

**Minutes  
Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
IRC 120  
March 4, 2014**

Members in Attendance: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Bacon, Baker, Barnes, Berghoef, Boncher, Brandly, Bajor, Cook, Dakkuri, Daubert, Drake, Fox, Griffin, Hanna, Harlan, Ing, Isler, Jenerou, Klatt, Marion, Nagel, Peircey, Richmond, Rumpf, Schmidt, Thapa, Todd, Tower, Wancour

Members absent with cause: Yowitz

Members absent: Amey, Dinardo, Groves, Jiao, Nazar, Potter

Ex Officio and Guests: Adeyanju, Damari, Eisler, Erickson, Garrison, Heck, Kurtz, Kalinowski, Dawson, Reifert, Hill, Zimmerman, Regis, Coon, Leone, Wagenheim

1.	President Khagendra Thapa opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m.
2.	<b>Approval of Minutes.</b> Senator Ing moved to approve the January 14, 2014 minutes Senator Alspach seconded. Motion passed.
3.	<b>Open Forum</b> A. Senator Peircey said that his students would be presenting their posters in the IRC connector on March 6 and encouraged faculty to stop by and ask questions.
4.	<b>Officer Reports</b> A. President Thapa congratulated Matt Wagenheim on his reappointment as Academic Program Review chair and Kemi Fedayomi on her appointment as University Curriculum Committee chair. He also told senators that invitations would be coming to Senators, committee members and administrators and Board of Trustees members for April 3 <sup>rd</sup> from 5-7 p.m. This was to encourage social interaction among the senators and other faculty. B. Vice-President Marion had no report. C. Secretary Isler had no report.
5.	<b>Committee Reports.</b> A. Senator Cook expressed concerns with receiving extensive proposals (50+ pages) and the ability to respond within 10 days. Chair Alspach said that in the case of some proposals this may be a struggle to do. Senator Cook asked if the 10 day response only applies to Form B. Chair Alspach said no, it also applied to Form C. Senator Ing added that the 10 day response rule also created issues for the Graduate and Professional Council when they meet monthly. Chair Alspach said this was part of the UCC manual. Senator Cook asked if it could be changed to 30 days. Senator Alspach said yes as part of a Senate vote, which could occur during new business. B. Student Government President Andrew Kalinowski encouraged Senators to form a team for the Big Event on April 12 <sup>th</sup> . Upcoming events also include the WILL conference on March 5 <sup>th</sup> and a State of the University event on April 2 <sup>nd</sup> from 7-8 p.m. He also said that the Student Government voted at its last meeting to reinstate legal services. C. General Education Task Force Chair Fed Heck congratulated Cliff Franklund on his appointment as the new General Education Coordinator. Senator Griffin thanked Professor Heck for his long service on the multi-year task form. D. Senate Elections Report. Charles Bacon gave the Senate Elections report. Nominations are due on March 7 <sup>th</sup> . He encouraged Senators to have others apply. Administrative Assistant Hadley said she currently had 3 nomination forms.
6A	<b>Sports Communication Major</b> Senator Alspach moved to approve this new major. Senator Nagel seconded. Senator Schmidt asked for clarification on the relationship with the marketing program. Senator Alspach (program initiator) explained that business list concentrations from outside the program as a minor and so it allows for the concentrations in a marketing and advertising. Senator Hanna asked if this program would be effected by the proposal on the agenda for later in the meeting and Senator Alspach said that no, these are concentrations and not certificate programs. Motion passed.

