

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
February 3, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.  
West Campus Community Center**

- I. **Call to Order: President Griffin** called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- II. **Attendance:**  
*Officers Present:* President Richard Griffin, Vice-President Michael Berghoef, Secretary Lucy Ngoh, Past President Dakkuri  
*Senators Present:* Abbasabadi, Alspach, Beistle, Berghoef, Brandly, Cline, Cron, DeKoster Drake, Goosen, Haneline, Hanna, D., Hanna, H., Hansen, Jewett, Jorsch, Klatt, Lashaway-Bokina, Liszewski, Lovsted, Isler, McLean, Morcom, Nagel, Nash, Nelson, Papo, Purvis, Sanderson, Schmidt, Smith, Sun, Thapa, Topcu, Weemaes, Wellman  
*Senators Absent:* Ding, Kouider  
*Ex-Officio Members Present:* President David Eisler, Interim Vice President Academic Affairs Daniel Burcham, Student Government President Amber Balmer  
*Ex-Officio Members Absent:* None  
*Guests:* Don Flickinger, Roberta Teahen, Leonard Johnson, Michelle Johnston, David Nicol, Roberta Teahen, Mike Cairns, Mike Cooper, Rick Bearden
- III. **Approval of the Minutes – January 13, 2009 minutes - Senator Jewett, with support from Senator Alspach, moved to approve as written. Motion carried.**
- IV. **Open Forum – No comments at this time.**
- V. **Reports**  

**President Griffin** told Senators that he and Don Flickinger have been meeting regarding the composition of the General Education Task Force and that final information will be available for the March Senate meeting.

**Vice President Berghoef** reported that 100% of Senators are seated on committees, and that overall 80% of committee vacancies are filled. Dr. Berghoef also reported that approximately 50% of student seats are filled. There is a meeting this afternoon to discuss VPAA candidate interviews with Dr. Eisler at 4 p.m. in CSS 302A. He told Senators that nominations are now being accepted for Senators and will continue until March 6. A list of candidates will be posted on March 17, with elections will be held on March 24 and 25, 2009. All ballots will again be cast electronically.

**Secretary Ngoh** had no report at this time.
- VI. **Committee Reports**
  - A. **University Curriculum Committee - Leonard Johnson, UCC Chair** - Dr. Johnson presented the Senate with a list of action taken since the January Senate meeting (Attachment A). Dr. Johnson told Senators that links to large proposals will be emailed prior to the March 3 meeting to save on duplication costs.
- VII. **New Business**
  - A. **New Minor – Industrial Mathematic Concentration – Motion by Senator Alspach, with support from Senator Ngoh, to approve the new minor.** Following a brief question and answer period, motion carried.

- B. **New Minor – Advertising/Integrated Marketing Communication – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Alspach, to approve the new minor.** Dr. Michael Cooper, College of Business was present to respond to questions. Motion carried.
- C. **AA Policy Letter – Undergraduate/Academic Probation Warning - Motion to accept the revised policy by Senator Ngoh, with support from Senator Sanderson. Senator Cline** moved to add a friendly amendment, changing the word “**letter**” to “**notice**” in each instance it appears in the policy. Friendly amendment accepted.

**Senator Hanna** stated that he was concerned that no paper copy being sent to the student and feels that the notice should be followed by official correspondence. **Senator Jewett** stated that FERPA should be considered when sending "notices" -- that letters have "protection" on them that e-mail does not. **Senator Ngoh** called the question, question carried. Motion to accept the policy as amended carried.

### VIII. Announcements

**President Eisler** thanked Senators for participating in the VPAA search. He told Senators that there will be a meeting on Thursday and Friday to review the Campus Master Plan in the IRC building. There is also a SPARC meeting planned to review the same. The Governor has appointed two board members: Alisha Baker and Arthur Tebo. Dr. Eisler told Senators that the State of the State Address will be televised tonight and reported that the Governor had asked the Board of Trustees to freeze tuition. Dr. Eisler told Senators that there will be two “Food for Thought” meetings (Feb. 18 and 19) in the Centennial Dining Room.

**Interim Vice President Burcham** encouraged Senators to participate in the Strategic Planning meetings and he thanked those involved in recruitment, as well as Dr. Leonard Johnson for his good work on the University Curriculum Committee. Dr. Burcham stated that during finals week the university will try to make more computers available and increase the hours that labs are open. It is our intention to run Rankin Center 24-7 during finals week. The university will be sponsoring “Hometown Recruiters” during Spring break and is providing training and materials to students participating. He also thanked all those involved in the Higher Learning Commission committees and subcommittees.

**Dr. Roberta Teahen** distributed information and results from the NSSE Survey (Attachment B). She reported that on February 13, Deans, Chairs, and the Assessment Committee will meet to discuss NSSE findings and how to take action on those findings. Dr. Burcham reported that this survey cost less than \$10,000. She also reported that the Ed. Ph.D. Advisory Board is motivated to move quickly, making this a distinctive, focused degree.

**President Griffin** also thanked Dr. Johnson for his work as the Chair of the University Curriculum Committee. He reminded Senator of the 4 p.m. meeting in CSS 302 to discuss the VPAA candidates with Dr. Eisler and urged those who have time to attend.

### IX. Open Forum

**Senator Nagel** requested reminders of the Senate elections through email. He was assured reminders would be sent to all faculty.

**Senator Papo** suggested that candidates might want to submit a paragraph supporting their decision to run for Academic Senate

**Senator Schmidt** reported that the first meeting of AHELL went well. Eight of the eighteen people invited attended and that they may vary the meeting time to accommodate as many

schedules as possible in the future. Dr. Schmidt believes that this committee will work very well as a liaison committee.

**President Griffin** reminded Senators that the Senate Executive Committee will meet on Feb. 9 at 8 a.m.

**X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m.**

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Lucy Ngoh, Secretary

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Richard Griffin, President