

Minutes

Ferris State University Academic Senate Meeting

October 4, 2011

Members in Attendance: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Baker, Berghoef, Boncher, Brandly, Ciaramitaro, Cook, Dakkuri, Daugherty, Dixon, Drake, Fox, Gillespie, Griffin, Haneline, Hanna, Isler, Jewett, Joyce, Klatt, Liszewski, Lovsted, Luplow, Maike, Marion, McLean, McNulty, Moore, Nagle, Nash, Nystrom, Prakasam, Reynolds, Sanderson, Stone, Sun, Thapa

Members absent with cause: Lashaway-Bokina (sabbatical)

Members absent: None

Ex Officio and Guests: Burchan, Cron, Eisler, Strasser, Johnson, L., McKean, Nicol, Teahen, Balmer, Coon, Woodman, Cluchey, Gramza, Tower, McCullough, Urbanick, Raglin, vonReichbauer

1.	President Doug Haneline convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m and opened the floor for comments.
2.	Approval of Minutes. Senator Jewett moved to approve the September 6, 2011 minutes as written. Senator Alspach seconded. Motion carried.
3.	Open Forum A. Senator Alspach said that the upcoming Public Speaking Contest will be occurring with preliminary rounds on Halloween. The theme is “9/11 Ten Years Later: What have We Learned? What has Changed?” She encourages Senators to judge and to look for upcoming information. B. Leonard Johnson, Chair of SPARC noted their next meeting will be October 11, 2011 from 3-5 p.m. in the West Campus Community Center. He encouraged senators to consider attending.
4.	Officer Reports A. President Haneline had no report. B. Vice-President Berghoef reported on committee memberships. Roughly 80% of all seats are filled- all Senators had their first choice and Student Government filled all of their seats. A list will be going out listing vacancies and Senators are encouraged to recruit members from their respective colleges. Returning chairs have met to review goals and processes and action on last years task force recommendations. Senator Isler and Vice-President will be meeting with Dean Leah Monger to discuss the potential change of structure from a Senate committee to an advisory board. The Senate Executive Committee and provost’s officer discussed the structure and goals of the International Education committee. They are creating a task force to help broaden and redefine that committee. The Task Force, once appointed, will report back to the Senate by February 2012. C. Secretary Isler had no report. Senator Jewett asked why the retreat minutes were not included with the October packet. The minutes will be sent out in email form to the Senators.
5.	Committee Reports A. Senator Alspach noted that the UCC has already met three times and has proposals on the agenda for later in the meeting. B. President Doug Haneline (representing Associate Vice-Provost Don Flickinger) noted that the teamwork rubric townhalls went well and they received good feedback. They are meeting Friday to handle any needed revisions. C. Student Government President Danielle Balmer reported on a series of activities including the United Way campaign, New York Times return to the Reading project and that on October 21 st event in conjunction with a hockey game to raise money for their scholarship. They had met with the group to discuss plans for a new university center.
6.	EMAT Recommendation proposal. Senator Cook discussed the format for support of the various recommendations. An informal poll of the Senate expressed a desire for separate motions for recommendation.

