

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, September 1, 1998 – 10:00 a.m.  
Centennial Dining Room, Rankin Center**

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

II. **Attendance**

**Senators Present:** Abbasabadi, Anderson, Conati, Dakkuri, Daugherty, Ferdowski, Green, Haneline, Hanna, Hastings-Bishop, Heidemann, Huey, Jackson, Kane, Key, Konrad, Krumins, Lindsey, Lovsted, Nagel, Nikkari, Papo, Ryan, Rye, Shepler, Speirs, Squicciarini, Stephen, Stern, Thapa, Westhoven

**Senators Absent.** Bonning, Hartman, Kowalkoski (excused), Merwin (excused), Nista, Pilgrim, Winingar.

**Guests.** Tom Oldfield, Linda Travis, Barbara Chapman, Terry Doyle, Mike Cairns, Ann Breitenwischer, Richard Cochran, Joan Totten, William Sederburg

III. **Approval of April 28, 1998 Minutes** – Minutes for 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. sessions were approved as written.

IV. **Open Forum**

**Several Senators** expressed concern regarding credit card companies setting up in the Rankin Center and in front of the new Student Recreation Center.

**Senator Anderson** suggested that recruitment packets be sent to faculty members who are doing recruiting.

**Senator Dakkuri** suggested that parking places be reserved for Senators near Rankin Center on Senate meeting day, perhaps using some sort of sticker or hanger identifying vehicles of Senators.

**Senator Ryan** raised questions regarding the Pharmacy Doctorate program progress and procedures. He feels it needs to be examined by the University Curriculum Committee or the Senate Executive Committee.

V. **Committee Reports**

**Senate Governance Committee – Senator Heidemann** - University Wide Committee volunteer forms have been distributed. Please return by September 4. The Executive Committee will meet on September 8 to make assignments to the University Wide Committees.

**University Curriculum Committee – Senator Lovsted** – There was no report, as the committee has not met.

**VI. Old Business**

**Graduate Guidelines – Motion by Senator Stephen, with support from Senator Ryan to accept the Guidelines** presented by the Graduate Guidelines Committee. **Senator Stephen accepts** friendly amendment by **Senator Krumins** to main motion as follows:

Insert at the end of first paragraph in section entitled “Copyright Page” (page 8):  
*Copyright information may also be obtained from the University Copyright Officer, Timme Library 105, phone 616-592-3696.*

Insert at the end of paragraph in point 13 under “Mechanical Requirements” (page 12): *Binding of your thesis may be arranged through the Campus Copy Center, call 616-592-5914 for information.*

Under “Mechanical Requirements” (page 10-12), point #1 is contradicted by point #10. *Eliminate #10, and re-number 11-13 as 10 to 12.*

Add a release form to the approval page (Appendix D): *I, (Student's name), hereby release this thesis project described above to Ferris State University, my Department and the University Library, with the understanding that it will be housed in the University Library and made accessible to the general public. This release is required under the provisions of the Federal Privacy Act.*

*Candidate's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_*

After a lengthy discussion regarding a possible appeals process, a neutral party to represent the student, course requirements, low GPA requirement, lack of enforcement, and the fact that these guidelines apply to all University programs, **Senator Konrad** calls the question. Question passes. Motion passes.

**VII. New Business****Student Life Committee – Recommendations for Improving Course Placement**

**Motion by Senator Nagel, with support from Senator Anderson**, to adopt the recommendations for improved course placement. After a lengthy discussion on the first five of the eleven recommendations, due to time constraints, President Key announced that further discussions would continue at the next Senate meeting. Senators were urged to forward their comments to the any of the Student Life Committee members.

**VIII. Announcements**

**Vice President for Academic Affairs – Dr. Barbara Chapman** – Dr. Chapman updated Senators on the status of several searches being conducted at this time. The Dean of Extended Learning, Dr. Bruce Forintos, will begin on October 5, 1998. The VPAA's Office is awaiting acceptance of offers from the Dean of Education candidate and the Director of International Affairs. The Dean of

University College search continues, with interviews under way. The Dean of Technology search is being assembled with Dr. Tom Oldfield as acting as Search Chair.

A team is being built to attend a Diversity and Learning Conference in November 1998, led by Sandra Glover and Vicki Williams. The cost is being underwritten by the President's Office.

The Budget Task Force has finished its work and the VPAA's Office is in the process of finalizing the distribution of additional operating budgets for the units for the year.

The VPAA's Office is giving its highest priority to developing an Academic Plan,

**President Sederburg** reported that enrollment is up approximately 200 students from last year, with freshmen having higher ACT scores than in the past. We also have a higher retention rate and every dorm room is filled. The Student Recreation Center is now open and being used by students. The budget situation is better than expected; therefore he will be going to the Board with budget adjustments.

**Louise Yowitz, Director of Affirmative Action** – Ms. Yowitz informed the Senators the Affirmative Action Policy is being re-vamped. New Board policies are also proposed and were included in the packet received earlier by all Senators. There will be an open forum for Senators at 1:30 p.m. in Rankin Center 232 on Thursday, September 3, 1998, as well as several other open forums that have been announced via Lotus Notes. Your input is needed.

**IX. Open Forum** – No comments at this time.

**X. Adjournment** - President Key adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Kane, Secretary

Approved,

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Greg Key, President