

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Executive Committee Meeting**

**October 11, 2011**

Members in Attendance: Mike Berghoef, Vice-President; Melinda Isler, Secretary;  
 Members at Large: David Marion, Jim Nash, Sandy Alspach  
 Past President: Rick Griffin  
 Administrative Assistant: Paula Hadley  
 Excused Absence: Doug Haneline, President

1.	Vice-President Mike Berghoef convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
2.	The first issue related to the UCC Manual revisions and material that been included as blue text in the materials emailed to the Executive Committee. UCC chair/Senator Alspach would like to add a process within the UCC for any two courses in a non-degree program as a part of new Group 1 (following the same PCAF and evaluative process as course for degrees). This in part would handle issues with courses such as the ones which may be coming through the new Center for Global Studies and Engagement. She reported on her meeting with Senator Pirkasam who has requested time at the November board meeting to talk about this center. A current course running as a 90 experimental course needs to begin the paperwork to convert to a course in the topics model. She discussed the paperwork issue and also the larger concept of what are the Center's goals and plans. Senator Isler asked what form the presentation would take and did it allow for questions and/or a vote of support? Senator Alspach noted she would suggest a time for presentation of no more than 15 minutes and allow time for questions from the Senator for a total time of 30 minutes. If Senator Pirkasam wishes to ask for a vote of support, he may do so but this might be better left to a later meeting. Secretary Isler asked who votes on these curriculum proposals as faculty, if there is not a home-base. Senator Marion and the SEC decided that actually might be the Senate body. Senator Marion asked who funds these course? Senator Alspach said that Senator Prakasam is pursuing grant funding and external opportunities. Senator Alspach noted this arrangement through the UCC manual would also set them up to go through APRC in some modified form. Vice-President Berghoef said that while the Senate encourages interdisciplinary coursework that area is experiencing some growing pains and this may be an issue to discuss at the upcoming meeting he and President Haneline have scheduled with the provost. Senator Nash said that he hoped that these areas were getting support, if not in the manual, in the ability to fill out the forms and know with ones to fill out. He added that when proper processes are not follow it has an impact on real people. Senator Alspach will be contacting Don Green to offer them an ex-officio membership onto the UCC in order to facilitate this process. Senator Isler asked if these groups were coming out of the Ferris Forward group, whether or not it might be beneficial to have a Senate representative on that group.
3.	Vice President Berghoef and Secretary Isler reported on their meeting with Leah Monger, Dean of FLITE about the Library/Archival/Historical Advisory Committee. Dean Monger is going to investigate how other university libraries form advisory groups and the proposal for a modified structure, possibly not as a Senate committee is on the agenda for the next librarians meeting. A proposal may be coming to the Senate as soon as December 2011.
3.	The meeting was adjourned by 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Melinda Isler  
 Secretary