

**Minutes
Ferris State University
Academic Senate Meeting**

February 7, 2012

Members in Attendance: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Baker, Berghoef, Boncher, Brandly, Ciaramitaro, Cook, Dakkuri, Daugherty, Dixon, Drake, Fox, Gillespie, Griffin, Haneline, Hanna, Isler, Jewett, Hoyce, Klatt, Liszewski, Lovsted, Maike, Marion, McNulty, Moore, Nagel, Nash, Nystrom, Prakasam, Reynolds, Sanderson, Stone, Sun, Thapa
Members absent with cause: Lashaway-Bokina, McLean

Members absent: Luplow

Ex Officio and Guests: Cron, Eisler, Erickson, Flickinger, Heck, McKean, Teahen, Balmer, Blake, Johnson, Cooper, Rumpf, Frank, Steenstra, Bishop, Todd, Roman, Cairns, Edgerton, Nazar, Holmes, Dix, Thomson, Gogolin, Dedeaux

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| 1. | President Doug Haneline convened the meeting at 10:02 a.m and opened the floor for comments |
| 2. | Approval of Minutes. Senator Jewett moved to approve the December 6, 2011 minutes as written. Senator Griffin seconded. Motion carried |
| 3. | Open Forum A. Leonard Johnson encouraged Senators to attend the SPARC meeting in the West Campus Community Center on February 14, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. The issue is student success. The March SPARC meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. on the same days the senate and the issue will be student debt. B. Senator Alspach noted the Sports Speaker Series has an alumni Gilbert Bransford (Applied Speech Communications '99) who is a statistician for ESPN giving a talk on February 13 th 7:30 p.m. in Business 111. |
| 4. | Officer Reports A. President Haneline welcomed Cindy Todd, Kendall College Senate President to the meeting as a guest. This was part of the recommendations of the HLC to improve communication between faculty at the two organizations. B. Vice-President Berghoef said that the task forces on faculty evaluation and the International Educator Award were moved to the March meeting because of the full agenda. C. Secretary Isler had no report. |
| 5. | Committee Reports A. Senator Alspach noted the number of proposals coming through as deadlines neared for Fall 2012. One item on the agenda- Communication Program concentration, minors and certificates has been moved to the fall meeting while items are being clarified. Some of the program proposals have policy implications which she urges Senators to consider and consult on with their UCC reps. B. Fred Heck gave an update on the outcomes process for the General Education Task Force. . He has been meeting with the various colleges and meetings with FLITE and Business are scheduled for that week. He brought up on the screen a copy of a survey about the outcomes which will be going out to faculty shortly. It asks whether the 18 outcomes are too much? How strongly do people feel about each one? One of the possible proposals is to have an intro 3 credit course about the outcomes and how they are achieved. Senator Nystrom asked if this makes physical education a requirement? Professor Heck noted it could be put into a class like that, or the survey may help to determine the best ways to achieve outcomes- whether by a class or within a major. Senator Joyce asked if transfer students would need to take the course. Professor Heck said it had not been decided but probably not, since that would not be very transfer friendly. Senator Nash said that he liked the 3 credit course idea which would help with assessment. Vice-Provost Flickinger added that it would be good to know how long the survey takes to complete. Professor Heck said 5-10 minutes. Senator Moore asked if with things like e-portfolios the program was moving to a student tracking of where a student was- which he thought was a good move. Professor Heck agreed. Senator Isler asked if there was a deadline for filling it out. Professor Heck said it would first go through University wide notices and then be targeted . Senator Nagel asked if the data |

