

Western Oregon University  
Faculty Senate Minutes  
February 11th, 2014

I) Call to Order: 3:32 pm

II) Call of roll (by circulation of sign-in sheet)

In Attendance: David Foster, Stephanie Hoover, Keven Malkewitz, Scot Morse, Michael Freeman, Michael Phillips, Claire Ferraris, Cornelia Paraskevas, Michael Baltzley, Breeann Flesch, Rahim Kazerouni, Kristin Latham, David Doellinger, Terry Gingerich, Scott Tighe, Bob Hautala, Edwin Cancel, Cheryl Davis (for Mickey Pardew), for Rachel Harrington, Adele Schepige (for Tracy Smiles), Dana Ulveland, Stewart Baker

III) Correction to and approval of minutes:

a) approved

IV) Institutional Reports:

a) Thaddeus Shannon, Faculty Senate President:

- i.) General education assessment, we have been given a brief reprieve, but will need to happen soon and should also take into consideration the AB core
- ii.) Southern Oregon has come out with their proposed reductions of programs, available on website. They are reaching out for assistance.

b) Mark Weiss, University President:

- i.) Education symposium in Portland focused on collaboration with pre k - 20+ and how to move people through the system and innovative ways to fund public education in Oregon.
  - a. We now have a table in our business plan that shows all the TRU schools and how many degrees per school vs. how much funding- we are most efficient.
- ii.) Legislative items:
  - a. A bill that would mandate the 4 TRU University to provide a low fixed price degree.
    - i. Western tuition promise met this goal, but state reneged.
  - b. College credit in High school. With 3 out of 10 students are not earning high school degrees. Emphasis needs also to be on getting people graduated
  - c. Free tuition for 2 years of community college. Our question is why not include universities?
  - d. Concerns that State is pulling away from quality by focusing solely on efficiency.
- iii.) An unsigned commitment for a \$1.5 million toward the new COE will be announced soon
- iv.) Oregon Military Academy building transferred to WOU during this legislative session
- v.) Feb 27 from 3-5pm: Finance information meeting, forecast for the university, academic metric, governance update, enrollment update, facilities update.

- c) Stephen Scheck, Vice President of Academic Affairs:
  - i.) In response to legislative agenda, it makes sense for us to look at opportunities for College Credit Now (High School) if we can do it well. Online options can be cost-effective with lower infrastructure costs.
  - ii.) Thanks for cooperation with the snow and cancelation of classes.
  - iii.) Provost council continues to plan for OUS breakup; HECC will be guided by continuous improvement and budget resources for sustainability.
  
- d) ASWOU President: (Jenesa Honda for Travis Meuwissen)
  - i.) Lots of lobbying; IFC happening very soon, please work with students who want to help talk about IFC
  - ii.) SOU student body has asked for help lobbying. Student senate decided to support their goals but not their actions further down the road
  - iii.) It might be nice for the students to know how much it has gone down. ASWOU is working on reinvestment campaign that will cover that information
  
- V) Old Business:
  - a) AB degrees in computer science and information systems.
    - i.) Patterned after forthcoming revisions to the Majors.
    - ii.) Discussion:
      - a. Demographic of students will be AAS or taking courses for AAS that don't count for our BA/BS degrees.
      - b. Students coming in with between 60 and 90 credits will have to pick up additional credits to complete the 180 total from electives, although very few students so far have come in with less than 90 credits.
      - c. Social science expresses a concern that departments who rely on minors could be hurt by the AB degree. However, we are the only Oregon Institution requiring a minor and now many students have majors and minors in the same division. The assessment of our general education will help us address many of these concerns.
      - d. We have minimal information from employers about desirability of the AB vs. Baccalaureate degrees.
      - e. ROTC students could take an AB with funding if it is published in the catalog.
    - iii.) Motion to approve
      - a. Motion passes with 21 in favor, 1 opposed
  
  - b) ARC proposal on certificate programs at WOU:
    - i.) Updates
      - a. Inclusion of minimal number of graduate credits that need to be addressed?
      - b. Information about majors and minors both allowed to share credit with certificates.
      - c. We will need to figure out how to address some types of programs (example: ReadOregon requires collaboration across institutions, with set price courses and a home institution providing degree.
      - d. Standalone Certificate programs are not eligible for federal financial aid.
      - e. Rehabilitation Counseling has a long-running and successful certificate program that does not meet ARC suggested criteria because only includes 9 credits and students are not admitted to WOU.

- ii.) Discussion
  - a. If Rehab certificate is not transcribed, does it really need to meet ARC requirements or could it be grandfathered in?
  - b. Admitted may be applied differently in different programs.
  - c. A designation could be made between an academic cert and a professional development certification.
  - d. Social science supports this program.
  - e. Suggested edit to 12 credit hours but add a clause that alignment to professional standards could allow for suspension of this requirement. Or should we eliminate the 12 credit clause? It would be up to faculty senate to approve, followed by Provost's council and HECC, so case will have to be made by proposing programs.
  - f. Humanities feels that 12 credit hours is not enough.
  - g. Programs designed to fit any person rather than one specific profession would have to show that it is applicable to at least one profession.
  - h. Concerns that this could be more confusing for students to navigate what classes, but students will be able to use the catalog and the certificates are completely different from majors and minors
- iii.) Motion to meet past 5:00 to continue discussion and reach resolution
  - a. Four senators must depart and quorum is lost

VIII) Adjourned: 5:00