**Minutes**

**Ferris State University**

**3 March 2020, 10:00 a.m.**

Members in Attendance: Alspach, Aslakson, Axford, Bajor, Baran, Beaudry, Bright, Colley, Daubert, Drake, Emerick, Flachs, Foulk, Hanna, Harvey, Herrington, Inabinett, Isler, Jadhov, Johnson, Joseph, Kuiper, Lamberts, Pisani, Schoenlein, Smith, Snider, Swinkunas, Thomson, Todd, Waters, Weaver, Wiltshire, Wolfer, Zube

Members absent with cause: Berghoef, Lotoczky, Winowiecki,

Members absent: Fadayomi

Ex-Officio and Guests: Archer, Buse, Eisler, Dorey, Faulkner, Goosen, Haneline, Hawkins, Hoisington, Johnson J., Johnson L., Johnson, M., Leonard, Matte, Nicol, Pilgrim, Reifert, Seiferlein, Ward-Roof, Williams

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| 1. | President Alspach called the meeting to order at 10:00. The presentation on consensual relationships policy has been withdrawn from the agenda and that there was no one to give the update on the provost’s search so that will be part of the presidents report. |
| 2. | **Approval of the Minutes**  Senator Waters moved to approve the February 4, 2020 minutes. Senator Baran seconded. Motion passed 96% to 0% with 4% abstaining. |
| 3. | **Open Forum**  No agenda items for report. |
| 4. | **Officer Reports.**  President Alspach said that candidates completed airport interviews and will be on campus after campus. She also presented with Associate Provost Seiferlein at the Ferris Employee Leadership program to talk about shared governance.  Vice-President Mike Berghoef submitted a written report read by Secretary Isler. Katie Axford and Alex Cartwright have been appointed to 3 year terms as co- Academic Program Review chairs. Faculty research committee noted that they had awarded five grants for $23,486. The grand cycle for spring ended February 7, 2020 and the grantees will be notified this month. Professional Development Grant committee awarded 2 grants totaling $9502 and they have sent out an additional university wide notice to encourage grants for the March 20,2020 deadline. The Arts and Lectures Committee reports the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet drew 135 attendees. They have identified potential carryover money for next years events and five events. The updated overview of the academic amnesty policy has been prepared with approval of the president and is ready to go to President’s Council.  Secretary Isler noted that the charter changes were approved by the Board of Trustees and the non-tenure track faculty will part of the March election cycle. |
| 5a | **University Curriculum Committee**  Chair Rusty Leonard opened the floor for questions about changes to the university curriculum committee manual changes. Senator Emerick asked for a summary of the workflow changes. Leonard noted that the consultation form B and C go out at the same time that the proposal is released to the college for review. As issues are collected they will be documented and put in one spot so that the Senate can access it (and not need to complete reprocess it until right before senate review). |
| 5b | **Academic Program Review**  Chair Inabinett reported on progress. There will be four items for approval at next meeting: new procedures manual, checksheet, reporting memo format and links for gathering data The action items are deferred to the April 7, 2020 meeting. |
| 5c | **General Education**  Chair Victor Peircey reported on the competency closing the loop conversation. Self and Society was moved and has not yet occurred. They had a statement on credentials for general education (not a policy or procedure) is to evaluate the course and not credentials which suggest that is the responsibility of the department. Also a question of articulation of general education for general biology (who decides what is the course equivalency). Traditionally this is the decision of department heads and chairs and they see no reason to modify the current process. There will be a faculty learning community next year on integrating general education into curriculum and reviewing the possibility of digital badges (strongly encouraged by Honors and lead by Peter Bradley). It may be a way to identify transferable skills. Senator Hanna commented on his agreement with the credentials and asked how the badges were recognized by the community. Peircey said it really does not relate to course pre-requisites and is similar to recognition for serving as a senator by getting a certificate. |
| 5d | **Elections Committee**  Elections Chair Daubert encouraged those to fill out their own or get colleges to nominations in by Friday. They can be submitted online or in person. Two colleges have no candidates and four do not have the minimum number to fill their seats. |
