

Washburn University
Faculty Senate Minutes
December 4, 2023

Present: Altus, Barraclough, Camarda, Cook, Cook-Cunningham, Dahl, DeSota, Florea, Friesen, Grant, Hansen, Holt, Kay, Kendall-Morwick (K.), Lolley, McGuire, Mercader, Modellmog, Scofield, Sneed, Steinroetter, Toerber-Clark, Wagner

Absent: Hakenewerth, Hartman, Heusi, Kowalska, Miller, Porta, Ricklefs, Rivera, Steffen

Guests: Asamoah, Bailes, Ball, Broxterman, Erby, Holthaus, Kohls, Lanning, Martinez, Stephenson, Wade

I. Meeting was called to order at 3:03 pm

- Minutes from the November 20, 2023, meeting of Faculty Senate were unanimously approved.

II. President's Opening Remarks

- Wagner presenting for Ricklefs who is out for a conference.
- Ricklefs sent an email out regarding details of the last meeting.
 - i. She is still gathering information from Lee regarding the process used in Chartwells outsourcing.
- Martinez and Asamoah, President and Vice President of WSGA, provided a brief presentation of what they have been up to this year.
 - i. Background on WSGA
 - Student government facilitates relationship between students (undergraduate and graduate level) and administration, drafts legislation, provides several resources for student needs, provides manpower for events, and other necessary tasks.
 - ii. This year, the focus has been services and student needs rather than items to give away.
 - iii. Activities and accomplishments this semester:
 - In coordination with Governor Kelly, advocacy work and a proclamation of First-Generation Student celebration day in Kansas. About fifty percent of our campus is part of this population.
 - Due to the complaints of minimal lighting and people feeling unsafe on campus at night, a safety tour was completed to determine areas of particular concern and areas inaccessible to mobility chairs with three-inch wheels.

- Working with the law school to help provide services for students.
 - Community service efforts, including volunteer work with the Nancy Perry Day of Caring.
 - Working to advocate for more inclusion of Washburn Students at Kansas Higher Education Day.
 - Had been funding flu shots. The university has taken over this and WSGA is now funding STI testing, as well as advocating for accessible health care on campus.
 - Smart ride is now Ride smart with Lyft. Students get up to four rides worth eight dollars each. Issues remain as students can't use this to get to the closest supermarket.
- iv. Steinroetter asked about whether there are days of giving funds for these efforts. There are not. It has not been explored as they are already working with the student fees.
- III. WUBOR/KBOR Update
- Nothing since the last meeting.
 - Ricklefs is presenting to WUBOR on the 7th. Mazachek will be including Senate Presidents each semester to ensure there is more and better communication.
- IV. VPAA/Provost Update – Stephenson
- Thanks for the participation with the provost search to ensure the applicants could hear about concerns prior to hire.
 - i. Altus asked about the timeline for decision and start date. The decision will be made by the end of January. Unsure of start date.
 - Success week: previous WSGA wanted to ensure that faculty followed the guidelines for success week; Ball will be sending out a reminder regarding these.
 - i. The issue is that most faculty are now doing finals during success week. If students are asking for this to accommodate their plans, that is fine. Otherwise, finals should take place during finals week.
 - Commencement is on the 15th, please attend in regalia.
 - i. Wagner noted that those without regalia can get this rented at the bookstore at no cost.
 - Automatic transfer of grades from D2L to Banner is not available this semester; please plan to enter manually.
- V. Faculty senate committee reports
- Minutes of the October 30, 2023, meeting of the Academic Affairs committee were approved.

VI. University committee reports

- Minutes of the Academic Diversity and Inclusion Committee (ADIC) meetings of September 12, 2023, and October 10, 2023, were received.
- Minutes of the November 16, 2023, meeting of the International Education / International WTE Committee were received.

