

**Minutes
Ferris State University
April 4, 2017- 10:00 a.m.**

Members in Attendance: Alspach, Bacon, C., Bacon, M., Bajor, Balanda, Baran, Berghoef, Brecken, Bright, Conley, Cronk, Dinardo, Drake, Epps, Fadayomi, Foulk, Fox, Gray, Hancock, Hanna, Ing, Ilser, Lewis, Maike, Piercey, Pisani, Rumpf, Shimko, Stone, Thapa, Todd, VanLent, Wancour
 Members absent with cause: Briggs, Jenerou, Marion
 Members absent: Mattis
 Ex Officio and Guests: Damari, Durst, Eisler, Franklund, Garrison, Nicol, Hawkins, Martin, Venkatesh, Emerick, Dawson, Johnson, M., Schmidt, Zimmer, Haneline

1.	President Thapa called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
2.	Approval of Minutes. Senator Peircey moved to approve the minutes. Senator Stone requested a correction of her comments to include “something that the faculty are eligible for in a second year.” Senator Mary Bacon seconded. The motion passed 96% to 4%.
3.	Open Forum. Senator Fadayomi brought up the idea of a task force to review the data that Cliff Franklund had presented to the senate about factors that lead to retention. Associate provost Johnson said a senate task force could be formed and not organized by Academic Affairs. Senator Fadayomi said she viewed this task force as being able to get the information out to the faculty. General Education Coordinator Cliff Franklund said a group to bring forth data and make recommendations might be a useful group to have for HLC accreditation. Senator Fadayomi said it was not just an HLC issue but a way to close the loop on assessment data. Senator Alspach noted that the 12 th annual Heart-to-Heart basketball game will be happening to raise money for the Special Olympics. Senator Gray noted that there was going to be an expansion of Tot’s Place.
4.	Officer Reports/ President Report President Thapa recognized Senator John Gray who had just been awarded the Distinguished Teacher Ward. Vice-President Bacon asked Senator Stone to give an update on the Graduate Education Task Force. Senator Stone said they continue to work through issues in order to have their work done in April 2018. Issues discussed include a 4-4 teaching load, role of grants and research, organizational structure and other issues. Vice-President Bacon also asked Diversity Committee chair Anil Venkatesh to report on their work. The committee has three recommendations 1) a single calendar for all diversity related events (and one that can be imported into Outlook calendars), 2) raise awareness about the process for appointint members and possibly expanding membership. They said it would have been helpful to have a librarian member and OMSS. 3)Utilize the macroaggression and other training on campus. Secretary Isler had no report.
5.	Committee Reports UCC Chair Kemi Fadayomi discussed with the Senate the number of proposals that are being finished. She pointed out some proposal held for paperwork and encouraged senators to make sure college committees submitted full proposals to reduce delays. She also had a brief discussion on form B’s which recommends that the response form on Biology’s concern (Form B) should also have been directed back to the department as well as the UCC. She also stressed the new requirement of a term-by-term plan for completion. Senator Gray said this did not match the documentation in the manual. Senator Drake presented the election results and noted an election was in process for the open seat in Optometry. General Education Coordinator Cliff Franklund said that he has accepted a renewal of his appointment as coordinator. He mentioned the work on web focus reports and the training site. Senator Zyla asked about the

