

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, November 3, 1998 – 10:00 a.m.  
Presidents' Room, Rankin Center**

I. **Call to Order: President Key** called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in the President's Room, Rankin Center.

II. **Attendance**

**Senators Present:** Abbasabadi, Anderson, Bonning, Conati, Dakkuri, Daugherty, Ferdowsi, Green, Hanna, Hastings-Bishop, Heidemann, Huey, Jackson, Kane, Key, Konrad, Kowalkoski, Lindsey, Lovsted, Nagel, Nikkari, Nista, Papo, Pilgrim, Ryan, Rye, Shepler, Speirs, Squicciarini, Stephen, Thapa, Wininger.

**Senators Absent.** Haneline (excused), Hartman (excused), Krumins (excused), Merwin (excused), Stern (excused), Westhoven.

**Guests.** Barbara Chapman, Richard Cochran, Keith Kern, William Sederburg, Tom Oldfield, John Hansen, Robert VonderOsten

III. **Approval of October 6, 1998 Minutes** – Minutes were approved as written.

IV. **Open Forum**

**Senator Anderson** thanked Maryanne Heidemann and the Senate Executive Committee for a note indicating that a request had been made for \$50,000 to bring non-traditional students into the Honors Program. He also renewed his request for Margaret Avritt's office to send to interested Senators and faculty members who are responsible for recruiting copies of recruiting materials being sent to potential students.

V. **Committee Reports**

**Senate Governance Committee – Senator Heidemann** reported on the activities of the various Senate committees. She stated that:

- The International Education Committee had its first meeting on October 27.
- Several of the Diversity Committee members are going to a conference in Philadelphia.
- The Arts and Lectures Committee has presented three events.
- The Academic Policy and Standards Committee has not met and are waiting for a charge. If anyone has ideas or items that would be good for this committee to address, please notify Senator Heidemann.
- The University Planning Committee is establishing four Continuous Improvement Teams for planning. Dr.'s Sederburg, Chapman, Duffett, and Burcham will each chair a team.

**VI. Announcements**

**President Sederburg** reported as follows:

- He stated he withdrew from the University of Toledo Presidential search.
- President Sederburg reviewed budget initiatives. See Attachment A for details.
- He reviewed scholarship enhancements at the University. See Attachment B for details.
- Asked Dean Richard Cochran of the Library to update the Senators on the progress of FLITE. Dean Cochran also shared the latest drawings of the Library and responded to questions.
- Indicated that the Department of Corrections Academy selection would be made by December 15. This academy would provide training for state prison guards.
- Updated Senators on Kendall merger issues and indicated that Dr. Barbara Chapman will chair the Search Committee for the permanent Chancellor in Grand Rapids.
- President Sederburg responded to questions from Senators regarding the reporting structure of the Grand Rapids units, the status of the Annual Institutional Review recommendation and the budget information provided in Attachment A.

**Vice President Chapman** reported as follows:

- The Academic Affairs Continuous Improvement Team will be reviewing the Curriculum Program Assessment processes.
- Post Tenure Review is progressing. Please forward your comments on the draft Student Assessment Instrument to Dr. Chapman by November 6, 1998.
- Retention Committee recommendations are being reviewed, with costs being estimated at this time.
- As part of the curriculum approval process review, each Dean has been asked to provide a flow chart of the curriculum approval process in their college, including a time line for each element in the process.
- \$15,000 has been received from the Ferris Foundation for grants for technology-based initiatives or faculty development, with grants being awarded in April 1999.

**President Key** - President Key distributed the latest draft of the Student Assessment Instrument (Attachment C) and asked that comments be forwarded to Dr. Chapman as soon as possible. This item will be added to the December Senate agenda. President Key announced that the next Senate meeting would be November 17, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in BUS 211. The entire meeting will be devoted to Academic Program Review.

**VII. New Business –**

**Major Program Revisions - Bachelor of Science, Applied Mathematics/Computer Science Minor** – Motion by Senator Thapa, with support from Senator Ryan to accept the program revisions for the Major Program Revisions - Bachelor of Science, Applied Mathematics/Computer Science Minor. Motion passes.

**Global Consciousness Requirement** – “Outside United States” language change. **Motion by Senator Heidemann, with support from Senator Nagel** to approve the suggested language change. Motion passes. See Attachment D

**Global Consciousness Requirement** - “Native American Culture” language change. **Motion by Senator Nagel, with support from Senator Heidemann** to approve the suggested language change. Motion passes. See Attachment D

**VIII. Committee Reports – University Curriculum Committee** – See Attachment E for complete list of approved curriculum items. **Dr. Lovsted, UCC Chair**, stated that most items brought to the UCC are completed within a two-week period. The only item pending is the Human Development Minor. The Pharmacy Doctorate curriculum is still at the college level.

**IX. Open Forum**

**Senator Pilgrim** welcomed Dr. Chapman to the University and suggested that the University change its definition of productivity.

**Senator Thapa** expressed a concern regarding the number of steps required (seven) for grant submission. It is his feeling that this process must be shortened.

**Senator Green** expressed a concern regarding how to include the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Faculty Development in the planning process.

**Dr. Chapman** reminded the Senators that each department would be able to add questions to the Student Assessment Instrument that are department specific.

**Senator Papo** expressed a concern regarding the funds being spent on a “Thank You Party” and reported that some faculty believe that the funds should be distributed to the programs that had an increase in enrollment.

**Senator Ryan** urged Senators to participate on a Continuous Improvement team if asked.

**X. Adjournment** - President Key adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Kane, Secretary

Approved,

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Greg Key, President