

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
October 7, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.  
West Campus Community Center**

- I. **Call to Order: President Griffin** called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. (Delay in starting time due to technical issues)
  
- II. **Attendance:**  
*Officers Present:* President Richard Griffin, Vice-President Michael Berghoef, Secretary Lucy Ngoh, Past President Dakkuri  
*Senators Present:* Abbasabadi, Alspach, Berghoef, Brandly, Cline, Cron, DeKoster, Drake, Goosen, Haneline, Hanna, D., Hansen, Jewett, Klatt, Kouider, Lashaway-Bokina, Liszewski, Lovsted, Isler, McLean, Morcom, Nelson, Nagel, Nash, Papo, Purvis, Sanderson, Smith, Sun, Wellman  
*Senators Absent:* Beistle (excused), Ding (excused), Hanna, H., Jorsch, Schmidt (excused), Topcu (excused), Weemaes,  
*Ex-Officio Members Present:* President David Eisler, Interim Vice President Academic Affair Daniel Burcham  
*Ex-Officio Members Absent:* Student Government President Amber Balmer  
*Guests:* Don Flickinger, David Nicol, Leonard Johnson, Roberta Teahen, Tom Oldfield, Kristin Salomonson, Mike Cooper
  
- III. **Approval of the Minutes – April 22, 2008 Session A minutes, Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Alspach, moved to approve as revised. Senator Jewett** explained that a complete transcription of the section in question has been reviewed by the Senate Executive Committee, with the errors corrected. **Motion carried.**  
  
**Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2008, minutes, Senator Alspach, with support from Senator Hansen, moved to approve as written. Motion carried.**
  
- IV. **Open Forum – No comments at this time.**
  
- V. **Reports**  
  
**President Griffin** had no report.  
  
**Vice President Berghoef** reported that committee seats are being filled. He will be at the Dean's Council on Tuesday, October 14, and may meet with Student Government again to seek student members for committees. **Senator Haneline** stated that there is no provision for adjunct faculty to serve on committees and suggested that with more and more adjuncts completing doctoral work, perhaps seats for adjuncts should be created on Senate committees. **Senator Jewett** stated that he supports Senator Haneline suggestion and reminded Senators that those Senate representatives who are in the part time faculty seats on the Senate also serve on committees. **Senator D. Hanna** asked for confirmation of whether the policy of not filling seats with out of college members is being followed. **Vice President Berghoef** confirmed that the policy is being followed and asked Senators to email or call with their thoughts or suggestions.  
  
**Secretary Ngoh** had no report.  
  
**President Griffin** then amended the agenda to include Item B, Academic Affairs Policy Letters.

## VI. Committee Reports

**A. University Curriculum Committee: Leonard Johnson, UCC Chair**, reported that the UCC is looking closely at outcomes statements and reviewed proposal approved since the last Senate meeting (Attachment A of these minutes). He also said that guidelines for writing objectives have been given to members of the UCC and will be distributed to chairs of their curriculum committees. This information is also available at UCC website. There was some discussion regarding the UCC report for October 7th, 2008 on item #4B. Senator Jewett asked why the proposal was approved when there were questions about it. Leonard Johnson, UCC Chair, said the UCC supported the idea and that there are other unrelated complications that the UCC does not know about. However VP Flickinger will settle those other issues prior to signing the proposal. VP Flickinger provided further clarification. Senators Hanna and Jewett commented that the proposal should have been brought to the full Senate for action. After further discussion, **Senator Haneline with support from Senator Nagel moved** to table the report and add the item to the SEB agenda. Motion carried.

**B. Admissions Standards Task Force: Kristin Salomonson, Dean of Enrollment Services**, provided Senators with a written report (Attachment B of these minutes). Many Senators commented on the report, some of those comments are as follows:

*The initial charge was to improve image and to prevent students from coming here and failing, are we doing that?*

*By raising standards we may be excluding students who really want to try.*

*Ferris is an opportunity school, perhaps we should keep working on that aspect.*

*We raised the standards so we don't have a "debt machine".*

Following a lengthy question and answer period, **Senator Smith**, with support from **Senator Haneline** moved to close discussion. Motion carried.

## VII. Old Business

**A. Academic Plan, Institutional Strategic Plan Council – Motion by Senator Isler, with support from Senator Purvis**, to approve the Institutional Strategic Planning Council's Academic Plan. **Michael Cron, Committee Chair**, was available to respond to questions from Senators. Motion carried.

**B. Academic Affairs Policy Letters – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Nagel** to open discussion on the policy letters (Attachments B, C, and D of these minutes) presented. **Senator Alspach** stated that the policy letters should have been reviewed in order. Senator Jewett added the friendly amendment to review each policy letter separately. Friendly amendment accepted.

1. **Policy Letter Undergraduate Graduation Requirements – Senator Drake** commented that 120 credits is not noted anywhere in the draft document. **Senator Haneline** with support from **Senator Ngoh** moved to amend the document by removing all words after "program" in sentence one of the document. Motion carried. **Senator Jewett** asked if there is a legal requirement of 120 credit hours. **VP Flickinger** stated that there is. **President Griffin called the question, question carried. Main motion carried.**

2. **Policy Letter MACRO Transfer Policy – Senator Haneline, with support from Senator B. Smith** moved to accept the MACRO transfer policy. Following a lengthy discussion, **Senator Haneline called the question, question carried, main motion carried.**

3. **Motion by Senator Hansen, with support from Senator Nagel** to accept the BS and BA Degree Transfer Policy draft. **Senator Alspach** told Senators that the highlighted text is the original language; text within parenthesis is text to be inserted. Following a short discussion, **motion carried.**

**VIII. New Business**

**Motion by Senator Thapa, with support from Senator Alspach, to approve the Business Data Analytics proposal.** Professor Michael Cooper was in attendance to respond to concerns and questions. He told Senator that there is a correction on page 2 of the proposal, there is one other program in our state (at Michigan State University). President Griffin called the question, question carried, main motion carried.

**IX. Announcements**

**President Eisler** thanked Senators and all those who are working on Higher Learning Commissions subcommittee and committees. He told us that the new Optometry building is being funded, and that the University is moving toward a campus master plan. Several input sessions are being planned, which will help determine priorities. Work continues on the emergency management plan, with train the trainer sessions being held. We are also working on a feasibility study for a capital campaign. Dr. Eisler reported that the HVAC system in the Arts and Science complex are in poor repair, and are very expensive to repair (an estimated \$5 million project). The university is currently looking at alternatives such as geo-thermal systems. Although it will be more expensive (\$11.6 million) initially, the energy savings in the future will cover the difference. Dr. Eisler thanked Senators for allowing him to participate and for the very important work that they do each day.

**Interim Vice President Burcham** told Senators that as work progresses on the HLC report, we have the rare opportunity to make Ferris a better place as we collect data. He thanked Dr. Teahen for her work on this important committee. He asked Senators to send recruiting ideas to him, as we are hoping to develop markets across the United States. Base budgets have been dispersed, with a 6% increase.

**President Griffin** stated that Academic Standards would be added to the Senate Executive Committee agenda. He reminded Senators that the PEP is sponsoring Sal Hansul in a lecture on October 15, in PHR 101.

**IX. Open Forum - Senator Isler** stated the Office of Multicultural Student Services is still reviewing possible locations for its offices. There will be an open forum on this issue at 11 a.m. on Thursday, October 9, 2008.

**Senator Ngoh** told Senators there will be a Poster Presentation on Public Health Issues at FLITE from 1-3 p.m. on Wednesday, 10/10/08.

**X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 11:53 a.m.**

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Lucy Ngoh, Secretary

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Richard Griffin, President