

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Regular Meeting
December 6, 2005 – 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, Liszewski, Lovsted, McMartin, Miller, Morton, Papo, Potter, Purvis, Schmidt, Thapa, Thomas, Tymes, Wheeler

Senators Absent: Heck, Lewis, McLean, Nagel, Watson, Weemaes

Ex-Officio Members Present: President David Eisler

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Vice President Michael Harris

Guests: Jacqueline Hooper, David Nicol, Roberta Teahen, Roxanne Cullen, Don Flickinger, Bill Smith, Matthew Klein, David Frank, Tom Oldfield

III. **Approval of the November 1, and November 15, 2005 Minutes** – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Aiken to approve the November 1 and November 15, 2005. Motion carried.

Senator Jewett noted that insufficient detail of the discussions held during Senate meetings is included in the minutes.

Senator A. Bandstra stated that minutes should have the actions recorded, not the conversation.

Senator Hanna inquired as to the posting of the minutes on the website (they are posted) and supported Senator Jewett's request for more detail.

Secretary Haneline responded that additional detail can be included in upcoming minutes.

IV. **Open Forum**

Senator Haneline noted that only 12 hours of Senate meetings remain and he urged Senators to use this time in a productive and courteous manner.

Senator Morton stated that recruitment for qualified tenure track faculty in the Nursing area is very difficult. As a result of the shortage of doctorally-prepared nurses, several failed searches have resulted in the College of Allied Health Sciences. A creative approach to recruit and retain qualified faculty to support all levels of programming is needed, she suggested, and went on to say that the formation of a task force may be necessary.

Senator Papo stated that the hiring of adjuncts sometimes presents problems, as the salary level is limited and should be reviewed by the administration.

V. **Reports**

President Dakkuri advised the Senators a document (Attachment A) distributed at this meeting contains information needed for a vote later in this meeting regarding the election of at-large committee members. A previous polling of Senators resulted in option #2 being preferred. **President Dakkuri** asked for the consent of the Senate to include under Committee Reports a report by **Senator Hettiarachchy** on the Senate Elections Committee. No objections to the addition were heard. **President Dakkuri** stated that the Academic Policy and Standards Committee requested an extension of the deadline on the recommendation. That issue will be an agenda item at the January or February 2006 meeting of the Senate. **Senator McMartin** (also a committee member) stated that a final draft of the document was completed at the

committee last meeting. **Senator Aiken** asked for clarification on the results of the poll taken regarding the selection of at-large committee members.

Vice President Loesch reported that the Senate Executive Committee will meet on Thursday, December 8, 2005. At that meeting a vacancy (Library/Counselor) on the University Curriculum Committee will be filled.

Secretary Haneline had no report.

President Dakkuri asked for consent to adjust the agenda to accommodate the schedule of President Eisler. There were no objections.

President Eisler reported that natural gas price increases (120%) will cost the University an estimated 1.9 million dollars this year. He encouraged all campus community members to conserve and email him with ideas of how to conserve more. The IRC renovation plans are through the State Senate, so construction should start after the beginning of the New Year. He reminded Senators to make time to attend the Holiday Reception at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, December 13 from 1:30 until 3:00 p.m. He expressed his wishes to all for a happy break and thanked the Senators for their work.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. **University Curriculum Committee – Senator Cron**, also a UCC member, reported on the items acted upon since the last Senate meeting. He reported that one of the items on the report will not be on the agenda today and that another not on the report, but on the Senate agenda, will be voted on later in this meeting. That report is Attachment B.
- B. **Academic Senate Elections Committee – Senator Hettiarachchy** reported that committee members are as follows: Allied Health – Michelle Weemaes, Arts and Sciences – Richard Griffin, Business – Nathaniel Tymes, Counselor/Librarians – Melinda McMartin, Optometry – Michael Cron, Pharmacy – Adnan Dakkuri, Technology – Khagendra Thapa, Part-time Faculty – Alice Bandstra, Education – Cheryl Thomas. An election representative is still needed from University College.

VII. New Business

- A. **Bachelor of Arts Core Proposal – Senator Miller, with support from Senator Haneline**, moved to approve the BA Core proposal and advise the Gen Ed Coordinator and the VPAA's Office to implement the proposed changes. **Senator Miller** distributed an informational document (Attachment C). Following a lengthy discussion of issues such as the effect on current students, the VPAA's statement that General Education requirements should not be touched, and the change from having a faculty member as the General Education Coordinator to the situation now, under which coordination is a part of Dr. Roxanne Cullen's duties as Assoc. Vice President for Academic Affairs). Motion carried.
- B. **Election of At-large Committee members – Senator Griffin, with support from Senator Aiken**, moved that **Option #2** be used for the selection of committee members. Following a discussion, **Senator Jewett** called the question, with support from **Senator Haneline**. Question carried. Main motion defeated.

Senator Hanna, with support from Senator Klope, moved to accept Option #3 as the procedure to be used for the election of at-large committee members. Following a brief discussion, motion carried.
- C. **International Education Committee Restructuring Proposal – President Dakkuri** gave a brief history of the International Education Committee and its evolution. **Senator Griffin, with support from Senator Wheeler**, moved to accept the proposed committee structure and mission document. **Committee Chair Liz Wilson**, who was available to respond to concerns, said that the committee will function as all Senate Committees function, and that a chair will be elected by committee members. Following a brief discussion, motion carried.

VIII. Announcements

Associate Vice President Cullen reported that she had brought up the Thanksgiving/Easter Break issue to FFA Union representatives at the contract maintenance meeting. That item will be discussed at contract bargaining. She reported that Dean Hooper, Allied Health Sciences, will be leaving Ferris on Jan. 16, 06, for a position in Seattle, Washington. Ten additional classrooms will be renovated over the holiday break. Two accreditation visits occurred recently, one at the Michigan College of Optometry, and one at Allied Health Sciences (Dental Hygiene Program). Daily newspapers will be more widely distributed across campus. The position of Director of the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning has been approved for posting. Forty-one searches are being conducted at this time, and 31 of those positions are faculty positions. Six study abroad proposals have been approved, with four additional pending approvals. **Senator Papo** asked if study abroad courses qualified as a "global consciousness" course. Associate VP Cullen responded that she thought that it would, but would find out and report back to the Senate with a definite answer.

President Dakkuri thanked the Senate for the discussion today and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

IX. Open Forum

Senator Jewett thanked Associate VP Cullen for her report.

Senator Haneline reported that he and fellow Senators Loesch and Lovsted have been representing the Senate at the Greek Life Task Force meetings and that information from that task force will be presented at the January or February 2006 meeting of the Academic Senate

X. Adjournment – 11:10 a.m.

Douglas Haneline, Secretary

Adnan Dakkuri, President