

**Minutes  
Ferris State University  
December 4, 2018- 10:00 a.m.**

Members in Attendance: Alspach, Axford, Bacon Bajor, Baran, Berghoef, Bright, Calkins, Daubert, Dawson, Desmond, Epps, Fadayomi, Foulk, Gray, Hanna, Inabinett, Isler, Johnson, Lotoczky, Moore, Shimko, Swinkunas, Smith, Thomson, Todd, Waters, Weaver, Wyzzy, Zube, Zyla,

Members absent with cause:

Members absent:

Ex-Officio and Guests: Bacon, Bell, Blake, Caserta, Colvert, Damari, DePew, diNardo, Eisler, Franklund, Garrison, Goosen, Haik, Herron, Hawkins, Hoisington, Huey, Jackson, Johnson, LaPietra, Leonard, Marquardt, Martin, McKean, Meinholt, Nichols-Whitehead, Nicol, Nystrom, Ollenquist, Pardon, Pilgrim

1.	President Alspach called the meeting to order at 10:0 a.m.
2.	<b>Approval of Minutes.</b> Senator Weaver moved to approve the minutes. Senator Berghoef seconded. The motion passed 97% to 0% with 4% abstaining. Secretary Isler reported that the November 20 <sup>th</sup> minutes will be approved at the January 2019 meeting.
3.	<b>Open Forum</b> There were no open forum comments.
4.	<b>Officer Reports/ President Report</b> President Alspach reported that she had recently participated in Academic Leadership Council where an update on the Higher Learning Commission process occurred. And she noted that the English curriculum proposal had been moved on the agenda to allow a Senate vote.  Vice President Bacon had no report.  Secretary Isler requested that all visitors please sign into the notepad being passed around because of the expected increase in attendance at this meeting.
5.	<b>Senate Committee Reports</b> University Curriculum Chair Rusty Leonard reported that the English curriculum cleanup will be acted on later in the meeting. He discussed two informational proposals: HIST 361 Racism in the Modern World and ISYS course curriculum cleanup.  Academic Program Review Chair Gary Todd said that committee made its recommendations at the November 20, 2018 meeting. He will be stepping down as the Academic Program Review chair and a process is underway to select a new chair.  Senator Fadayomi reported that the committee continued to work on documenting university practices and comparing them to other schools.
7a.	<b>English Curriculum Cleanup</b> Isler moved to approve the English curriculum changes. Zube seconded. Leonard explained that since this involved changing more than 3 courses it required a vote. Vice-President Bacon asked why English 250 was not removed. Questions were asked about why English 250 continues to exist if it is not part of the new sequence. Chair Ollenquist noted that even though it is not used in the English BA it is still part of the current English Education sequence and will continue to be offered for the immediate future. Senator Gray asked why all forms were not made available. Leonard responded that at the time the packet went out it was an informational proposal. Motion passed 83% to 10% with 7% abstaining.

7b.	<p><b>Academic Minors Task Force Report.</b>          Senator Berghoef moved to support the report. Senator Gray seconded. Senator Berghoef reported on the minors task force. Practices at Ferris appear to be consistent with other universities. The university should determine the value and place of stand-alone minors so that they can be resourced properly. Also the question of the minor for APRC and the Provost is not clearly defined. Motion passed 97% to 3% with 7% abstaining.</p>
7.	<p><b>Academic Affairs policies</b>          Senator Baran moved to support the Academic Affairs Policy Creation and Revision Procedures. Senator Epps seconded. Vice-President Bacon made a friendly amendment to correct punctuation in item 2. Senator Weaver asked what current practices are and how this is different. Associate Provost Teahan said that they are not documented which is why they created this. Senator Moore asked where these proposals go? Vice President Bacon said that all proposals go through the Senate Executive Committee even though listed as Senate. President Alspach said that was her understanding. Senator Hanna made an amendment to change the language in the second line from will to shall. Seconded by Senator Gray. The senate passed the amendment 81% to 4% with 15% abstaining. Motion passed 89% to 4% with 7% abstaining.</p> <p>Senator Baran moved to support the Academic Meeting Schedule. Seconded by Senator Bright. Senator Todd asked if the Thursday schedule set for faculty development through FCTL was new. President Alspach said she thought it was. Senator Calkins noted he wanted it to say first academic Tuesday to handle months like January where weeks do not align. He made a motion to alter lists to add word academic. Senator Epps asked for clarification. Calkins explained January issue. Thomson suggested add “when in session” President Alspach proposed amendment for “1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday when school in session.” Alspach wanted language clear. Zube noted other issues. Moore thinks making it too complicated, it is not complicated. Senator Calkins withdrew motion under duress. Senator Berghoef reinforced concerns about Thursday. Senator Weaver asked is this a policy or guideline. President Alspach said it looks like a guideline. Provost Blake said he has no preference and guidelines are fine. Senator Calkins noted its often violated. Vice-President Bacon noted language on Thursdays different in that past policy said “should be” and this is more directed and he’s more comfortable with that. Vice-President Bacon said it contractually better to have it as a policy. Senator Weaver said a policy that is regularly violated is ridiculous and it is a guideline and moved to change to guideline not policy. Seconded by Gray. Senator Drake asked if this would violate HLC requirements by making it a guideline? Associate Provost Teahan said the HLC would prefer it this way. Senator Moore asked if the word encouraged doesn’t allow the flexibility and allow it to stay a policy. Motion failed 46% to 54% to change it from a policy to a guideline. Vice-President Bacon moved to amend the language for Thursdays at 11 should be for Faculty Development through the Faculty Center. Senator Gray seconded. Senator Foulk noted that it language said faculty development and faculty center. Senator Thomson made friendly amendment to make it faculty development (lower case and drop faculty center. Seconded by Senator Berghoef. Amendment to amendment passed 93% to 7% with 0% abstaining. The amendment to add language Thursdays at 11 should be reserved for faculty development. Amendment passed 93% to 7%. Motion passed 81% to 10% with 9% abstaining.</p> <p>Senator Baran moved to support the Awarding Credit policy. Seconded by Weaver. Vice-President Bacon noted some editorial corrections. President Alspach noted this reminds students that there is an out of class expectation to spend time for class. Vice President Bacon moved to table. Seconded by Senator Berghoef. Motion to table passed by 97% to 0% with 3% abstaining. Bacon asked if a new policy and how 1:2 ratio is required. Associate Provost said new policy and the ratio relates to HLC requirements. Bacon asked if minimum. Teahan said yes. Bacon said in his area the requirements are higher. Thomson noted lab hours are different and asked how credit is allowed for high school courses. Teahan noted a separate section relates to credit/non-credit issue. Senator Moore asked about work experience. Teahan said those are under prior learning assessment policies. Senator Hanna asked if the labs are listed as equivalent. Senator Gray asked about one hour credit per class (some alternate times. Teahan said registrar determines time equivalences. President Alspach asked if Senate wanted report from Registrar. Gray asked if the policy was able to cover all contingencies. Zube expressed credit hours unclear in policy and expectations should be made clear to students in next semester. Bacon moved to table. Senator Hanna asked redirection evaluate credit for lab hours and support. Thomson also requested clarification on internships. Motion to table approved 97% to 3%</p>

