

Winthrop University Faculty Conference

9 March, 2012

2:00 pm Kinard Auditorium, 018 Kinard Building

MINUTES

A quorum was not reached, but at 67 members present, we had >20% in attendance. A motion to do business was unanimously approved by voice vote. Meeting began at 2:06pm.

Agenda

- I. Approval of minutes for December 2, 2011 Faculty Conference
 - Minutes approved as submitted by unanimous voice vote.
- II. Report from the Chair Cliff Calloway
 - Feb 17-19 Board of Trustees Retreat—Friday and Saturday. Executive board presented a few items (report posted on faculty conference website).
 - The State's Accountability-based Funding initiative start-date likely is to be 2012-2013, but no details have been announced.
 - A projection of some excess State funds available this fiscal year, but it's unclear if any will be directed toward higher education.
 - The Financial Committee presented a resolution to refund portions of state institution bonds.
 - Managing endowments would allow WU to offer scholarships though the endowments are underwater while funds recover.
 - Presentation by David Houle, his work focuses on framing current and future students as digital natives.
 - No questions were raised regarding the Board of Trustees retreat.
- III. Report from the President Anthony DiGiorgio
 - President DiGiorgio was not in attendance, but sent an email to the faculty prior to the Faculty Conference.
- IV. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs Debra Boyd
 - Dr. Boyd noted changes in legislation which will allow foundations to prudently dip into principal to keep scholarships afloat until funds/economy recover, addressing pressing need for student aid here at WU.
 - The Roles and Rewards Committee has asked the Office of the Vice President to publish the revised tenure and promotion timeline. The goal is to start the tenure and promotion process sooner in the fall (which will allow notifications to be sent earlier, while also providing reviewing bodies sufficient time to review files). The updated timeline has been posted on the Academic Affairs web page on faculty governance. Forms stating intention to go up for promotion and tenure are to be submitted to deans no later than June 1.
 - Dr. Boyd noted that we are working toward electronic submission of tenure and promotion materials.

- No questions were asked from the floor for Dr. Boyd regarding the revised tenure and promotion timeline.
- Dr. Boyd relayed the possibility of 2% salary increase. She encouraged faculty to express their opinions to their department chairs regarding how the salary increase might be distributed (across the board or all merit-based).
- Later this month, the President will meet with the Faculty Committee on University Priorities and the Roles and Rewards Committee to discuss the salary study; information will be provided to campus community after those meetings. Dr. Boyd noted that this investigation of salaries by a consulting group will be at the macro level.
- Dr. Boyd concluded her contribution to Faculty Conference with well wishes for a restful, rejuvenating spring break. She also offered a reminder to put commencement ceremonies on calendars and suggested to faculty to consider the importance, to our students, that faculty attend commencement.

V. Reports

- Academic Council, Dr. Will Kiblinger

Action	Degree	Major	Conc.	College	Department	Action
Decrease number of hours required from 125 to 124.	BFA	ARTS	CERM	VPA	Fine Arts	Approved unanimously by voice vote
Reduce total number of hours required from 128 to 124.	BFA	ARTS	JMTL	VPA	Fine Arts	Approved unanimously by voice vote
Reduce number of total hours from 128 to 125	BFA	ARTS	PHOF	VPA	Fine Arts	Approved unanimously by voice vote
Increase total credit hour range from 124-133 to 124-134.	BS	CHEM	BCHM	ASC	Chemistry	Approved unanimously by voice vote
Increase total credit hour range from 124-133 to 124-134	BS	CHEM	MULP	ASC	Chemistry	Approved unanimously by voice vote
Add new program	BS	BIOL	CNSV	ASC	Biology	Approved unanimously by voice vote

- Actions from the General Education Committee to be voted on:
 - Certify for Global designation-- EDCI 210
 - Approved unanimously by voice vote.
 - Certify for Humanities and Arts designation--READ 290
 - Approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Dr. Kiblinger noted that the General Education committee was charged with rewriting General Education courses to make them compliant with ULCs, as such, 100 level courses are to be recertified next year.
 - No questions regarding the changes to General Education courses were asked.
- Proposal submitted to the Academic Council from the Academic Standing Work Group to change our minimum GPA requirement for students to be in good standing to 2.0 across the board for all undergraduate students. The Academic Standing work group reviewed the probation and suspension policies for our peer and other nearby institutions. In many cases, the minimum GPA requirements for good standing were 2.0 and not staggered.
 - Question: What percentage of those studied were 2.0, and which institutions have +/-.
 - Response: More than half of the institutions have +/-, not sure of percentage. The thought behind this move is to give students an earlier wakeup call regarding their academic standing.
 - 2nd Response: Dr. Gloria Jones noted that the impression that 1.75 as good standing is an issue.
 - Comment from the floor: how will this change help our students, changing to the 2.0? Are students only motivated to work harder if on probation?
 - Response: Dr. Debra Boyd noted that if on probation, students remain on probation if the GPA is 2.0 for the semester, even if the cumulative is still under 2.0, students would remain at WU, on probation.
 - Question: When would the change go into effect?
 - Response: Change would go into effect for Fall 2012, thus only affecting this year's freshman (next year's sophomores).
 - The change was approved by unanimous voice vote.

VI. Unfinished Business

- None

VII. New Business

- None

VIII. Announcements

- From the Registrar Gina Jones
 - An email was previously sent to faculty for advising students for the Fall 2012 semester. Ms. Jones urged faculty to note the changes to the Touchstone course list.
 - Five minute FERPA lesson—highlights from the FERPA webinar

IX. Other Announcements

- Dr. Bill Rogers University Priorities—Dr. Rogers noted that a discussion of the salary study will be a focus. He prompted faculty to bring any issues or concerns to their respective college representatives.
- Dr. Karen Kedrowski announced a special course on Presidential Nominating Conventions to be held in Fall 2012.
- CUC—The final meeting of the year will be held on April 6th, all material considered for that meeting needs to be submitted by April 2nd.

X. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 2:46pm

Faculty Conference Membership (326) 35% = 114 20% = 65

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Laura R. Dougherty
Department of Theatre and Dance