

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**January 13, 2015**

*Primarily paperless, [wou.edu/facultysenate](http://wou.edu/facultysenate)*

**3:15 – 3:30 p.m.**

*Better Know a Colleague* (informal gathering, optional)

**3:30 – 5 p.m.**

*Business Meeting*

1. Call to order: 3:30 p.m.
2. Call of the roll (by circulation of sign-in sheet)  
Senators in attendance: David Foster, Paul Disney, Bojan Ilievski, Scot Morse, Michael Freeman, Kevin Helppie, Michael Phillips, Doris Cancel-Tirado, Bob Hautala, Claire Ferraris, Cornelia Paraskevas, Thomas Rand, Camila Gabaldon, Michael Baltzley, Matt Ciancetta, Bryan Dutton, Shaun Huston, Isidore Lobnibe, Scott Tighe, Mike Olivier, Carmen Caceda, Mickey Pardew, Tracy Smiles  
Officers in attendance: Laurie Burton, Erin Baumgartner, Katherine Schmidt  
Ex-Officio in attendance: Stephen Scheck, Corbin Garner
3. Corrections to and approval of minutes from previous meeting  
Approved
4. Institutional Reports
  - 4.1. Laurie Burton, Faculty Senate President
    - i). Mark Seabright, Business and Economics, is taking the lead on organizing the ad hoc scheduling committee formed per our vote at the December 9 meeting.
      - a. Division chairs have been contacted to find broad representation for this ad hoc committee.
      - b. Debbie Braun, LAS Dean's office and Tiffany Smith, COE Dean's office with both serve as ex-officio on the committee.
    - ii). IFS Sriram Khe has agreed to serve as the second IFS senator
    - iii). There will be follow up Educational Advisory Board sessions on February 19 (details to come).
    - iv). Marshall Guthrie and Cornelia Paraskevas will present detailed information about the WOU Board in February, after the January 28 WOU Board meeting, and have provided a short report for today, linked to the Faculty Senate webpage.
      - a. The Board is doing business closer to home than ever.
      - b. January 28 2 pm meeting on campus open to public.
      - c. Please share concerns and ideas with board members.
    - v). The Executive Committee has approved the following curriculum changes:
      - a. Program changes
        1. English P210
        2. Gerontology P211
        3. Exercise Science P213
        4. Community Health Education P243

- b. Course changes
  - 5. HUM 450 C106
  - 6. ENG 498 C107
  - 7. COM 351 C124
  - 8. GERO 411 C212
  - 9. PE 100 level drops C242
  - 10. PE 200 level drops C257
- c. Many curriculum changes are pending for next week. Senators will likely be asked to review in advance.

#### 4.2. Mark Weiss, University President (no report this week)

#### 4.3. Stephen Scheck, University Provost

- i). State Board of Higher Ed meetings
  - a. Cheryl Davis and Emily Plec are thanked for their attendance and participation.
  - b. Mandatory reporting on status of retrenchment at EOU and SOU. In both cases, typical steps to address retrenchment included (e.g. cutting low-enrolled courses, consolidating low-enrolled majors, reduction in release time, faculty layoffs) but also provided timely reminders of importance of consideration of future steps and how University is serving mission by tying to student demographics and needs for economic regions.
- ii). Essay by EOU interim president available in Change online magazine Sept/Oct issue addressing challenging issues facing colleges today. See the link at [http://www.changemag.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2014/September-October%202014/fruit\\_abstract.html](http://www.changemag.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2014/September-October%202014/fruit_abstract.html).
- c. December senate meeting included discussion about pre-travel authorization form. Provost's office has revised to address concerns expressed by Senators.
- d. Winter final exams should not be bumped to week 10, should be held week prior to Spring Break. The Collective Bargaining Agreement notes the requirement to hold finals during finals week.
- e. Julie Harding has shared timetable for catalog edits via email to all faculty and staff. Edit copy that does not require curriculum review process can go directly to Julie. (Laurie commented that Julie will return requests that need a formal process).
- f. Winter Preview Day February 7.
- g. Upcoming activities for Martin Luther King celebration week activities shared via email on January 10.
- h. Ongoing searches
  - 1. Faculty searches
  - 2. Financial aid director
  - 3. Registrar – offer extended, but not accepted. Danielle Ambrose will remain as interim registrar while options for support of Registrar's Office are considered.

#### 4.4. Corbin Garner, ASWOU President

- i). ASWOU blanket and cold weather gear drive is ongoing. Items can be donated at ASWOU office or nontraditional lounge

- ii). Current opening in ASWOU cabinet. Director of State and Federal Affairs-liaison to statewide student association to plan lobby visits. About 10 hours per week. Applications due Friday, January 16.
- iii). OrgSync released – tool for clubs and students on campus to become involved in clubs. Advisors have been added to OrgSync.