| 6a | **University Curriculum Committee**  Senator Harvey moved to approve the manual process changes. Senator Lamberts seconded. There are blanks on signature page to see how long process taking. Is that being gathered? Leonard said yes and he will get that information. Thomson noted that his issues with the process were not consultations but people not aware how the process works and changing every year will not help that. Leonard said they are encouraging faculty to attend workshops but cannot force them. There will be workshops after spring break. Motion passed 97% to 3% with 3% abstaining.  Leonard then reviewed some information only proposals including criminal justice and honors. It includes change of prefixes from RMLS classes to Criminal Justice since the program was closed. The honors course prefix are independent study courses (97) but not experimental classes. Also a certificate which will now come to the senate under the revisions to the curriculum manual.  Senator Joseph moved to approve the curriculum redirection. Seconded by Senator Baran. Proposer Nick Mata was there to answer questions. This was a cleanup in the role of graphic design. It is includes a change in the media, the use of repositories and a more modern name and fields such as UX design. This also helps to differentiate from the Kendall program. Most do not get hired with title of graphic designer. Senator Joseph asked how this impacts current students. This will reposition it in the minds of both incoming students and industry. Mata said that students taking certificate classes would not be in the major. Senator Hanna akedare there enough faculty resources. Mata said for now. He clarified by saying if it lead to a large increase of students from other programs they would have to scramble some to cover classes. Motion passed 97% to 3% with 0% abstaining.  Senator Bright moved to close the Professional Brew Management AAS. Senator Snider seconded. Program representative sent a statement that noted this was closing due to low enrollment and the loss of the faculty teaching the course. Motion passed 100% to 0%.  Senator Baran moved the closure of the Political Science program. Senator Kuiper seconded. Social Sciences Department Chair Jennifer Johnson said she had a statement to read- some of which applies to the sociology program proposal which was originally scheduled for this meeting. Students were stopped from admitting in December 2018 and the current faculty numbers due to reassignment and leaving the college. There are not at the current time enough faculty resources to maintaining the program and handle academic program review. This was not a decision that the program had input in making. They need tenure track faculty to support the programs and do not have them. That is why they voted to abstain. Senator Foulk asked what is the process this should go through. Senator Todd said this has come from the academic program review. Senator Weaver noted that she and many in the department found out this closure news from the Torch before any department level discussions could occur. Leonard noted a decision to stop enrollment is not one that the UCC controls and he said that the onboarding process is for the UCC/APR/SEC to have a seat at the table and be involved and not just a seat at the funeral. Allyson Faulkner (student in program who was there to give a student government report) said she also found out from the Torch. This program has given her skill sets and student involvement. None of the enrolled students were consulted. She is a strong supporter of this program. The program did allow fall enrollment following the closure. Senator Lamberts noted the concerns of the UCC and issues about the general education classes is not detailed enough to explain what would happen to those courses. Chair Johnson said that the intent is the keep the minor but their remains concerns about the APR process. Senator Jadhov asked what the point of the vote is. President Alspach said it makes a statement about the process. Senator Hanna asked President Eisler to explain rationale. Eisler does not know the rationale and will convey the conversation to Provost Blake. Motion failed 7% to 87% with 7% abstaining. |
| 7. | **Academic Program Review**  Chair Inabiniett will move action items to the April 7, 2020 meeting. |
| 8. | **Announcements**  President Eisler noted Senator Snider presented on his sabbatical work at the February Board of Trustees meeting. He said the search forum schedule starting the Monday after spring break. They continue to watch the coronavirus issue and have cancelled some study abroad but nothing has been finalized. The United States is still a Level 2. Senator Foulk asked what happens if it reaches Michigan. President Eisler said they are continuing to evaluate the pandemic policy and a group is working on this. The state government has proposed at 2.5% increased and 4% increase limit on tuition (no open hearings in Senate/House yet). There has been limits on TIP funding relating to the community college rate which would be an issue for Ferris. There was also money transferred from the education budget to the Health and Human Services budget. Eisler has been invited to testify for the Senate. Budget is still evolving.  Provost Blake was not present. |
| 9 | **Announcements**  Student Government representative Allyson Faulkner thanked the president for allowing the Peru student trip. They continue to meet with students and have a variety of activities. They are working to have members sign in and coordinate their events to show involvement. They also have a magazine which they are seeking submissions for.  Emeriti Association President Doug Haneline was present. He said that the student scholarship fund had reached $111,000. He also noted recent faculty deaths including Phil Martell, Opie Wies, Rick Bearden, Gordon Telfer and Timothy Brotherton. He noted there is a process by which some faculty may be given emeriti status after death. |
| 10. | The Senate adjourned at 11:42 a.m. |
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