

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Regular Meeting  
April 1, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.  
West Campus Community Center**

- I. Call to Order:** **President Griffin** called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
- II. Attendance**  
*Officers Present:* President Richard Griffin, Vice-President Khagendra Thapa, Secretary Lucy Ngoh  
*Senators Present:* Alspach, Beistle, Berghoef, Carter, Danley, Ding, Drake, Goosen, Hanna, D., Hansen, Jewett, Jorsch, Kavanaugh, Klatt, Kouider, Liszewski, McLean, Morcom, Isler, Nagel, Nelson, Purvis, Sanderson, Sun, Watson, Weemaes  
*Senators Absent:* Abbasabadi, Hancock, Hanna, H., Hardman, Potter, Van de Mark, Cline (excused), Cron (excused), Haneline (excused)  
*Ex-Officio Members Present:* President David Eisler, Joe Viviano, FSU Student Govt. President, Interim VPAA Tom Oldfield  
*Ex-Officio Members Absent:* None  
*Guests:* Don Flickinger, Roberta Teahen, Leonard Johnson
- III. Approval of the minutes of March 4, 2008 – Motion by Senator Papo, with support from Senator Alspach, moved to approve the minutes as written. Senator Sun** commented that one reason for the 6 a.m. start time for the registration is due to capacity. There is some concern that if it began later it may create a bottleneck. However, new equipment that is hoped will triple the present capacity, should arrive before student register for spring 2009 courses. Further discussion on the registration start time is anticipated.
- IV. Open Forum – Student Government President Joe Viviano** told Senators that students will begin voting today for Faculty of the Year awards for the first time. One professor from each college will be selected. Also, on May 5, 2008, the annual Pancakes with the President will be held, details will be announced later.
- V. Reports**
- President t Griffin** reported that the turnout for the VPAA candidate meetings with the Senate have had a very poor attendance. He urged Senators to attend meetings if possible. He also asked Senators to review the enclosed roster and email Paula with corrections. President Griffin amended the agenda to include item 5B, a report from the Emeriti Committee.
- Senator Thapa** reported that the Senate Executive Committee, at its regular meeting, made appointments to the 2008-2009 Academic Program Review Council, as it begins meeting in August. **Senator Nagel** asked what type of criteria were used to make these appointments and suggested that each committee have written criteria for membership. **Senator Jewett** responded that all committee chairs should be tracking attendance at committee meetings.
- Secretary Ngoh** had no report at this time.
- Senate Election Chair Alspach** reported that despite Paula's broken wrist, Senate elections went on as scheduled and she thanked all those who participated. **Senator Alspach** said the electronic system works well when people participate, and the low numbers concerned her.

**VI. Committee Reports**

**UCC Chair Leonard Johnson** reported that there are no agenda items from the UCC at this meeting, but that there will be several for the final Senate meeting on April 22. He urged Senators to review the proposals at the Senate website prior to the meeting. His report on other actions taken by the UCC is attachment A of these minutes.

**Senator Sun** discussed briefly the findings of the Senate Emeriti Committee. He thanked Senators Carter, Klatt, Watson and Isler, and President Eisler for their work on the committee and their support. The complete Emeriti Survey 2007 will be posted at the Academic Senate website in pdf form. President Eisler thanked Senator Sun and the committee members for their work.

**VII. New Business**

**Senator Hanna moved, with support from Senator Nagel**, that the Academic Senate of FSU recognize the efforts of Professor Bruce C. Dilg, COT, in orchestrating and managing the 2008 Festival of the Arts, and that this proposed recognition be presented to Professor Dilg at the annual Faculty Awards and Promotion ceremony with the presentation made by the President of the Academic Senate. Motion carried.

**VIII. Announcements**

**President Eisler** reported that the Board of Trustees accepted the recently revised mission statement, and that the VP/Provost search is continuing. He also informed Senators that the Higher Education bill out of the State Senate is recommending a 3% across the board increase. The University last received an increase in 2001. President Eisler reported that he recently testified at the Joint Capitol Outlay Committee and that his testimony was received favorably.

**Interim Vice President Oldfield** reported that sixteen sabbaticals have been approved, and that promotion and merit letters were mailed last week. All of these individuals will be recognized at the Faculty Recognition Dinner on April 17, 2008. The Energy Conference will be held on April 11 and 12, with Dick DeVos being the featured speaker. The VPAA's office is working on putting the International Affairs unit back together.

**President Griffin** asked Senator Nagel and Senator Jewett to work together to present a draft resolution to the Senate Executive Committee regarding the written criteria for committee selection and invited Senator Nagel to the Senate Executive Committee meeting to be held on April 7.

**Vice President Thapa** reminded Senators that committee service is voluntary.

**Senator Jewett** stated that it should be remembered that committee service is NOT voluntary for Senators. It is a requirement that all Senators serve on a Senate University Committee and that not all Senators are.

**Senator Carter** thanked President Eisler for keeping the Optometry Building in conversations with State officials in Lansing.

**Senator Watson** told Senators of a special presentation this evening in SCI 102 at 7:00 p.m. entitled Dead Men Talking.

**Senator Hanna** questioned President Eisler on the criteria for funding from the State, asking for clarification as his impression is that it is two-fold, dependant upon enrollment and research. **President Eisler** responded that the Governor proposes a formula that goes to research or technology transfer, enrollment growth (program based) and the percentage of students on Pell grants (are we accepting economically challenged students). The Senate tossed that out the window and did a three percent increase across the board. What the House will do remains unseen at this time. The difference is .15%. President Eisler said the best news is that they are speaking of an increase.

#### **IX. Open Forum**

**Senator Berghoef** told Senators that Paul Lowes will speak in IRC 120 today, as part of the Equity Conference.

**Senator Alspach** told Senators that the Forensics team will do a presentation on Wednesday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. in RC 155. She said they are a national award winning team their first year out and we are very proud of them.

**Senator Ngoh** asked if Senators Nagel and Jewett would work on criteria for just the APRC or for all committees. President Griffin replied that it would be for all Senate committees.

#### **X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 10:38 a.m.**

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Lucy Ngoh, Secretary

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Richard Griffin, President