

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Regular Meeting
March 14, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.
West Campus Community Center**

I. Call to Order: **President Dakkuri** called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Attendance

Officers Present: President Adnan Dakkuri, Vice-President Robert Loesch, Secretary Douglas Haneline

Officers Absent: None

Senators Present: Abbasabadi, Aiken, Bandstra, A., Bandstra, J., Berghoef, Borst, Carter, Cline, Conati Cron, Griffin, Hanna, Hettiarachchy, Jewett, Key, Klope, Kouider, Lewis, Liszewski, Lovsted, McLean, McMartin, Miller, Morton, Nagel, Papo, Purvis, Schmidt, Sun, Thapa, Thomas, Tymes, Wheeler, Watson, Weemaes

Senators Absent: Heck (excused), Potter

Ex-Officio Members Present: VPAA Michael Harris

Ex-Officio Members Absent: President David Eisler, Student Government President Jon Gaskell

Guests: David Nicol, Ward Makielski, Leonard Johnson, Don Flickinger, Roberta Teahan, William Smith, Don Green, Kimn Carlton-Smith, Mike Ropele

III. Approval of the February 7, 2006 Minutes – Motion by Senator Aiken, with support from Senator Tymes, to approve the February 7, 2006. Motion carried.

President Dakkuri announced that the Academic Policy and Standards Committee asked to remove their item from today's agenda.

IV. Open Forum – No comments.

V. Reports

President Dakkuri reported that ad hoc On-Line Committee members are: Chuck Drake, Randy Vance, Kimn Carlton-Smith, Greg Gogolin, Mike Feutz, and Greg Wellman.

He reported that the Academic Senate Executive Committee will be hosting a dinner to honor the chairs of Senate committee in the Dome Room at Rankin Center at 6:00 pm on April 11. He also reported that Academic Affairs is forming a committee to select candidates for awards. Greg Key and Elies Kouider will represent the Academic Senate on this committee.

President Dakkuri reported that he has received a response from the Vice President for Academic Affairs to the recommendations of the Academic Program Review Council and that a copy of that report will be on file in the Academic Senate Office.

Vice President Loesch reported that the Senate Executive Committee would be making appointments early to the Academic Program Review Council. Seats are available for the College of Allied Health Sciences, University College, and the FLITE Librarians.

Secretary Haneline had no report.

VI. Committee Reports

A. University Curriculum Committee – UCC Chair Leonard Johnson updated Senators on the items presented to the committee since the last meeting. That document is Attachment B of these minutes.

B. Senate Elections Committee – Elections Committee Chair Jay Hettiarachchy

VII. New Business

- A. Religious Studies Minor – Senator Cron**, with support from **Senator Aiken**, moved to support the Religious Studies Minor. Motion carried.
- B. Digital Animation and Gaming Design Redirection – Senator Cron**, with support from **Senator Watson**, moved to support the redirection of the Digital Animation and Gaming Design program. Motion carried.
- C. Automotive Engineering Technology Redirection - Senator Cron**, with support from **Senator Watson**, moved to support the redirection of the Automotive Engineering Technology program. Motion carried.
- D. Automotive Management Minor - Senator Cron**, with support from **Senator Haneline**, moved to support the Automotive Management Minor. Motion carried.
- E. Film Studies Minor - Senator Aiken**, with support from **Senator Griffin**, moved to support the Film Studies Minor. Motion carried.
- F. International Business Minor - Senator Aiken**, with support from **Senator Griffin**, moved to support the International Business Minor. Motion carried.
- G. Establishing an Institutional Strategic Planning Council - Senator Haneline**, with support from **Senator Tymes**, moved to support the resolution. Following a lengthy discussion regarding membership, where this committee would fit into the current Senate Committee structure, as well as what its function would be, the motion carried. See Attachment B of these minutes for a copy of the resolution.

President Dakkuri stated that appointments to this council will be discussed by the Senate Executive Committee and distributed very soon to faculty.

VIII. Announcements

Michael Harris, VPAA, told the Senate of the establishment of a Transfer Student Scholarship. Students transferring must have 24 hours elsewhere and eligibility is not limited to those from community colleges. The amount of funding depends upon the GPA of the student. This scholarship will be available on the Big Rapids campus only. Dr. Harris advised Senators that the On-line Degree proposal has been submitted to HLC; their decision is expected in May 2006. A group of dignitaries from a university in Viet Nam will be visiting campus April 5-8, 2006, led by their President. The University has received \$1 million from The Dow Trust to help with the construction of the new Optometry Building. Renovations to the IRC building will cost approximately \$8.5 million; \$5.6 million of that will come from the State of Michigan, and it is expected to be completed by Fall 2007. The VPAA's Office will sponsor several divisional awards, including a Distinguished Service Award, an On-Line Course Award in three categories, and a Diversity Enhancement Award. A committee has been established and will make recommendations to the Vice President's Office. The University is one of eight institutions selected to have PEP or the Political Engagement Project, chaired by Senator Rick Griffin. The project is intended to enhance and encourage student activity in political activities and will bring the University national attention and resources. Dr. Harris announced that Dr. Thomas Oldfield was selected as Dean of the College of Technology. He thanked Senator Hanna and the search committee for a job well done. On March 7, the University sponsored a web cast entitled "Scanning the Future." The Vice President's Office has ordered the CD of this presentation and a link to the website will be available on the VPAA's website.

President Dakkuri reported that he will be attending the Board of Trustees meeting on March 24, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in the Holiday Inn. He urged Senators to attend if their schedules allow.

- IX. Open Forum – Senator Berghoef** thanked those who supported the Social Work Conference held on campus the week of March 13, 2006.

- X. Adjournment – 11:15 a.m.**

Douglas Haneline, Secretary

Adnan Dakkuri, President