Faculty Senate
Washburn University

Minutes of April 14, 2008 Meeting
Kansas Room, Memorial Union


I. The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:35 PM.

II. The minutes of the March 10th, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting were amended and approved.

III. President’s Opening Remarks.
A. President Jacobs reported that the administration has made attempts to respond to faculty concerns about Stoffer construction issues identified by faculty.
B. It was also reported that the next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be next month (May). One purpose of that meeting will be the election of Faculty Senate officers.

IV. Report from the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Regents.
A. It was reported that recommendations for tenure and/or promotion were discussed at the Board of Regents meeting of March 21, 2008. It was further noted that the risk management policies, which were discussed at a previous Faculty Senate meeting, were approved by the Board with little, if any, change.

V. Faculty Senate Committee Reports.
A. The minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee meeting of 03/03/2008 were accepted.
B. The minutes of the Faculty Affairs Committee meeting of 03/12/2008 were accepted.
C. A report was given by Gary Baker, Chair of the Electoral Committee. It was reported that the following individuals were elected At-Large members for the 2008 – 2010 term: Mark Kaufman (SAS), Michael McGuire (CAS), Gordon Crews (SAS), and Gene Wunder (SoB).

VI. University Committee Minutes.
A. The minutes of the International Education Committee meetings of 02/14/2008 and 03/13/2008 were accepted.

VII. Old Business.
A. Much discussion was given to action item #08-01, entitled “Change in Composition of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC).” A motion to approve the item was made, seconded and failed. The vote was 13 in favor, 12 against. While the majority of those voting were in favor of the item, the minimum two-thirds support for a Faculty Senate Constitution amendment was not achieved.
B. Discussion was also given to action item #08-05, entitled, “Proposed changes to the currently existing Grievance Policy and Procedure (Appendix IX of the Faculty Handbook).” The motion to approve the item was seconded and passed.

VIII. New Business.
A. The action item entitled, “Three-year review cycle for the Washburn Transformational Experience” (#08-02) was discussed. The issue of whether a cyclical review process was needed as well as the issue of the frequency of the review process (3-year, as proposed, or 5-year, like program review) was discussed. A friendly amendment was made to succeed the phrase “faculty senate” with the words “create and” in the first sentence of the action item. The motion to close the first reading was approved.
B. Brief discussion was given to the “Proposed Change in the Faculty Senate Constitution” (#08-03) action item. Those in attendance were largely in favor of the action item. The motion to close the first reading was approved.

IX. Information Items.
A. It was announced that a faculty compensation plan for the supervision of Creative & Scholarly WTE projects should be proposed in the near future.

X. Discussion Items.
A. It was mentioned that it is disturbing that the administration essentially ignored faculty comments and concerns about the recently approved risk management policies.

XI. The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Russell, Secretary to the Faculty Senate