	<p>Senator Baran moved to support the Compensation and Budget policy. Seconded by Epps. Senator Bacon read statement from committee Chair Nystrom, “add “or gender” to policy. President Alspach noted sex or gender is different from sex or gender identity. Motion to amend passed 75% to 12% with 5% abstaining. Senator Epps asked why title had and budget. Senator Epps said its not a policy about budget and is not relevant. Motion to amend title to remove budget from title, seconded by Baran. Senator Gray said this language is used to prevent discrimination although not clear. Vote taken. Senator Gray moved to table the policy until the January meeting to allow further language review. Seconded by Senator Todd. Motion passed 89% to 11%.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><b>Announcements / Campus Committee Reports.</b> Announcements and reports from University committees were deferred to the January 2019 meeting.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p><b>Conversations with the President Eisler- University Budget.</b> President Eisler was recognized to give his budget presentation. Audience members asked where the money was and why he was hiding. President Alspach asked the audience to refrain from questions until the presentation was finished. Audience members who were not senators would be recognized to ask questions following the senators.</p> <p>Eisler presented a budget update for the 2018-2019 budgets. The 2018-19 general fund budget was approved in October. This budget is 1.1% less than the 2017-2018 budget. It was balanced with \$9.1 million in reductions- which included 49 positions. A further reduction amount for \$1.8 million will occur in Spring 2019. The General Fund revenue peaked in FY2016 and has been trending downward since. Our enrollment has declined from 2013-14 to 2017-18 by 27,116 student credit hours (7.55% of the budget). The projected number of high school graduates in both Michigan and the US is continuing on a downward trend until 2030-31. Currently vice presidents are developing plans for three levels of base budget reductions for July 1, 2019. They are based on enrollment declines of 4%, 5% and 6%. This will require base budget reductions ranging from 2.5% to 3.7% of current operating allocations. Those budget allocations would be \$4.7 million, \$5.9 million and \$7.1 million. A university wide budget form will be scheduled after spring enrollment is confirmed. Additional information is available on the website.</p> <p>President Alspach reminded the audience that Senators ask questions first. Senator Weaver pointed out that many departments are having forums, and suggestions. She commented that it did not make sense to take cuts from Academic Affairs. She suggested that the administrative side look at some possible cuts in items such as university-issued vehicles and looked at other ways to cut costs? Eisler said the university will take suggestions and work on yearly efficiencies. Senator Weaver asked to have that information available to Senate. Eisler agreed.. Senator Foulk asked how high school courses are counted? High school credits counted as Big Rapids or regional and tuition counted. Senator Todd asked how international students fit into picture? Eisler said revenue not focus on specific group except for Kendall (so it goes into general budget) Emerick asked why ISI ceased recruiting when they had significant numbers? Eisler agreed and said they were working it but international student climate has changed but investigating. Senator Epps suggested they consider the incompatibility of offering online courses and students from Saudi Arabia who cannot take online. She said this a comment for the university as a whole and is an issue for health care programs. Eisler agreed this is a responsibility when we accept international students. Senator Wolfer asked if they have evaluated our online system? Some want to take online but can't unless in online programs? She suggested they increase online offerings and its inconsistent between colleges. Could this assist credit hours? Eisler agreed need to meet needs of students. Senator Fadayomi about international students and strategic planning. Eisler said he is not leading those discussions but Vice-President David Pilgrim could answer. Vice President Pilgrim said this issue would be coming up at the next meeting. Senator Zube noted budget often a silo apart from revenue and asked if there was a way to make it more flexible to allow it to be direct more toward programs? Decisions made in March and April and will have ideas. Discretion is given to the Vice-Presidents for cuts. Try to make a sustainable cuts. Eisler noted that 75% of budget is people and he does not put ongoing programs on one-time funding. President Alspach asked if there was one more question for senate as they had time. There were none.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Senate President Alspach did not accept questions from the floor because of a shortage of time before noon classes. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.</p>