

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting
April 28, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. Session
West Campus Community Center**

I. Call to Order: President Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. Attendance:

Officers Present: President Richard Griffin, Secretary Lucy Ngoh, Past President Dakkuri

Officers Absent: Vice-President Michael Berghoef (excused)

Senators Present: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Beistle, Brandly, Cline, Cron, Drake, Goosen, Haneline, Hanna, D., Hanna, H., Hansen, Isler, Jewett, Jorsch, Klatt, Lashaway-Bokina, Liszewski, Lovsted, McLean, Morcom, Nagel, Nash, Purvis, Sanderson, Schmidt, Smith, Sun, Thapa, Topcu, Wellman

Senators Absent: DeKoster, Ding (excused), Kouider (excused), Nelson (excused), Papo, Weemaes

Ex-Officio Members Present: President David Eisler,

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Interim Vice President Academic Affairs Daniel Burcham, Student Government President Amber Balmer

Guests: Don Flickinger, Leonard Johnson, David Nicol, Matt Wagenheim, Clyde Hardman, Amy Buse, Sharon Colley, Piram Prakasam, Gloria Lukusa, Joe Compton, David Pilgrim, Maureen Heaphy

III. Approval of the Minutes – April 7, 2009 minutes – Senator Isler, with support from Senator Ngoh, moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

IV. Open Forum – No comments at this time.

V. Reports

President Griffin had no report today, and due to **Vice President Berghoef's** trip to El Salvador as a visiting scholar, President Griffin gave the VP's monthly report. That report is Attachment A of these minutes.

Secretary Ngoh had no report at this time.

Senator Purvis presented the "Paperless UCC" PowerPoint to Senators. A copy of that presentation is Attachment B of these minutes. Overall, the University Curriculum Committee saved over \$1500 using previously printed paper or electronic methods to distribute proposals to its members. They plan to continue the program in the coming academic year.

VI. Committee Reports

A. University Curriculum Committee - Leonard Johnson, UCC Chair - Dr. Johnson told Senators that due to the length of the annual UCC Report, a link was mailed to them earlier and copies would not be sent. That report is **Attachment D** of these minutes. He thanked the committee members for their dedication and hard work during the past academic year.

VII. New Business

A. New BS Degree – Computer Information Technology/Systems Administration – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Thapa, to approve the new degree. College of Business faculty members Buse and Hardman were present, along with Dean David Nicol to respond to concerns and questions. Documents were provided by the proposers to clarify how this new degree applies to many different IT careers. That document is **Attachment**

E of these minutes. It was stated that this degree requires two (2) internships. **Motion to approve carried.**

B. Form A Revisions – University Curriculum Committee – Motion by Senator Lashaway-Bokina, with support from Senator Alspach, to approve the new Form A for curriculum proposals. **Senator Schmidt, with support from Senator Thapa,** added the friendly amendment to include an additional column on item number three (3) labeled “Date Sent”. Friendly amendment accepted. **Motion carried.**

C. Charter Revision Committee Motion – Senator Schmidt, with support from Senator Jewett, moved to establish an ad hoc Senate Charter Revision Committee composed of current Senators to review the Charter and recommend any changes to the Senate at their August 2009 Retreat with a line-item vote on each of the recommendations to be conducted at the first regular meeting of the Senate in September 2009. This will be a summertime commitment. Committee members will be selected from the first meeting of 2009-2010 Senate to be held today, April 28, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. **Senator Haneline** asked if only Senators would be on the committee, **Senator Schmidt** responded in the affirmative, that they should be active Senators that would be attending the Retreat. **Senator Nagel** asked if there are problems with the current Charter, **Senator Schmidt** responded that the committee may not recommend any changes at all. **Senator Sanderson** asked if representation would be limited by college, and asked for examples of problem areas. **Senator Schmidt** responded that anyone who is willing to spend their summer working on this should be welcomed. **President Griffin** responded that **Senator Sun’s** motion to allow absentee voting for Senate Executive Committee elections is one of the areas that may need review. **Senator Nagel** stated that the Charter has not been reviewed in several years and perhaps there should be a review on a three to four year cycle. **Senator Schmidt,** motion maker, agreed with **Senator Nagel** and stated that perhaps there needs to be a secondary motion that establishes a time frame for the Charter to be reviewed on a three year cycle. **Senator Thapa** reminded Senators that the Board of Trustees must approve the Charter. **Senator Haneline** stated that there is a precedent in establishing committees, as when the Academic Program Review Council was established. **Senator Jewett** stated that perhaps the committee would build into the Charter the establishment of a review committee. **Senator Purvis,** representative from the **College of Professional and Technological Studies** told Senators that this is the end of his fourth year on the Academic Senate and the University Curriculum Committee and that the Charter, as currently written, does not recognize him or the college that he represents.

President Eisler stated that he doesn’t often comment on things that are on the Senate floor and he was disappointed that this motion was not distributed in the Senate packet. Although he feels that it is appropriate for a Senate to revise its Charter; he expressed concerns. Those concerns are that the Charter will be revised during the summer when faculty are not on campus and if there are sweeping changes there are no Board meetings between August and September, giving him no opportunity to discuss these changes with the Board.

