

**Faculty Leadership Committee Report**  
**Board of Trustees meeting on Friday, 16 April 2010**

**Academic Affairs Committee**

from Kristi Westover

- Discussion of the Owens fire aftermath was mentioned in nearly every report to the Academic Affairs Committee. Cooperation of all units on campus was evident and numerous faculty and staff were thanked. One side of the story that was new for me was the elaborate efforts of the library staff to attempt to restore documents/books. Dean Herring reported that 80% of those efforts were successful and handled on campus, 10% sent off for further work, and only 10% lost completely.
- The SACS/AAAS updates included discussion of the upcoming important compliance report dates, information on the QEP project, and details about ongoing work on new databases as well as assessment tools. Things are progressing smoothly thanks to the efforts of all academic units on campus.

**University Life Committee**

from David Meeler

- Athletics: Virtually all athletic teams have "Academic Progress Rates" well above NCAA standards and norms. One small team had 3 students not return, resulting in a temporary "high" percentage of non-returning students, which lowered their effective "progress rates" for one year; but the rolling average remains unproblematic and well within NCAA standards. The Baseball season was moved to begin 1-week earlier in order to relieve schedule compaction later in the season. And Women's Beach Volleyball has been approved as new NCAA sport, though it is unlikely Winthrop will field a team in the near future.
- Student Services / Residence Life: They're working with a new software program purchased through Ball State University that provides prompt feedback of student success-indicators along with nearly immediate communications between students and those who can help support their efforts to improve and remain in school at Winthrop. The MAP program (Making Achievement Possible) helps students address potential problem-areas in their behavior and performance well before problems generally arise or are exacerbated.
- Dean of Students Marlowe reported on expanded efforts to work with students to facilitate integrity in order to reduce plagiarism on campus. Dean Marlowe reports that incidents of plagiarism are down 50% in recent years since Turn-It-In has become more prevalent.
- Facilities: Chief Zebedis gave a report on the Owens Hall fire and the Critical Incident Management Team.
- Vice President Ardaiole reported on several activities and initiatives across campus including WU-cycle and the Alternative Spring Break program.

## **Institutional Advancement and Development Committee**

from Karen Stock

- Freshman applications trend closer to fall 2008 with approximately 1,000 freshmen registered for Winthrop e-mail accounts and 1,500 freshman aid awards packaged to date.
- The campus tour has been significantly altered in order to create a more dynamic and personalized experience. A substantial number of students say that the campus visit is the most trusted source of information and a top influencer of the student's decision to apply/enroll. First Look Fridays and Winthrop Day have been successful in creating a positive impact on parents and prospective students as well as allowing admissions to gather relevant data.
- A market research program has begun in order to underpin a successful long-term strategy for recruiting more of the type of students who will be successful at Winthrop. This will provide data that will focus Winthrop's recruiting in the most beneficial demographic areas.
- A second key area of important data is the newly designed Admitted Student Questionnaire (ASQ), a survey administered yearly to the newly-admitted students.
- The student retention task force has made progress in the past two years of its existence. The task force is charged with improving student persistence, all the way from the at-risk student in need of extra support in order to stay in college, to the outstanding student who needs to have his or her talents and energies channeled into opportunities to excel.

## **Finance Committee**

from Sue Spencer

The Committee on Finance met on Friday, April 16, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the Thompson Conference Room. The Committee approved the minutes of the February 19, 2010, meeting. Mr. Walter Harding reported to the board on the aftermath of the Owens Hall fire. He indicated repairs on Owens Hall are expected to begin next week; however, it is impossible to predict when the building will reopen. Mr. Harding commended the faculty, staff, and Aramark Corporation for working diligently to provide support to the campus community during the cleanup process. Their efforts in combination with those of off-campus professionals, provided for the recovery of many materials and computers. Mr. J.P. McKee, Vice President for Finance and Business, reported to the Committee that, in light of the ongoing financial uncertainty, Winthrop University students' room rates will need to increase. The increase in residential room rates are scheduled to begin with the 2010-2011 academic year. The increase in room rates could be as much as 3.2 percent depending on where students choose to live. The Committee discussed the schedule for deferred maintenance for the University and noted that it is less than ideal, however not dissimilar to that of other Universities across the state. The Committee voiced concerns regarding the impending loss of federal stimulus funds, and the potential impact on the University.

## Full Board meeting

from Marsha Bollinger

Four resolutions were passed by the Board:

- To honor members of the Winthrop University Community for distinguished and meritorious service following the campus fire on March 6 and 7, 2010.
- To endorse an update to the Winthrop University mission statement (no significant changes).
- To authorize the President to lead a campus-wide process to review and refine Winthrop's mission and related matters within the context of emerging global social, technical, and economic transformation and shifting needs of present and prospective students.
- To endorse a small increase in room and board fees for fiscal year 2010-2011.

Chair of the Council of Student Leaders reported that

- An ad hoc committee has been formed to examine how to make the CSL a more democratic organization
- Students are looking forward to the new DiGiorgio Center opening in time for fall semester

Chair of Faculty Conference reported that

- Nearly all classes within the General Education program have undergone review this academic year.
- The Roles and Rewards Committee is actively refining a document focusing on faculty roles; a formal endorsement by Faculty Conference will be discussed in early fall.
- Faculty Conference is preparing for their new committee structure; some new committees are already working to better understand their charges and how they fit into campus life.
- The Board received a written copy of the motion passed at the February 26, 2010 Faculty Conference meeting. (The Board had no comments or questions on this topic.)