6B.	<p><b>Bachelor of Science in Public Health</b></p> <p>Senator Alspach moved to approve the major. Senator Griffin seconded. Senator Hanna asked what connections this program and courses and classes have with the Environmental Health program closed a few years ago. Associate Dean Julie Coon stated that all of those courses were deleted out of the catalog and all of these courses are new. Dean Adenyanju said he was not aware of any overlap. Senator Bacon said in a cursory search on the internet many program seem to have a more rigorous science component including things like organic chemistry and calculus. Dean Adenyanju said that these types of programs fall into a variety of different names (community, health, and wellness) and he believes it meets the standards needed. Senator Wancour commented that the college curriculum committee questioned whether or not the requirements were too rigorous. Senator Bacon expressed concerns. Senator Cook asked if faculty have been identified to teach the 12 new classes. Associate Dean Coon said that they have and searches are underway. Senator Rumpf asked if the program met outside standards. Dean Adenyanju said they meet the CEPH (Council on Education for Public Health) accreditation standards. They have only recently begun offering accreditation to bachelor programs. Senator Schmidt noted this helps to clarify the quality of the program. Associate Dean Coon said this would provide additional options for students. 21 Motion passed. One voted nay and one abstention.</p>
6C.	<p><b>Lean Healthcare Minor.</b></p> <p>Senator Alspach moved to approve the program. Senator Griffin seconded. Senator Cook asked Department Head Greg Zimmerman about the HCSA 425 case study class and the fact that there are no prerequisites such as Management 422. She noted that business students do not always have the ability to handle case studies. Mr. Zimmerman noted that they are considering a prerequisite which will not be either a business or HCSA class but rather a stand-alone class. The motion passed.</p>
6D	<p><b>Withdrawal from Class in 14<sup>th</sup> week instead of 9<sup>th</sup> week.</b></p> <p>Moved by Senator Wancour to change the withdrawal date from the 9<sup>th</sup> week to the 14<sup>th</sup> week. Senator Dakkuri seconded. Senator Wancour said the goal of this was to improve student success. Senator Drake stated that withdrawn students are already allowed to continue to attend class. Senator Todd noted that the SAIs being issued in the 14<sup>th</sup> week could be skewed by students who stay in to fill out the forms. Senator Schmidt said when this issue was brought before his committee before, it was noted that the date could not be moved earlier (because of money refund issues) but according to the rules could be moved later. Senator Dakkuri said students who want to withdraw aren't the type to want to stay in class. Senator Wancour said this motion was aimed at the more serious student. Provost Erickson noted that he suggested this idea based on his conversations with students who feel once they withdraw, should not attend. And staying would increase the odds of success when they retake the class. Senator Ing said she was not always even aware when a student withdraws from class. Senator Nagel says that he has some concerns with how this may effect group work but sees the benefit to student. Senator Brandly said often the 9<sup>th</sup> week deadline forces students to wake up and take the class seriously but a 14<sup>th</sup> week deadline might not do that soon enough. Senator Harlan said that students already have a midterm grade option which should allow students to know if they will succeed. Senator Marion asked if there was data to whether this would help or just allow students to linger longer. Student Government President Kalinoswski said that he felt this option would serve the students well in completing courses. Senator Hanna said his students drop 50% because of poor performance and 50% because of unknown performance. In project based classes this might help them to continue. Senator Rumpf asked about the withdrawal process. Provost Erickson said it may issue a financial aid issue. Senator Berghoef and Senator Nagel spoke in support of motion as a way to help students. Senator Peirce said he felt course assessment issues should be handled but the idea of supporting students was good. Motion passed- 17 votes in favor, 11 nays and 2 abstentions.</p>
6E.	<p><b>Motion to limit 3 credits in a Certificate Overlapping with Major/Minor.</b></p> <p>Moved by Senator Wancour. Seconded by Senator Dakkuri. Senator Hanna said he supports the idea but is concerned that there are not equivalent requirements for bachelors degrees. Senator Marion pointed out that there may be more than 9 credits in a certificate (and would create difficulties without using percentages). Senator Nagel pointed out that certificates are primarily designed to be stand-alone programs for non-degree students. Senator Schmidt expressed concerns this proposal was only received yesterday and did not give a chance to consult with colleagues in his college who this may effect. Senator Dakkuri noted the data on certificates was provided at one point by the University Curriculum Committee. Senator Alspach said the UCC does have that data and could provide it. Senator Drake noted the difference between a program and a major. Senator Wancour said this was a last minute issue for the Academic Standards and Policy Committee and brought up to them</p>

	because of the wide disparity in certificate programs. Senator Schmidt moved to table. Senator Cook seconded. Motion to table passed.
6F.	<p><b>Motion to change the Time of a Form B response to 30 days.</b></p> <p>Senator Cook moved to extend the response time of Form B to 30 days. Senator Ing seconded. Senator Nagel asked for a rationale behind the motion. Senator Cook said that this spring large proposals (50+ pages) have been arriving together with other proposals and there is not time to review them completely. Senator Marion asked if this would just be stalling what is already a very slow process. Senator Alspach said that could be a problem and that to change the time would require changing the UCC manual. Senator Peircey asked if there was a way to add on the form a spot to check off as a response that the form be recipient needed more time. Senator Alspach said it would make more sense to change the line to read that no-response within 30 days was read as acceptance by the UCC. Senator Cook and Ing accepted this as a friendly amendment to the original motion. Senator Baker asked if this referred to business days. Senator Alspach said yes and there was a second friendly amendment accepted to alter the time to 20 business days. Senator Rumpf asked when this would take effect. Senator Alspach said not for this year. Senator Wancour asked how much of an issue stalled proposals are. Senator Alspach said some proposals have been halted for non-response to Form B's. Motion passed with 6 abstentions.</p>
7..	<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>A. President Eisler said this was one of the more positive environments for higher education in the state legislature and the governor's office. He had testified last week and noted there might be some tuition restraint language. The budget should be finished in the spring. He continues to advocate for reforms to the MSPERS program which costs 9 million per year. He would like to see capped contributions. Senator Dakkuri asked if parents and students have been consulted. President Eisler said they take the responsibility of tuition very seriously. Senator Tower asked about ramifications of the cap. President Eisler said this does not mean reductions in benefits, as the state picks up the cost. He also discussed Legislative Luncheon Day March 18 and encouraged free faculty to attend.</p> <p>B. Provost Erickson said the strategic plan will be drafted by March 6<sup>th</sup> and presented to SPARC on March 18<sup>th</sup>. They will then move into implementation stage. He continues to work with the academic leadership model and had a retreat in February of all department heads and chairs and deans. He noted Cliff Frankland has become the new General Education Coordinator. Senator Piercey asked about ideas for faculty initiatives. Provost Erickson said not every department should be doing all initiatives.</p> <p>C. President Thapa reminded deans and department heads not to schedule classes during the senate meeting</p>
8.	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p> <p>A. Senator Cook noted the Monday after Spring Break was St. Patrick's Day.</p> <p>B. Senatotr Dakkuri requested that the process for withdrawal be reviewed as the instructors should be receiving better notification.</p> <p>C. Senator Wancour noted that 10 Dental Hygiene students would be spending Spring Break on a mission trip to Guyana.</p>
9.	Senator Marion moved to close the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Senator Brandly seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melinda Isler  
Secretary