

**Faculty Senate
Washburn University**

*Minutes of Nov. 10, 2008
Kansas Room, Memorial Union*

Present: Arterburn, Bowen (VPAA), Byrne, Camarda, Chorba, Concannon, Croucher, Ding, Ginzburg, Jackson, Jacobs, Kaufman, Kerchner, Khan, Lockwood, Lunte, Manske, McGuire, Porta, Pownell, Prasch (President) , Ramirez, Ray, Routsong, Russell, S. Schmidt, Sharafy, Shipley, Sullivan, Unruh, Walker, Wunder, Wynn

- I. The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:33 PM.
- II. The minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of Oct. 13, 2008 were approved.
- III. President's Opening Remarks.
 - a. Prasch made a correction to the agenda, asking senators to strike Action Item 08-06 ("Course numbering") off the agenda since it is currently under review by the Graduate Committee.
- IV. Report from the Faculty Representatives to the Board of Regents.
 - a. Prasch reported that the Board of Regents had not met since the last Senate meeting and expects to have a report on the Nov. 10 Board of Regents meeting at the next Senate meeting.
- V. Faculty Senate Committee Reports.
 - a. Minutes from the Faculty Affairs Committee meeting of Oct. 16, 2008 were approved.
- VI. University Committee Minutes.
 - a. Minutes of the Library Committee meeting of Oct. 8, 2008 were accepted.
- VII. Old Business.
 - a. Discussion was given to action item #08-10, entitled "Academic Affairs Committee proposal on criteria for upper-level general education." Prasch explained that the logic behind the proposal is to provide guidance (and in the instance of the courses already approved, de facto criteria) that will present specific language and serve as a set of guidelines for future courses. The Senate, by consensus, agreed that "sciences" should be added to the end of requirement #2 and a friendly amendment was made to add the following to the end of the proposal: "The course must also fulfill the criteria for lower-level general education courses." The Senate then voted and passed action item #08-10 as amended.
- VIII. New Business.
 - a. Joint Appointments (#08-07). Prasch reported that once paragraph "i" is revised to reflect the original language of the document previously agreed upon and passed by the Senate, the Faculty Handbook will have to be revised and the Board of Regents will also have to change the University's By-laws. Prasch told the Senate that before the Senate does a final reading of the action item, that Lee Boyd will speak to the Senate about the issues surrounding joint appointments. The Senate voted to amend the sentence "A joint petition

may be prepared, but it should clearly state the accomplishments of each individual;” by adding to the end of the sentence: “each individual may choose to present his or her own petition.” The motion that was made to close on first reading passed.

IX. Information Items.
There were none.

X. Discussion Items.

- a. Prasch gave a brief background on the issue of Summer 2-in-1 checks and Robin Bowen said she was looking to the Senate for feedback about doing away with the system. It was generally conceded that the majority of the Senate had no qualms about abolishing the 2-in-1 checks if it would simplify administrative tasks and save the university money.
- b. Bowen also asked the Senate to discuss the possibility of issuing mid-term grades for freshman as a means of focusing on retention. Bowen reported that the enrollment consultant made the recommendation and that freshman could be easily identified in the Banner system. Several senators asserted that they would also like to see other at-risk students (such as those already on probation and those who had never attended classes or stopped early on in the semester) issued mid-term grades and some senators wondered aloud whether mid-semester interventions would be too late for some struggling students. Bowen mentioned the possibility of purging students who never attended classes and thanked the senators for their questions and concerns.
- c. Mike Russell again brought forth the issue of Faculty-Administrative salary increases and Bowen explained the data on the two tables on Merit Salary Increases 2008-2009 she had distributed at the October Senate meeting. A lively debate ensued and a motion was made by Russell to have the Faculty Affairs Committee consider recommending a university policy that would require that the mean percent merit raise for faculty be identical to the mean raise for members of Senior Staff, President's Office, VP's Office, Deans and Assistant Deans, as well as the President of the University. The motion passed and was forwarded on to the Faculty Affairs Committee. Please see the minutes from the Nov. 20th Faculty Affairs Committee meeting for more information.

XI. Announcements. There were none.

XII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Sullivan, Secretary to the Faculty Senate.