## 5. Consideration of Old Business

### 5.1. Placement Policy for First Year Writing Courses (approved ARC, 11.18.14) (Christine Harvey Horning, First Year Writing Program Coordinator)

- i). Proposed Placement policy based on SAT or ACT scores of 500 or 20, respectively, as cutoff for WR 135 with a challenge option if scores are close.
  - a. Statistics on Writing placement in this year's freshmen class of 857 admitted freshmen, 254 would require WR 115 under new policy (29.6%). Currently, about 159 students are self-placing into WR 115 (18.5%).
  - b. Almost 60% have SAT/ACT scores below threshold but many of those have WR 115 from dual credit or transfer in with a WR 1XX equivalent.
  - c. Business suggests that analysis of diagnostic exams is flawed because no causal experiment performed.
    - 1. Students self-placing into WR 135 were not demonstrating strong enough writing scores to succeed in WR 135. Diagnostic and exit exams were used to examine student skills and performance on those exams aligns well to performance on SAT/ACT scores.
    - 2. There is no guarantee that students will perform better in WR 135.
      - i. There is not data on cause and effect at this time as policy is not yet in place.
      - ii. There is a difference between 10 and 20 weeks of writing, and more scaffolding can take place.
      - iii. This should be considered an ongoing assessment
      - iv. Data could be collected on self-placers in WR 115 and WR 135 with low SAT/ACT scores and tracking their progress.
  - d. Number of required sections may fluctuate depending on size of incoming freshmen class each year.
  - e. There is an inherent cost connected to extending time to graduation but students are failing out of WR 135 and also failing out of upper division W courses.
  - f. Motion to approve
  - g. Approved with 21 in favor, 1 opposed.
- ii). Catalog language in LACC requirements to expand section to include placement policy and requirement to complete writing requirement by end of freshmen year.
  - a. Writing Program is open to extending requirement to end of sophomore year if Senate decides that is appropriate.
    - 1. The NSM division would like to see extension of requirement to sophomore year as it could create course registration conflicts during first year if students are also deficient in math.
  - b. Students' perspective is that WR 135 prerequisite for W courses in major also accomplishes having them take WR 135 early, although strengthening the requirement would clarify for students the importance of doing that. Students also write in many other classes not labeled W.

- c. Clarification that no advising holds or other punitive measures are associated with students not completing requirement.
  - d. Motion to approve with amendment to end of sophomore year or no more than 90 credits completed at WOU.
    - 1. Approved unanimously.
6. Consideration of New Business
- Curricular items
- 6.1. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education (new program and new courses)  
(Patrick Graham, Special Education)
- Senators, see combined curriculum proposals document DHHE\_Program\_Courses.pdf posted at [wou.edu/facultysenate](http://wou.edu/facultysenate)
- i). Graduate level program, 68 credits total, 14 courses in totality including three 1-credit practicums, requirements to include a research project and comprehensive portfolio are included.
  - ii). Of 13 Western states, only 12 such programs, with 6 in California. There are currently no programs in Oregon, Washington, Alaska or Hawaii.
  - iii). Previous program put on hold, high demand and many openings in Oregon and Washington
  - iv). TSPC review will ensure high quality with teachers considered highly qualified upon graduation. Different types of teaching to address different modalities of deaf and hard-of-hearing communication will be included in program.
  - v). In-depth details of program available via presentation linked to faculty senate home page.
  - vi). 29 students have expressed interest in program; 15 will be accepted into first cohort and the remaining will be encouraged to apply for the second cohort. .
7. Informational Presentations
- 7.1. Presidential Search Report  
(Eric Bruce, Faculty Representative, Health and Exercise Science)
- i). See document posted at [wou.edu/facultysenate](http://wou.edu/facultysenate)
  - ii). As of December 12 meeting, 6 nominations, 16 applications, and 180 statements of interest. Surge of applications expected following holiday break.
  - iii). Candidate evaluation form not well received, subcommittee formed to edit and reflect job posting more closely. Will be submitted to rest of committee for review.
  - iv). January 30 next meeting scheduled for practice round to test evaluation form and to receive update on application numbers.
- Announcements
- 7.2. Dan Clark, Director Extended Programs and the Center for Teaching and Learning
- i). Be sure to see the CTL calendar for upcoming events.
  - ii). Sriram Khe faculty fellow for Winter/Spring. Hosting conversation about what it means to be faculty in 21st Century.
8. Adjournment 4:25 p.m.

**5 – 5:15 p.m.**

*Better Know a Colleague* (informal gathering continued, optional)