VII. Old Business

- 24-14 Correction of typographical error in Faculty Senate Constitution (Wagner)
 - i. The first reading took place at the last meeting; this is the second reading.
 - ii. Edits made including fixed language to match those in other sections of the Constitution regarding release of meeting agendas.
 - One had still read six days rather than five days prior.
 - All days are noted as calendar days.
 - iii. Steinroetter moved to approve, Kendall-Morwick (K.) seconded; the item was approved without dissent.
- 24-15 School of Law updates to Faculty Handbook
 - i. Wagner summarized that the changes included removing committees that no longer exist and some other small things.
 - ii. Cook moved to approve; Kendall-Morwick (K.) seconded. The item was approved unanimously.
- 24-16 Proposal to transition Associate of Science (AS) degrees in Allied Health to Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees.
 - i. Lolley moved to approve. Kay seconded.
 - ii. Wagner asked about whether those now in the program will graduate with their current degree. Per Lolley, the 2026 class would be the first to graduate under the new designation. Kohls indicated that to ensure no accreditation issues, the current first year students will continue to earn the AS; next year's students will start on the AAS tract. As a two-year program, if those enrolled now do not complete the course sequence in order, they will be moved to the AS degree plan.
 - iii. The item was approved unanimously.
- 24-17 Program Revisions: Bachelor of Education/ Middle Grades STEM
 - i. This is an adjustment to the changes with general education. Friesen moved to approve; Kendall-Morwick seconded.
 - ii. Cook asked about how often BIO 319 and CH 317 are offered.
 - iii. Pages 74 and 75 of the agenda had potential language issues regarding distinction between EN and ED courses brought up by Wade and Cook.

- iv. The item was approved with the agreement the language would be adjusted for clarity.

VIII. Discussion Items

- Support for students during international turmoil
 - i. Wagner noted that there are multiple things happening right now internationally.
 - ii. Steinroetter has experienced students having issues. A student from Russia had been upset to the point of being unable to concentrate on studies. The international house was a great resource for the student who ended up traveling home early and taking an incomplete.
 - iii. Are accommodations available in these situations to ensure flexibility?
 - McGuire suggested students work with the student advocate in such situations.
 - Mercader suggested speaking with those who facilitate accommodations to determine what might be needed to pull this off.
 - Student life, Holthaus, and Lee would be best to speak with about this accommodation as it can be an issue of compliance.
 - Ball suggested there should not be much of an issue getting an accommodation.
 - iv. Lolley suggested some good resources include McClendon, Steffes-Herman, Staerkel, Schbley, Jones, and WSGA
 - v. Modellmog noted there are funds students can request to help in these situations.
 - Ichabods moving forward can help as a one-time fund (McGuire).
 - There are student emergency assistance funds (Holthaus).
 - Student life can help arrange emergency housing if needed and has done so in the past. As faculty, we can always give to those funds (Stephenson)
 - vi. Barraclough mentioned UBAT reporting, a behavioral assessment team may be able to help when there is a student in need. It is not an alert in navigate and can be done anonymously.
 - Lolley had sent one before at high alert and did not get a response. If there is follow-up on the case, there will be a response.
 - UBAT does meet once a month for learners who need special attention; they work to dole out responsibilities (Wade).
 - Altus indicated at times there may be a need for Enos to be involved if there is the issue of disruption in class.

- vii. Moddelmog asked if we wanted to make a statement regarding the international issues. If so, this may lead to flareups, and it may be safer not to mention tumultuous events.
 - viii. Toerber-Clark suggested that as part of all faculty emails we are reminded of services available to students to help them through hard times.
 - Wagner agreed that we could use reminders to provide students with the list of services available as not all took WU101 and not all remember what they were provided.
 - There is a searchable section with campus services on the WU101 shell that could be shared (Barracough).
 - Martinez asked if there is a way that this shell could be included on D2L in the online student services tab.
 - Barracough said there had been confusion over ownership of these materials and they are working on updating this.
 - Lolley suggested that examples of what can be provided via these services should also be included.
 - ix. Asamoah suggested that these services be covered on syllabus day in class; many are on the master syllabus.
 - x. Moddelmog noted that we have a million trainings on sexual harassment and do not have a consistent training of the services available on campus.
 - Altus suggested that maybe CTEL could work on this and have information on the services that are on campus so that we are all aware.
 - Kendall-Morwick can work to put something together.
 - xi. Often, our websites are not user friendly; these should be more streamlined. Holt agreed and mentioned the these are currently being revamped. Per Hutchison, things will be changed with the new mywashburn and the intranet.
- IX. Announcements
- The CTEL winter social is Wednesday at 3:00 (Kendall-Morwick)
 - Women's soccer is doing great (Wagner)
 - Next semester's first meeting is January 22nd.
 - Steinroetter noted there will be some changes due to substitute senators this semester.
 - Suite sabbaticals are due to deans by the 19th of January (Wade).
- X. Meeting was adjourned at 4:14