

Washburn University
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
February 16, 2015
3:00 PM – Henderson Hall, Room 107

PRESENT: Alexander, Ball, Chamberlain, Florea, Francis, Friesen, Kwak, Lunte, Modellmog, Palbicke, Pembroke, Petersen, Russell, Sadikot, Schmidt, Schnoebelen, Smith, Stevens, Stevenson, Sun, Weiner, Wisneski, and Wood*

ABSENT: Berry, Childers, Jackson, Mach, Mapp, McConnell-Farmer, McHenry, Perret, Routsong, Rubenstein, Sanchez, Schbley, Scofield, Sourgens, and Treinen.

* indicates guest

- I. President Ball called the meeting to order at 3:05pm.
- II. The Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of February 2, 2015 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks: Thanks for attending though there isn't much new business; this will help get some items off the agenda since our next meeting will be longer.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents:
 - Ball and Schmidt attended both meetings on 2/5 (the budget/finance meeting was earlier in the day):
 - Tuition revenues are up a bit but some endowment funding was down a bit (more of an accounting issue). Bids for the new residence hall came in about \$5 million over budget (it was projected at \$23 to \$24 million but came in at \$28-\$29 million). As such they will accept another round of bids in early March. The timeline for this project will be very close. The goal is to open the facility in the fall of 2016. If for some reason it doesn't happen in enough time this spring, the new opening goal will be fall 2017.
 - At the main meeting, academic sabbaticals were approved.
 - Architect selection for the potential small recital hall was also discussed. For the recital hall, the faculty on the committee suggested hiring ACI out of KC, while the Board ended up selecting Schwerdt Design Group in Topeka. Pembroke added that the Board likes to select local companies. He also pointed out that most of the bids were, in fact, good. Pembroke also provided some background on the recital hall, denoting that unless a larger financial gift was received, the hall may have to wait.
- V. VPAA Update—Dr. Randy Pembroke
 - The student readership program is for students only. WSGA recently came to him and they are seeking to answer whether or not it's useful. The cost has come down from \$40,000 to \$10,000 by scaling the program back, but the program may not be used in the future. Pembroke asked the senators if we should keep it around? Less than 200 newspapers a day are being used in the program. Some faculty recommended and Pembroke noted that they may look into electronic alternatives. Ball will construct a survey to assess if faculty are using this program in classes.

- On the state rescission of LGBT protection policy change last week: WU employees are not state employees so are unaffected. Washburn policies protect employees in terms of both sexual orientation and gender identity.

VI. Faculty Senate Committee Reports

- The Academic Affairs Committee minutes from November 10, 2014 were approved.

VII. University Committee Reports

- The Graduate Council minutes from November 17, 2014 were received.
- The Sabbatical Committee minutes from December 1, 2014 were received.
- The International Education Committee minutes from November 20, 2014 were received.
- The Honors Advisory Board minutes from November 5, 2014 were received.

VIII. Special Orders:

- Takrima Sadikot was nominated for the position of Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate and elected by acclamation.

IX. Old Business: NONE

X. New Business: NONE

XI. Information Items: NONE

XII. Discussion Items:

- Request for feedback regarding certificates in Teaching and Learning (Margaret Wood). Wood noted that C-TEL would like to indicate a badge on the faculty directory for those who have completed the certificate (and showed an example of what this might look like). She wondered about any possible downsides or problems? Russell indicated that he liked it. Modellmog wondered if we would be doing this elsewhere with other programs. Ball thought it would be nice. Pembroke said that Ally training is thinking of doing this same sort of thing, as well. Petersen thought that too many badges could lessen their impact; is there something else to do? Wood showed another option—a drop down list of members that have a badge for each workshop in which a member participated. Wood noted that this will be archived and kept for approximately seven years (similar to the conventional Tenure and Promotion cycle). Petersen wondered about who would or might be using these websites that have this information and to what end; the latter seems more useful for the faculty members while the former system seemed more useful to outside seekers of information about the faculty (prospective students, for instance). Russell noted that it could be useful on the faculty member's homepage or as a physical badge of some kind similar to faculty WTE medallions. Ball said that we could allow the faculty to show the badges they wanted to see so that the webpages wouldn't get cluttered or confusing. Pembroke wondered if the badges under the faculty's name could link to something describing the badges (a way to blend the approaches); Wood said that this would be easy to accomplish. Sun indicated that she liked option one but said it should remain optional; she wondered if the second option didn't seem a bit childish in design (aesthetically-speaking). Petersen wondered if a statement or description of some sort should be made to describe the effort behind the badge for clarification beyond just the image. Wood thanked the senators for their feedback.

- **Is there interest in inviting someone from ITT to discuss recent network crashes? (Linsey Modellmog). Florea noted that he had experienced some software issues. Russell noted that one of the crashes Modellmog mentioned was due to hardware. Ball noted that sometimes logging in on classroom computers is a key issue, as well (Smith agreed). Chamberlain noted she's also having problems logging in to classroom computers—that the process has taken up to ten minutes at times, significantly hampering teaching time. Russell proposed that since there was interest in discussing various ITT issues, perhaps Ball could schedule a meeting and senators could e-mail questions through Ball to the ITT department. Pembroke thought that was a good idea and encouraged Ball to send the request and questions to Floyd Davenport.**

XIII. Announcements

- **Pembroke: regarding the recent Henderson elevator fix. It was not foreseeable and basic maintenance; it was shut down for repair. Pembroke has asked Rich Connell for a contingency plan for communication plan and contingency procedures for when such repairs are necessary in the future. Petersen noted that we may also need a device to help persons bound to wheelchairs get down stairs in the event of an emergency; Pembroke believes that the communication protocol that he has asked for should probably address this.**
- **Pembroke: Farley' Visiting Professor of Ethics selection is ongoing and to please make time for the last two candidates.**

XIV. President Ball adjourned the meeting at 4:00pm