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| | <p>would be broken down by college. Professor Heck said yes.</p> <p>C. Senator Ciaramitaro , the chair of the elections committee , went through the forms sent to the Senators about the elections. She is still looking for Elections Committee members from the Librarians and Counselors and the College of Engineering Technology. Senator Nagel asked if the uneven number of election was a result of the change in size of the Senate. President Haneline said that was largely responsible, as well as some resignations. Senator Sun noted that the elector division appears to be inaccurate and suggested the numbers be checked before sending out the memo.</p> <p>D. Mary Holmes came to give an update on the Blackboard 9.1 project. She provided a brochure which lists faculty mentors and training schedules. She said that of 424 faculty, 126 are checked off and 106 are teaching in Blackboard in the Spring. She described the variety of online courses available and said they are willing to work with anyone who “fails” the training. Senator Griffin, who said he had been the one to ask the question, said that he was not worried about himself but about others who waited until the last minute to do the switch- not realizing the magnitude of the change. Senator Moore asked whether all classes need to be switched by fall, or would spring and summer classes be available to be transferred at a later point. Ms. Holmes said all courses remain on the system 1 year after last being offered in Ferris Connect. Senator Cook stressed that senators need to go to departmental/college meetings and say that this is a new system- it is not just an upgrade and faculty members who plan to use it need to allot their time accordingly. Over 70% of courses are at least web-enhanced. Senator Marion added that in addition to the Ferris training, there are online training courses in atomic learning also about additional software which could be useful. Senator Nagel expressed concerns about making sure all 1100 courses get transferred for the “slow learners” like him in time. He also asked whether or not there was a better version of the product to move to that might make it easier. He also noted that while his trainer was very good, the consistency of trainers he has told has been unequal. Ms. Holmes said that they were working to the best of their ability to keep training moving, contacting some faculty has been difficult. They do have a way to monitor who has been trained. In the summer they will be moving to Service Pack 8 which will address some issues. While Blackboard 9.1 is a Cadillac of systems it is not Vista, and people will need to adjust to what Blackboard can do. Senator Maike asked how long past classes will remain on the server. Ms. Holmes said for a period of one year, to answer any grades issues. Senator Hanna asked how the 1145 courses were identified. Ms. Holmes said all courses taught in a LMS are in the Ferris system per policy. Senator Nystrom added that based on a policy passed by the Academic Standards and Policy Committee last year could have dealt with this issue of knowing who is trained. Senator Dakkuri suggested messages be targeted to the faculty who have not yet done the training instead of blanket emails. Senator Daugherty asked how accessible the files would be for transfer. Ms. Holmes responded for a period of one year, on the server- after that perhaps not so much as they may not have an underlying system to run them. Senator Marion said that with his experience transfer was not successful and courses in Blackboard worked better when built as new. Provost Erickson commented that he understood that this was a major undertaking and he was committed to making sure classes offered in Fall would be able to do so. President Haneline added this was going to be an ongoing report at spring Senate meeting.</p> <p>E. Student Government Danielle Balmer talked about a number of upcoming events including the W.I.L.L. conference and the MyFSU portal survey in FLITE. The amendments to the document governing distribution of money have been finished. The Finance Committee will no longer meet in the summer and the Entertainment Unlimited Board will be allocated funding in advance and become the official programming board.</p> |
| 6. | <p>New B.S in Business Finance. Senator Alspach moved to approve the proposal. Seconded by Senator Griffin . Motion passed.</p> |
| 7. | <p>Chemistry Package (New Course, New Concentration, Clean up) Senator Alspach moved to approve this proposal. Seconded by Senator Ciaramataro. Senator Dakkuri asked what this degree should be called to an employer and where would students go? Program initiator Mark Thompson said that it was a B.A. in Chemistry. Students could finish it in one year and apply to pharmacy school or elsewhere. Senator Dakkuri asked if Pharmacy would appear on the transcript. Senator Alspach said that is generally a program decision to include concentrations. Department head Frank said that was not their intent at this time. Senator Moore asked how many new faculty did it require? Department head Frank said that a biochemistry position was already underway and possible new physics professors might be needed. But they were needed anyway because of changes in the pre-pharmacy requirements. Motion passed.</p> |