	<p>issue of general education in associates degrees? Franklund said this was a problem which lead to issues for those students who continue into a bachelors program and they were shaping a program to work with this. He asked where such a process goes for approval? UCC chair Fadayomi suggested the UCC. Associate-Provost Johnson said such a proposal could go directly to the Senate for approval.</p> <p>Student Government President Josh Olszewski reported on recent events including the Leadership conference and the elections process. Senator Alspach asked about the levels of funding provided for Music take Actions and pointed out that students traveling to conferences were capped for funding at \$2000.00. President Olszewski said he would get the precise number but noted that Entertainment Unlimited funding is different from Finance Division and a priority is placed for higher funding for campus based events.</p>
6	<p>Interdisciplinary Task Force on Collaboration.</p> <p>Senator Piercey made a motion to approve the task force recommendations. Senator Gray seconded. He noted there were some changes including the grant funding application process after the previous month's discussion. Senator Lewis raised the question about a recommendation about an appointment for an administrative position which he felt was not within the scope of the academic focus of the Academic Senate. Senator Bajor agreed and added that this appeared to be another layer of bureaucracy that added to an already bloated system. President Thapa reminded the Senate that our recommendations are only advisory. Senator Piercey responded that while there is a program for a single course there are not the processes that allow for interdisciplinary and that was what generated the task force. The coordinator position is designed to be a faculty position backed by a faculty committee. Senator Baran noted that new courses needed to currently be in a college to go through the process. Senator Balanda said the purpose of the recommendations is to prevent it from being a top-down operation. Senator Hanna thanked Piercey for addressing his earlier concerns and recommended that the new director should be able to demonstrate experience be promoted across all colleges. Senator Fadayomi noted that this would support co-teaching. Senator Berghoef said this would help to enforce what is often talked about but never down. The motion passed 70% to 24% with 6% abstaining.</p>
7a	<p>New Degree- AA in Integrative Studies</p> <p>Chair Fadayomi moved to approve the new degree Senator Berghoef seconded. Senator Alspach ask ed how this was different from the AA in Liberal Arts. Senator Piercey noted it this was a more focused version than that degree. Senator Alspach noted it appeared to be a major in career exploration. Motion passed 66% to 30% with 3% abstaining.</p>
7b	<p>New Degree- Associates in Science (Natural Sciences Program</p> <p>Chair Fadayomi moved to approve the new degree. Senator Mary Bacon seconded. Chair Fadayomi noted this was a degree with many paths and that one was selected to fill the term-by-term requirement. Biology Chair Beth Zimmer noted this degree was jointly developed with Physical Sciences. Vice-President Bacon questioned whether or not the degree was so nebulous that it had a real value. Senator Bajor noted that this degree, like some in Business had 300 level classes listed. Motion passed 75% to 22% with 3% abstaining.</p>
7c	<p>New Degree- B.S. in Biochemistry</p> <p>Chair Fadayomi moved to approve the new degree. Senator Balanda seconded. Motion passed 88% to 6% with 6% abstaining. Senator Alspach noted in the previous proposals three different communications courses were listed (103, 121 and 122). And these courses focused on different aspects of the discipline.</p>
7d	<p>New Certificate- ISI Cybersecurity Certificate</p> <p>Chair Fadayomi moved to approve the new degree. Senator Mary Bacon seconded. Senator Foulks noted that the course entitled "Ethical Hacking" was not a proper usage of the word ethical. Senator Hanna noted other courses were also using that term. Because the program representative had to leave. Senator Hanna made a motion to postpone the proposal until the April 25th meeting. Senator Gray seconded. Motion to postpone passed 82% to 18%.</p>
8.	<p>Announcements/Presidents Report.</p> <p>President Eisler said he encouraged all to participate in the Festival of Cultures. He noted some cuts have been made into the budget project and there were some issues including reimbursement at community college rates, which they were working to change. .</p>

	<p>Provost Blake was absent. Vice-Provost Johnson noted that the Provost was at HLC training and would be able to answer questions about faculty credentials at the next meeting.</p> <p>President Thapa thanked the Senators for their support during his years on the Senate.</p>
9.	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Senator Alspach expressed her appreciation for the standing committee reports and suggested that the recommendations be introduced as motions at a future meeting. Senator Wancour noted the Gifts and Grants committee had recently passed out Merit grants to faculty and staff. Senator Fadayomi said she planned to present a motion at the next motion about the task force. Senator Berghoef thanked the Diversity Committee for their suggestions.</p>
10.	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 11:37a.m.</p>