	<p>A. Senator Cook moved that Category 1: Student Capabilities and Responsibilities be supported by the Senate. Seconded by Senator Marion. Senator Thapa asked how minimums in proficiency were defined? Senator Cook said these were basic items such as using FerrisConnect and were further detailed in the report passed out at the retreat. Senator Stone asked if this had been discussed with the Director of the Faculty Center. Senator Cook said that it was and Vice-Provost Teahan added that Todd Stanislav had recently been added as a member of the EMAT group. Motion passed with an abstention.</p>
	<p>B. Senator Cook moved that Category 2: Faculty Capabilities and Responsibilities be supported by the Senate. Seconded by Senator Nagel. Senator Nystrom asked if recommendations 3 and 5 are in line with faculty contracts. President Haneline and Senator Cook both said that these issues had been considered. Senator Abbasabadi said that he was concerned about recommendation 2 and the impact on faculty contracts. Senator Nystrom asked how many of the mechanisms in recommendation 4 would be created by a department? Senator Cook answered this would depend on how a department chooses to do it and it was difficult to come up with one solution that would fit the whole university. Senator Hanna asked in recommendation 4 if it addressed who determined what classes were best online. President Haneline referred back to the revised University Curriculum Manual which said that content of a class was solely the responsibility of the faculty member. Motion passed with one no vote and one abstention.</p>
	<p>C. Senator Cook moved that Category 3: Course/Program Quality Considerations be supported by the Senate. Seconded by Senator Ciaramitaro. Senator Moor asked how system was defined. Senator Cook commented that they were using the Quality Matters rubric modeled by Florida State University. Senator Jewett asked if this would answer the question from online survey results of when problems were reported and nothing happened. Senator Cook said that this should help, and also the new appointment of a director for online learning in Deb Thalner. Senator Nystrom noted that in the September meeting there was discussion of a need for policies relating to this. Senator Stone suggested a system in which incentivizes faculty to go online. Senator Reynolds, said she would rather be oversupported and undersupported as she transitions to teaching in an online environment. Senator Hanna asked if this was a guideline or a standard. Senator Cook said it was a guideline. Motion passed with an abstention.</p>
	<p>D. Senator Cook moved that Category 4: Technology Support be supported by the Senate. Seconded by Daugherty. Senator Jewett said that in respect to recommendation 8, Blackboard is not the only delivery mechanism available. Senator McNulty made a friendly amendment to add the word faculty to recommendation 6 which was accepted. Motion passed with an abstention.</p>
	<p>E. Senator Cook moved that Category 5: Planning and Administration be supported by the Senate. Seconded by Senator Griffin. Senator Cook explained minor editorial word changes to recommendation 11. Senator Stone asked if there were applicable federal guidelines or laws. Associate Vice-Provost Teahan said that some of them would be under financial aid regulations. Senator Stone said if there were not guidelines the recommendation should not list them as such. Senator Jewett made a friendly amendment to change the wording to “applicable state and federal guidelines which was accepted. Senator Hanna made a friendly amendment in recommendation 9 to replace the word growth with viability which was accepted. Motion passed with abstention.</p>
7.	<p>AAS Degree in Nuclear Medicine Technology Senator Alspach moved to delete the AAS Degree in Nuclear Medicine Technology. Seconded by Jewett. Department head Theresa Ragalin spoke, explaining this was a degree that has moved to a bachelors degree and the last student graduated in May. Motion passed.</p>
8.	<p>Child Life Specialist minor Senator Alspach moved to approve the Child Life specialist minor. Seconded by Senator Stone. Senator Alspach spoke of this as a new and unique program which would lead to greater employment opportunities. Leonard Johnson commented this was a logical next step with the bachelor in early education. Senator Stone noted this was a growing field which paid a good wage. Motion passed.</p>
9.	<p>Intensive English Program Senator Alspach moved to approve the Intensive English Program. Seconded by Senator Boncher. Program</p>

	<p>coordinator Lisa vonReichbauer was there to discuss the program and answer questions. Senator Marion asked if the mission was solely proficiency in language. Ms. vonReichbauer said yes, and some students (not all) may be in for four semesters before being proficient enough to enter other majors. Senator Cook asked if the intent was to have them transfer out or stay here. Ms. vonReichbauer said the intent was to keep them as majors. Senator Hanna asked about the signatures for a program faculty vote. Senator Alspach noted that the proposal was submitted to UCC before any of the current faculty were hired. Motion passed with abstention.</p>
10.	<p>IT Strategic Plan John Urbanik, Chief Technology Officer, came to share with the Senate their most recent strategic planning document. It is still being modified and he was eager to get any comments. He had already met with the Academic Leadership Council earlier that day. Senator Nystrom asked who IT defined as its customer base? Urbanik answered it was students, staff and alumni. Senator Nagel said he appreciated their work under current restraints and wondered how this has affected the equipment replacement policy. Urbanik said that is under review. Senator Boncher suggested that they get faculty who are heavily using technology in the classroom more involved in the planning processes. Senator Stone agreed and added that she appreciated the use of student employees but not always in direct classroom support where time is critical. Senator Marion asked if a stakeholder survey needs to be done every time a password is reset. Senator Isler was supportive of a service catalog, that might clear up confusion about what is infrastructure and paid centrally v. items paid for by the various unites. Leonard Johnson suggested that a service catalog also include a length of time in providing service as well as cost. Urbanik concluded by asking Senators to email any further comments to him directly about the plan.</p>
11..	<p>ISPC Name Change Senator Alspach moved to change the name of the Institutional Strategic Planning Council to the Academic Strategic Planning Council. Senator Nash seconded. Motion passed.</p>
12.	<p>Announcements</p> <p>A. President Eisler was pleased with the enrollment reports. He noted that at the moment the school aid fund was fine but unlike the way the university was previously funded, could be subject to mid-year cuts if revenues were to move in a negative direction. The state legislature was not happy with universities because of the Michigan State and Wayne State tuition increases. There are several pieces of legislation underway including a move in formula funding, rescinding of domestic partner benefit and union activity. The university's constitutional exemption may be difficult to maintain as more of these bills go forward. On the federal level, efforts to retrain Pell Grants could also create difficulties for Ferris students.</p> <p>B. Provost Erickson said that faculty should contact Mindy Baumgartner with their suggestions for the Commencement faculty reception. She was working to improve communications from his office, including the activities of the Deans Council. There are 7 searches currently underway. .</p>
13.	<p>Open Forum Ms. vonReichbauer encouraged senators to participate in International Education weeEk</p>
14.	<p>Senator Cook moved for adjournment at 11:45 a.m. Senator Jewett seconded. Motion passed.</p>

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Isler
Secretary