

**Minutes
Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting
IRC 120
April 1, 2014**

Members in Attendance: Alspach, Amey, Bacon, C., Berghoef, Boncher, Bajor, Cook, Dakkuri, Dinardo, Drake, Fox, Griffin, Groves, Hanna, Harlan, Ing, Isler, Klatt, Marion, Piercey, Potter, Richmond, Rumpf, Schmidt, Thapa, Todd, Tower, Wancour, Bacon, M.

Members absent with cause: Baker, Brandly, Yowitz

Members absent: Abbasabdi, Barnes, Jenerou, Jiao, Nagel, Nazar

Ex Officio and Guests: Adeyanju, Durst, Eisler, Garrison, Heck, Kurtz, Nicol, Teahen, Kalinowski, Wagenheim, Reifert, Dawson

1.	President Khagendra Thapa opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.
2.	Approval of Minutes. Senator Ing moved to approve the March 4, 2014 minutes Senator Alspach seconded. Motion passed.
3.	Open Forum A. Senator Alspach noted that Mr. Mickey Wittman would be discussing the role of the Goodyear blimp in sports casting.
4.	Officer Reports A. President Thapa encouraged attendance at the April 3, Senate-Faculty reception in the optometry lobby. Faculty who have served more than 35 years would also be recognized. B. Vice-President Marion had no report. C. Secretary Isler had no report.
5.	Committee Reports. A. UCC chair Alspach gave a brief report. B. Student Government President Andrew Kalinowski encouraged Senators to participate in the Big Event on April 12 th . Upcoming events also include the election of a new Senate Government president (there are two candidates this year) C. General Education Task Force Chair Fed Heck said he continues to transition with Cliff Franklund the incoming coordinator. This may be his last senate meeting reporting D. Senate Elections Report. Charles Bacon gave the Senate Elections report. There is no nominee for the vacation Retention and Student Success unit and a runoff election in Pharmacy between Baran and Boncher.
6A	3 Credit Certificate Overlap w/Major and Manor Senator Alspach moved to remove this from the table. Seconded by Senator Marion. Senator Hanna asked for a restatement of the motion. Senator Alspach said that as the information asked for by the UCC was unable to be obtained by the meeting date that the motion should be referred to the UCC for a report back in the fall. Susan Wancour, Chair of the Academic Policy and Standards Committee, said she was fine with this. Senator Dakkuri made a motion to refer the issue to UCC. Senator Marion seconded. Senator Schmidt noted he originally tabled the motion to get opinion from his college and he now has that. Certificates often unintentionally lead to a degree program and this rule could be a barrier to enrolment. Senator Hanna asked when the motion would be returned. Senator Dakkuri amended the motion to have a report at the retreat and vote in September. Motion to refer passed.
6B.	20 Day response for Form Bs. Senator Alspach moved to reconsider the motion to extend the Form B consultation time to 20 business days as passed by the Senate at their March meeting. Seconded by Senator Dakkuri. As a supporter of the original motion, UCC chair Alspach noted that after further investigation it is found that implementing this measure would greatly impact the effectiveness and efficiency of the Senate. Senator Boncher noted that there were good rationale for supporting this measure and it could lead to more informed discussions. Alspach said this resulted in

	part from the meeting choices of a college curriculum committee instead of a policy. Senator Ing noted difficulties in receiving responses which has led to a delay in a vote for materials sent to the University Professional and Graduate Council. Senator Drake said in part the rule to pass materials forward is to avoid pocket vetos. Senator Alspach said this did not happen often and could be dealt with. The motion to reconsider passed. The motion was defeated with 1 abstention.
7A.	ISI Minor. Senator Alspach moved to approve the program. Senator Griffin seconded. Senator Hanna asked how this applied to the recently approved policy limited the number of classes as 3 to overlap with a major. Are these 3 new courses outside of the existing program structure? Senator Schmidt asked if the 7 credit overlap meant that this major was not intended for current majors? Senator Alspach said this minor was not intended for the current majors. Senator Hanna also asked about the course prerequisites. The motion passed with one no vote and one abstention.
7B	Approval of Academic Policy Review Manual Moved by Vice-President Marion. Seconded by Senator Todd. APRC chair Matt Wagenheim noted this has been a work in progress for the past two years. He noted that the point of program was to receive the information and not a prescribed format to follow. Some of the language relates to the decision to allow submission of outside accreditation reports. There was also language cleanup. Senator Marion noted that these changes were long overdue. Senator Todd said he support the proposal but referred to page 40 where it recommends smaller programs receive adequate help to respond to need for information. Motion passed with 3 abstentions.
7C.	Motion to approve an Academic Amnesty Policy. Senator Bacon moved to approve adopt an Academic Amnesty Policy. Seconded by Senator Wancour. Senator Bacon explained that this is a policy in many university that allows 12-24 academic credits to be erased and help to allow a student with personal issues. Senator Potter asked if this was only academic behavior and Senator Bacon said yes. President Eisler said his previous employer Weber State University had such a policy. Senator Dinardo asked about the benefits- Senator Bacon said it could increase opportunities to get into programs with strict requirements. Senator Marion said it would provide fresh start. Senator Alspach made a motion to refer to the Academic Standards and Policy Committee- seconded by Senator Wancour. The motion to refer passed with 1 no vote and 1 abstention.
8.	Announcements A. President Eisler noted upcoming events including Employee Service Day on April 23, the Big Event on April 12 and Money Smart Week (April 11-18). The Michigan Legislature are working toward a budget agreement following their return from spring break. The MSPERS cap has been supported at the Higher Education budget chair. He also will not be at the later meeting but thanked the Senators for all they do. B. Provost Erickson said the strategic plan is up on the website and announced the summer research student scholarships. Senator Rumpf asked if sabbaticals have been officially announced. Provost Erickson said he thought so but would check. C. President Thapa had no report.
9.	Open Forum A. Senator Griffin noted a Fulbright speaker on April 10 th . B. Dean Garrison, FLITE, thanked those for participating in the author recognition ceremony. C. Senator Schmidt noted that the Sigma Alpha Chi chapter had one international recognition and has placed in the highest category 6 times in the past 10 years. D. Senator Cook noted the Athletic Advisory Committee was seeking new members and they needed to meet certain requirements. E. Senator Alspach noted the Special Olympics was on April 23
10.	Senator Griffin moved to close the meeting at 11:0 a.m. Senator Dinardo seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Isler
Secretary