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| 8. | <p>Insurance and Risk Management B.S., Minor and Certificates. Senator Alspach moved to approve this proposal. Seconded by Senator Marion. Senator Drake asked if this were the same major that was eliminated a few years ago. Department head David Steenstra said that this was an academic resurrection of the program originally spearheaded by Douglas Heeter and was driven by market demand. Motion passed with one abstention.</p> |
| 9. | <p>B.S. Business- Healthcare Marketing. Senator Alspach moved to approve this proposal. Seconded by Senator Griffin. Motion passed..</p> |
| 10. | <p>Public Relations Program with Concentrations and New Minor. Senator Alspach moved to approve this proposal. Seconded by Senator Brandy. Senator Alspach said she is grateful for the creation of the new minor. Motion passed.</p> |
| 11. | <p>Replace MS ISM with MS ISI. Senator Alspach moved to approve this proposal. Seconded by Senator Dakkuri. Senator Moore asked what effect this change would have on partnering programs. Program initiator Greg Gogolin said that it would actually enhance offerings for both the MB and Nursing programs, as well as the MBA/PharmD which only shares one course. Motion passed.</p> |
| 12. | <p>Course Caps Report- Provost Erickson Electronic copies of the course cap report (over 140 pages) were submitted to the senators and limited paper copies were passed out. Provost Erickson said the data was compiled for the 2010-2011 school year and they looked at classes where the term cap was set over the Banner cap (in roughly 47% of the cases the caps were not equal). The classes with larger term caps were then placed in categories- a justified overage (faculty agreements) and other cases. In the case of other- deans were asked to review all of those courses. In many cases, these were simply mistakes and have been corrected. Data will be collected again for the 2011-2012 year</p> <p>Senator Dakkuri noted that caps list term caps that reflect the course instead of by section and said this needed to be clarified. Provost Erickson said this was an issue to be figured out at the college level. Senator Marion asked if a cap was a college level decision. Provost Erickson said it would be the part of the normal academic process and the term cap should reflect policies for that institution. Senator Nagel asked if there was an online section cap of 20 and if so is it under review? Provost Erickson said he wanted to allow for different instructional approaches. Senator Stone noted that her course sections were constrained by the size of Bishop Hall and that was not good policy. Provost Erickson agreed that Bishop Hall had issues and said that it was observed by the trustees in a recent walkthrough. Senator Nystrom asked what happened if the cap was in conflict with workload policies of an area and whether adjunct faculty had the ability to increase a size of a course which made problematic the issue of justified overage. Provost Erickson said that he would like departmental policies to respect the existing course caps or follow the curricular process. Senator Marion said that at the recent Faculty Center safari they saw a classroom fitted for multiple camera sections which might allow an increase in size. Senator Baker said that was hard to do without help as it lead to a burden in grading and review of projects. Senator Hanna said this had been tried in the past. Senator Drake said that the percent of room capacity statistics were misleading- as they were comparing the size of a lecture hall to a class which was limited by an accompanying lab. Provost Erickson said he was aware of that, and overall the information gathered showed that facilities are used effectively. Senator Maike said he was concerned about determining workload on classroom capacity and building size. Senator Moore made a comment that technology was great but people are still needed. Senator Nash thanked the provost for providing all the data and creating the analysis.</p> |
| 13. | <p>Announcements</p> <p>A. President Eisler said that on Thursday February 9th, the state budget will be released. He expects funding to remain stable although there may be tuition restraint language and performance based funding aid (but it's unclear whether or not that is just a reallocation of existing dollars.) He will be hosting a series of forums on student debt next week. He remains concerned about the community college baccalaureate bill and urged people to contact Senator Booher and Senator Emmons. Senator Baker suggested that Ferris use social networking to get more people to contact the representatives about this issue. On February 24 is the Friends of Ferris dinner which is the Ferris political action committee.</p> <p>B. Provost Erickson said he looked forward to seeing Scott Garrison, the new Dean of FLITE as of May 1st. Airport interviews have been set for February 28-29 for the dean searches in Arts and Sciences, Allied</p> |

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| | Health Sciences and Engineering Technology |
| 11. | <p>Open Forum</p> <p>A. President Haneline noted that there are many good events going on as part of the Festival of the Arts and encouraged attendance.</p> <p>B. Senator Cook encouraged those not attending the Friends of Ferris dinner to go to the Vagina Monologues on February 24 at Williams Auditorium. This performance raises awareness of domestic violence issues.</p> <p>C. Professor Johnson invited all to come out to Northland Park on Saturday February 11 for a Frisbee golf game which was co-sponsored by the disc sports club and Big Rapids Healthy Hearts Campaign.</p> |
| 12. | Senator Griffin moved for adjournment at 11:48 a.m. Senator Marion seconded. Motion passed. |

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Isler
Secretary