

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, April 29, 2003, 10:00 a.m.  
President's Room, Rankin Center**

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

II. **Attendance**

**Senators Present:** Abbasabadi, Aiken, Bandstra, Berghoef, Carter, Cron, Conati, Dickinson, Drake, Ek, Ferdowski, Hanna, Hall, Jakubowski, Johnson, Konrad, Kowalkoski, Liszewski, Loesch, Lovsted, Ngho, Papo, Parks, Parry, Ryan, Reed, Sanderson, Stein, Stern, Thapa, Wilson,

**Senators Absent:** Carter (excused), Griffin (excused), Kantar (excused), McCarthy (excused), Vermeer, Zobeck

**Guests:** Laurie Chesley, Heather Kchodl, Donald Roy, Tony Baker, John Schmidt, Julie Coon, Mary Cairy, Adnan Dakkuri, Marty Lier, Donald Green

III. **Approval of April 1, 2003 minutes – Motion by Senator Aiken, with support from Senator Kowalkoski,** to accept the minutes as written. Motion carries.

IV. **Open Forum**

**Senator Konrad** congratulated **Senator's Aiken and Hanna on their Distinguished Teacher Award.** She encouraged all Senators to vote for the Mecosta County General Hospital millage request today.

**Senator Stern** announced that there has been a Distance Education Task Force. Members are: Tom Oldfield, Rick Griffin, Jackie Hooper, Tracy Powers, Roberta Teahen, and Caroline Stern. **One more faculty member is being sought to complete the committee.** Any ideas or expertise to enhance or promote the Distance Ed office is welcome. The charge for the committee is to review the existing distance education program, identify best practices here and other institutions, and review latest trends. They are soliciting feedback on the direction of Distance Education at Ferris. Please email your suggestions and comments to committee members. The committee would like to have a plan submitted to the Senate at its August Retreat. Please contact Caroline Stern if you need more information.

V. **Committee Reports**

A. **University Curriculum Committee – Senator Drake** provided Senators with a brief written report (Attachment A) of proposals reviewed by the University Curriculum Committee. Three items call for Senate action, as well as a change in the current curriculum policy change.

**Senator Ryan** expressed a concern regarding the advising program for the Honors program. His area of advising would be Pre-med, he has students who are excellent students who may go to medical school, but they are not in the Honors Program for any number of reasons, none of which are grade related. These students would be excluded from this advising program. His feelings are that advising programs should be open to all people who are in the curriculum. **Senator Drake** responded that the University Curriculum Committee is aware of the issue.

**Senator Stern** stated that following a conversation with Maude Bigford and Dean Potter there are a certain number of credits that are required of Honors students and those hours would come from that area.

**Senator Nelson** expressed a concern that Honors program is not really an academic program, however it requires a series of courses for a series of students. It has never been reviewed, as have all

other curriculums taught on this campus. Honors students have 9-18 credits depending on how you count required of that student, and that is becoming an issue.

**Senator Kowalkoski** stated that students are required to take certain Honors classes and the director of the Honors program has tried to arrange it so that it does not infringe on the students academic program, but it doesn't happen all the time. There are some programs that will require FSUS100 regardless of the FSUH class that is required.

**Motion by Senator Johnson, with support from Senator Aiken**, to make an agenda item to review the entire Honors Program curricula as it fits into the larger curricula of the University. **Motion carries.**

- B. University-wide Committee Reports – Senator Johnson** thanked all of the chairs and faculty who served on university-wide committees. Many end of the year reports are included or have been distributed. The only one outstanding is the Athletic Advisory Committee. **Senator Parks** asked if it was appropriate to request a name change to the committee she is the co-chair of, the **Senate Substance Abuse Committee**. They would like the name to be "**Substance Abuse and Health Promotions Committee**". **President Papo** stated that it would be addressed in the Fall.
- C. FSU Student Government – Heather Kchodl** reminded Senators of the ASG Presidential Gala on April 30, 2003, at the Holiday Inn.

#### VI. New Business

- A. Minor in Community Studies – Senator Drake with support from Senator Reed**, moved to approve the new minor. **Senator Konrad** calls the question. **Question carries. Motion carries.**
- B. Master of Science in Nursing – Senator Drake, with support from Senator Hanna**, moved to approve the new degree. **Senator Parry** calls the question. **Question carries. Motion carries.**
- C. Proposal for Curriculum Policy Change – Senator Drake, with support from Senator Parry**, moved to approve the revision of the curricular policy statement (See Attachment B).

**Senator Hanna** expressed concern regarding the inability to garner information from Grand Rapids Community College in light of the fact that earlier in this meeting the Senate supported a new program based on that College supplying the bulk of the Associates degree classes. He also expressed concern about the creep and squeeze of taking technical credits out of degree programs.

**Senator Liszewski** calls the question. **Question carries. Motion carries. One abstention.**

- D. Research Grant Guideline Change – Senator Ferdowski, with support from Senator Ryan** moved to approve the changes suggested by the Faculty Research committee (See Attachment C). **Senator Konrad** calls the question. **Question carries. Motion carries.**
- E. Charter Revision Task Force – Chairperson Konrad** thanked Senators for attending the Board of Trustees meeting on April 22. The Board chose to table the subject of administrators being appointed to the Senate at this time. Numerous other issues were discussed at this meeting, including the speed at which the Senate makes decisions. **Senators Aiken, Ryan, and Nagel** expressed their opposition at the placement of administrators on the Senate.

#### VII. Announcements

- A. President Sederburg** was unable to attend the meeting today, but sent his comments. See Attachment D.
- B. President Papo** distributed certificates and thanked those Senators leaving. They are: **Mike Ryan, Andy Kantar, Lucy Ngoh, Dave Zobeck, Jeff Ek, Mary Ann Hall, John Tomczyk, Becky Kowalkoski.**

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VIII. **Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

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David Aiken, Secretary

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William Papo, President