

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting
January 13, 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, Ding, Drake, Goosen, Haneline, Hanna, D., Hanna, H., Hansen, Jewett, Jorsch, Kouider, Lashaway-Bokina, Liszewski, Lovsted, Isler, McLean, Morcom, Nash, Nelson, Purvis, Sanderson, Schmidt, Sun, Thapa, Topcu,

Senators Absent: DeKoster (excused), Klatt (excused), Nagel, Papo, Smith, Weemaes (excused), Wellman

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, David Pilgrim, Tracey Boncher, Jim Scott, Karen Strasser, Brad Isler, Janice Weaver
- III. **Approval of the Minutes – December 2, 2008 minutes - Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Ngoh, moved to approve as written. Motion carried.**
- IV. **Open Forum**

Amber Balmer, President of FSU's Student Government, introduced herself to Senators and explained that her schedule this semester would allow her to attend Senate meetings. She told Senators of some of the activities of Student Government last semester, which included setting up a scholarship in the name of a deceased Ferris student and revamping the process by which RSO's are able to apply for funding.
- V. **Reports**

President Griffin urged Senators to attend meetings set up for them with each VPAA/Provost candidate. Senators were sent a copy of the Guidelines for the General Education Task Force. Please send suggestions by Friday, Jan. 15, 2009.

Vice President Berghoef reported that the Dec. 4, 2008 meeting with committee chairs was well attended and that this meeting will become an annual meeting. He also reported that he sat in for Dr. Griffin at a meeting about the development of an Educational Doctorate program.

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 December Senate meeting (Attachment A).
 - B. **Athletic Advisory Committee/Animal Care and Use Committee** – Dr. Tracey Boncher, College of Pharmacy – **Dr. Boncher**, Athletic Advisory Committee Chair, reported that the Athletic Advisory Committee assisted in setting up tutoring of athletes using Honor's College students. Honor's students are required to participate in community service hours and this is

a great way to assist student athletes who need help with their studies. Coaches and athletes are very pleased with the success of this program. **Dr. Eisler** added that the GPA of our athletes is quite high.

Dr. Boncher is also the Senate appointee to the Animal Care and Use Committee. She reported that she has been unable to attend a meeting thus far, and that all meetings but one were cancelled this semester. The meetings of this committee are at the same time as other Senate meetings. Dr. Boncher stated that she had emailed the current chair early in the semester to request the possibility of another meeting time but those requests have not been honored. **Karen Strasser**, Biology department head, and fellow committee member, suggested that a different Senate appointee be named to the seat.

VII. Announcements

President Eisler thanked Senators for participating in the December commencement program. He urged Senators to attend the 4 pm interview time set for Senators and each candidate. He told Senators he has asked each division to hold back one (1) percent of their budgets. The Board of Trustees will be looking at proposed changes for scholarship programs (See Attachment B for details). Some highlights are: Transfer scholarships are offered for the fourth (4th) year; Chicago students now pay in-state tuition as well as students within a 300 mile radius of Big Rapids. SPARC will meet on Friday, January 16, from 2-5 p.m. in the Founder's Room.

Interim Vice President Burcham told Senators of a proposed scholarship for International Students.

President Griffin reminded Senators to attend the VPAA interviews.

Student Government President Balmer told Senators that Student Government is working on beginning a tutoring service and publishing a study room brochure listing all study rooms on campus and the hours of operation.

VIII. Open Forum – No comments at this time.

IX. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 10:48 a.m.

Lucy Ngoh, Secretary

Richard Griffin, President