Senator Hansen, with support from Senator Ngoh, moved to table the motion until the first business meeting of the 2009 – 2010 Senate in September, 2009. Motion carried.

D. Announcements

President Eisler apologized for weighing in the Senate Charter issue. He told Senators that **Interim Vice President Burcham** was unable to attend today’s meeting. **President Eisler** stated that he is grateful for the hard work the Senators do; he also thanked Dr.’s Haneline and Johnson for their leadership of the APCR and the UCC, as well as those committee members. He thanked the Senate Executive Committee for their leadership and hard work.

President Eisler told Senators that the State’s budget shortfall has a ¼ million dollar shortfall requiring 300 million dollars in cuts. Any stimulus funds received will be used to mitigate tuition increases. Dr. Eisler stated that he has asked Deans and Vice President’s to cut another 2.5

million from their budgets. There will be budget forums today and Thursday at noon. He also stated that we are looking for ways to reduce energy costs campus-wide. He closed by thanking Senators for allowing him to be a part of their meetings.

Senator Nagel asked if something is distributed to students explaining the budget situation, such as the Faculty/Staff memorandums that is sent campus-wide and suggested that it may be a good idea to do so, as many students do not understand what is going on with the budget.

President Griffin distributed certificates of appreciation to those Senators leaving and thanked them for their service. They are as follows: Michelle Weemaes, George Nagel, Daniel Ding, Richard Hansen, Elies Koiuder, Michael Cron, Lucy Ngoh, Richard Goosen, Bill Papo, and Vordyn Nelson.

Open Forum

Senator Schmidt thanked Dr. Eisler for his candid comments.

Senator Liszewski asked the Senate Election Committee to meet with him for a few moments prior to the beginning of the 11:00 a.m. session.

VIII. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m.

Lucy Ngoh, Secretary

Richard Griffin, President

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Senators Present: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Beistle, Brandly, Cline, Colley, Compton, Dakkuri, Drake, Haneline, Hanna, D., Hanna, H., Heaphy, Isler, Jewett, Jorsch, Klatt, Lashaway-Bokina, Lukusa, Luplow, Liszewski, Lovsted, McLean, Nash, Prakasam, Purvis, Rewers, Sanderson, Schmidt, Skrocki, Smith, Sun, Taylor, Thapa, Topcu, Waggenheim, Wellman

Senators Absent: DeKoster,

Ex-Officio Members Present: President David Eisler,

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Interim Vice President Academic Affairs Daniel Burcham, Student Government President Amber Balmer

Guests: Don Flickinger, Leonard Johnson, David Pilgrim

III. **Open Forum – No comments at this time.**

IV. **New Business – Election of Officers for the 2009-2010 Academic Year**

President Griffin turned the gavel over to **Senator Liszewski**, Senate Elections Chair.

Senator Liszewski told Senators the elections would proceed from President, to Vice President, to Secretary, and then to members at large. Each office will be elected individually. In the event that there is only one candidate nominated, a motion for election by acclamation will be considered. Each candidate will be given the opportunity to make a brief statement. The counting committee will be Senators Beistle, Brandly, Drake, Klatt, Lashaway-Bokina, Nash, and Wellman .

Nominations were opened for President.

It was moved and seconded that **Adnan Dakkuri** be nominated for Senate President. It was moved and seconded that **Rick Griffin** be nominated for Senate President. Nominations were closed. Each candidate made a brief statement about their candidacy. **Rick Griffin** was re-elected as Academic Senate President for 2009-2010.

Nominations were opened for Vice President.

It was moved and seconded that **Khagendra Thapa** be nominated for Vice President. It was moved and seconded that **Michael Berghoef** be nominated for Vice President. Nominations were closed. Each candidate made a brief statement about their candidacy. **Michael Berghoef** was re-elected as Academic Senate Vice President.

Nominations were opened for Senate Secretary.

It was moved and seconded that **Sandy Alspach** be nominated for Secretary. No other nominations were offered, **Sandy Alspach** was elected by acclamation.

Nominations were opened for At-Large Executive Committee members.

It was moved and seconded that **Cami Sanderson** be nominated as an At-Large member.

It was moved and seconded that **Melinda Isler** be nominated as an At-Large member.

It was moved and seconded that **Matt Wagenheim** be nominated as an At-Large member.

It was moved and seconded that **Keith Jewett** be nominated as an At-Large member.

It was moved and seconded that **Maureen Heaphy** be nominated as an At-Large member.

Nominations were closed. After several rounds of balloting, Senators **Heaphy, Isler** and **Jewett** were elected as At-Large members of the Executive Committee.

- V. Open Forum – Senator Jewett** talked about the motion to form an ad hoc committee to revise the Senate Charter that did not pass in the previous hours' meeting. He urged Senators to review the Charter over the summer and send their thoughts to any of the Senate Executive Committee to assist with assembly of a directive for the revision.
- VI. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 11:59 a.m.**

Sandy Alspach, Secretary

Richard Griffin, President