

**Minutes
Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting**

September 6, 2016- 10:00 a.m.

Members in Attendance: Alspach, Bacon, C., Bacon, M., Bajor, Balanda, Baran, Berghoef, Briggs, Bright, Dinardo, Drake, Epps, Foulk, Fox, Gray, Hancock, Hanna, Ing, Isler, Klatt, Lewis, Maike, Marion, Mattis, Piercey, Rumpf, Shimko, Stone, Thapa, Todd, VanLent, Wancour, Zimmer, Zyla

Members absent with cause: Cronk, Fadayomi, Jenerou

Members absent: None

Ex Officio and Guests: Blake, Durst, Eisler, Franklund, Garrison, Jackson, Haik, Nicol, Reifert, Franklund, C, Johnson Dawson, Martin, Haneline

1.	President Thapa called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2.	Approval of Minutes. Senator Zyla moved to approve the minutes. Senator Epps seconded. The motion passed.
3.	Open Forum. College of Health Professions Dean Matthew Adeyanju introduced the new Associate Dean for his college, Lincoln Gibbs. Senator Zyla announced that Zeta Tau Alpha was sponsoring a color run to raise funding for cancer research in Big Rapids. Senator Piercey reminded senators that the Faculty Center was running a series of learning communities including one on inquiry based teaching and learning. Senator Alspach said that Adam Murdock, a Youngstown University professor was a guest speaker on September 29 th , sponsored by the Sports Communication RSO.
4.	Officer Reports President Thapa welcomed the Senators to the first business meeting of the year and encouraged them to sign up for committee assignments. Vice-President Bacon reported that the non-tenure track faculty elections will occur once the final list has arrived and Senator Rumpf has agreed to continue as the Senate Elections Chair. He also reminded senators of upcoming Senate committee application forms. The Senate also is continuing to work on involvement with assessment issues relating to the HLC initiatives. Secretary Isler confirmed that the committee forms will be coming via email the next day.
5.	Committee Reports UCC Chair Kemi Fadayomi was absent and there was no UCC report. General Education coordinator Cliff Franklund said he continued to receive feedback about the assessment plan and would be conducting a discussion with the Senate about concerns with it in the October meeting. Student Government was not present to give a report.
6a	Parliamentary Procedures. Secretary Isler and Parliamentarian Russ Lewis passed out a sheet with basic parliamentary procedures. Senator Gray asked to clarify that all of the items were correct as one was shown to be incorrect in last years session. Secretary Isler said she would confirm which one was incorrect and let the Senate know.
6b	Open Textbook discussion Dean Scott Garrison, from FLITE gave a brief presentation on open textbooks. He pointed out that some studies have shown that courses with open textbooks, not only save students money but also lead to better performance. Additional funds can lead to students increasing the number of course they can afford to take.

	<p>Michigan leaders in the open textbook initiative include Northern Michigan College and Lansing Community College. He encouraged faculty to join the learning community which offered PDI (Professional development incentive) for those who attend and review and OER. Senator Piercey expressed an interest and Senator Hanna asked if the community also dealt with issues of copyright. Senator Balanda noted that open textbooks cannot always compare with system packages that include exams, homework and other associated activities. Senator Piercey said in math there have been packages developed by some faculty to create the associated materials.</p>
7	<p>Conversation with Jake Martin- Chief Technology Officer Chief Technology Officer Jake Martin said that he wished to let the Senate know that his door is always open and the goal is for IT not to be a barrier to the goals and the success of the university. He opened the floor for questions. Senator Hanna asked about the COET technician who was laid off because of funding and asked about the number and quality of support? Martin said the layoffs occurred prior to his arrival, but he has not at this point been given additional funding. He would review this particular issue and get back to the senator.</p>
8.	<p>Announcements President Eisler thanked the senators for their participating in Founders Day activities. He discussed the preliminary results of the 4th day counts. The campus enrollment was 14,187 which is a drop of approximately 13.89%. The student credit hours are down 6653 which is a 4% drop. Enrollment on the Big Rapids campus is down 200 (2.9%) and the Kendall enrollment is down 8.69%. Our online numbers are flat but FTIACS are also down. The university needs to do a better job at attracting students as there are fewer numbers of graduating seniors in Michigan. Senator Piercey asked about the drop in retention rates. President Eisler said there was a drop, but that may be in part because of the large increase in the numbers from the previous year. Senator Alspach asked if the change in TIP rules led to a change in numbers? Senator Todd agreed that the TIP programs were no longer allowed to be enrolled in a 0+4 program. Vice President Bacon asked how summer numbers played in? President Eisler said that the enrollment numbers generated less revenue which is how it was calculated. Senator Marion asked about how to control the effects of decreased graduates? Would scholarships help? President Eisler said that part of the issue was that Michigan State lowered its graduation standards which made the Ferris pool smaller. President Eisler will be making a presentation in a few weeks about the final numbers and effect on the budget. Senator Balanda asked for an update on the endowment initiative. President Eisler said the 18 million is available for matching gifts over a 6 year period. It has already gotten 1.25 million in donations.</p> <p>Provost Blake said he would be meeting in 2 weeks about the assessment initiative and would update the Senate at the October meeting.</p>
9.	<p>Open Forum. Senator Berghoef expressed his support for the Open Textbook initiative.</p>
10.	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.</p>