaks and improvements.

4.3.2 In addition, on the website, item 4.3 in informational reports, read about two bills on the HECC reports on issues that might affect WOU or the higher education landscape. These bills have to do with transfer (2525) and community college students losing credits and some college, no degree bill (3335). Potential for dusting off our Associate Degree. State view and HECC response is here.

4.3.3 Policy DRAFT Military absence policy for students (MAPS). WOU is a military friendly campus and are staff, students and other on campus that have to go on active duty. Would like this to be a priority item in the Fall for the Senate to come back with suggested edits and recommendations.

5. Consideration of Old Business

- 5.1. Computer Science program changes and associated coursework
Thaddeus Shannon (David Olsen), Computer Science

- Tightened up the program to align more with software engineering. Ground up rebuild from 200 level
- Only affected program was applied mathematics. Did a lot of work on making the new chunks and line them up in a mutual way for double major
- Does not require a minor
- These are credit neutral; no increase in requirements from a student perspective
- Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously

5.2. Information Systems program changes and associated coursework

Thaddeus Shannon, Computer Science

- IS program changes are putting in place a new curriculum. Historically this was a cobbled together program that was information science light, so it has now been aligned with the 2010 ACM guidelines for Computer Information Systems; focus is on a computer science perspective not a business perspective.
- Built a curriculum that meets all the requirements in that set of guidelines. If students successfully complete this, it can be accredited. Putting in place the program that should have always been there: new courses like enterprise architecture, systems analysis, basic things that should be in there that weren't before.
- The old program had no room for electives at the upper level, there is now room for those; it is also stand-alone from the computer science curriculum after freshmen year; this can be taught in the rotation of current faculty.
- A new rewritten information system minor is part of this too; it is very flexible and a requirement for upper division coursework chosen by the student. Only 16 credits but could fulfill it within designated credits with the prerequisites.
- Question---typical minors? Business minor; now no longer a big overlap with the business major; entrepreneurship. Focus is still relatively business oriented for information systems. As it becomes more populated, then we can branch out.
- Approved unanimously as amended.

5.3. The Passport Initiative

Michael Phillips, Creative Arts and Paul Disney, Business

- WICHE program administered through the HECC. Trying to make transfer easier from state to state. Representatives from states got together and worked on learning outcomes
- Our students can gain a passport here by taking our block and transfer to another school and we would agree that we would trust other institutions to have done their due diligence and we would accept their passports; the passport block is being worked on.
- Discussion
 - The Biology Department brought forth the following formal concern: support the goals and themes of WICHE; asked that the vote be tabled until October. The Natural Sciences block includes a suggestion that students get scientific literacy by watching a creationism / evolutionist debate. It's not a debate, and it's irresponsible to include this as an example of a scientific debate. Other groups advocate against this and courts have ruled that creationism is not science and does not belong in

science curriculum. By postponing a vote, we'll have more time in convincing WICHE to influence their standards. We want to support a revised passport initiative

- There was further discussion about the options for talking to WICHE, both through professional organizations and Shawn Pollack at the HECC
- Additionally, all of the reps should have been contacting divisions and passing this through. Unlike our LACC, this is geared toward meeting the learning outcomes in each block. It won't include any class that is part of our broader general education or not LACC. Those are not part of this; they still have to take those.
- Seeking feedback for revisions because there are many pieces still being worked on prior to October. WOU will be one of the first institutions to sign on and it could be very beneficial.
- It was agreed that with the questions raised by Science and the revisions still being made, that postponing will not put WOU in any danger. There will be two faculty senate meetings before then.
- It was moved to table the proposal until the first meeting in October and approved unanimously.

6. Consideration of New Business

6.1. Faculty Senate Role in Campus Budget Planning Process

Thaddeus Shannon, IFS representative

- Revisited this concern from last time in faculty senate meeting; WOU is the only former OUS school where faculty senate doesn't have a mechanism for talking about budget issues in the context of talking about HECC funding models
- Because there are concerns faculty have outside of the CBA, etc., there should be a separate group having discussions and building intelligence around issues. There are various opportunities for individuals to participate (AIC), that's been as far as faculty senate has been able to go with the academic aspect of budgeting. There could be something that might come out of strategic planning, but regardless, there needs to be an opportunity for faculty to organize themselves around our budget and decisions, etc.
- Discussion:
 - How this role would differ from division chairs because they become half time administrators and should have a set of concerns that are separate from teaching faculty.
 - This has come up before, especially at the behest of OSU and U of O because they did not have unions. The benefit of participating was questioned; however, it was emphasized that the IFS is supposed to formally report and solicit information from the faculty senate, so there is a mechanism.

7. Informational Presentations and Committee Reports

7.1. Fostering Collegiate Success

Emily Plec, Communications Studies

- WOU initiative that provides the pathway and support necessary to help students who have been in foster care succeed in college.
- Encouraged senators to ask your colleagues to attend the workshop on July 27th. There is an RSVP through the faculty senate website. PCC is coming, OSU reps are coming and legislative champions are coming.
- First step has been to marshal services that are available---there's a website: resources, liaisons, liaison training that can be accessed for more information.

7.2. AFSC General Education LEAP Alignment Survey Results

Carol Harding, AFSC chair

- Shared links from the AFSC page and presented survey results from the LEAP survey
- The data and made heatmaps (word clouds), some were shared in senate
- Met with strategic planning chairs and senate chair and shared this information in thinking it might help with envisioning.
- Committee would like to present more information to the whole campus in the Fall and would like to extend the deadline to September 30th; senators were encouraged to use department meetings to talk about this and get the information out so that data can be recalibrated and shared with new results
- There is also a group interested in looking at quantitative literacy and moving forward—contact Dan Clark or Breeann Flesch
- Statewide conferences will be sponsored by the Learning Outcomes and Assessment group. On October 28th and 29th, there will be Teaching Talks to design assignments and align them with particular LEAP rubrics. If interested, contact Carol or Sue Monihan
- There was some discussion about if this would be shared with and involve the gen ed committee. The stated goal was to first improve response rate and then get the information to that committee in September. Concerns were shared that there was talk of using this as a framing technique for strategic planning, so Gen Ed should be doing something with this. Committee members were assured that this is informational.

8. Adjournment at 4:56 p.m.

5 – 5:15 p.m.

Better Know a Colleague (informal gathering continued, optional)