**Faculty Senate Meeting 1/24/12**

**I: Roll Call: Present**

Michael Freeman, Mike LeMaster, Bob Hautala, Amanda Smith, Erin Passehl, Keven Malkewitz, Dana Ulveland, David Foster, David Doellinger, Edwin Cancel, Tracy Smiles, Maria Dantas-Whitney, Mark Van Steeter, Kathy Farrell, Tad Shannon, Michael Phillips, Cornelia Paraskevas, Claire Ferraris, Cat McGrew, Cheryl Beaver

**II. Call for Corrections to Minutes**

Correction to add member to attendance list.

**Action:** Minutes approved.

**III. President’s Reports**

**Gavin Keulks, Faculty Senate –**

Many miniscule title, credit, name, pre-req and description changes were approved in X-Com. More information upon request. None were controversial.

Revisions are being made to Senate bylaws. Will post a Google doc and send an all-fac-staff email to get feedback. They will come before Senate for approval. They have not been revised for six years.

X-Com also clarified two policies. The first was that transfer courses listed as diversity courses at another university would also count as diversity credits at WOU. This is not a new policy but ARC proposed clarification of the policy. The approved recommendation is archived in ARC’s website. The International Studies Committee proposed the second policy. It recommended that incoming international students receive the same consideration as WOU students studying abroad in regards to diversity credits for courses taken abroad. Last year the International Studies Committee was successful in securing Senate approval for students studying abroad, this proposal sought the same consideration for incoming international students.

X-Com also made a new call for all courses requesting the RP grade. Once all courses are known, they will be swept in Portal. A first call was made last year but this second call is being made in case any were missed. February 14th is the deadline.

A faculty member is needed on campus wide Sustainability Committee. Jon Tucker is looking for a volunteer. Please contact him.

**Mark Weiss, Western Oregon University –**

Does not want to spend a lot of time discussing state-wide committees. Topic of governance of institutions of higher education. Strong desire to keep this out of legislative section. Independence of University of Oregon -- don’t be surprised if this is a major topic in February. On January 26 between 2-5 pm there will be an opportunity for the university to begin a process for interested parties to seize the opportunity to prevent the hemorrhaging of losses that are foreseen in the next biannual. Representatives from Faculty Senate are already set. This is not an exclusive group by any means. Goal is to achieve 1.5 million of increased revenue by year one of next biennium and 3 million by year 2.

Comment from President Keulks: if anyone is curious about how senate representatives to this committee were chosen, the selection was the current president, current vice president and past vice president of the senate were chosen.

**Marshall Guthrie, Staff Senate –**

Will email a date for the new staff welcome.

**Jonathan Farmer, ASWOU –**

Not present.

**Kent Neely, Provosts’ Council –**

The Provosts Council approved proposal for Digital Arts.

Asked to share what enrollment figures were in Winter. Portland state has seen 4% increase in headcount. Increase of 500 non-resident students, mostly international. Eastern Oregon has had increase of 5.1% in headcount. 4.1 increase of credit hours. Southern had 3.5% increase in fulltime equivalent. 3.7% increase in student hours. OIT had a 2.3 % in enrollment and an 11% credit hour increase. Oregon had flat head count and 2.5% credit hour increase. Western had a static head count. Went from a 10% increase last year to a 0% increase this year. Noticed that students are having more difficulty with financials. Still trying to get a handle on this because it is such an abrupt change. There was also a decrease in retention rates from Freshman to Sophomore year with 76% retention last year and 68% this year. Is a priority and are currently looking into the causes for this. The numbers of students from California are continuing to rise. Are hoping this continues

The newsletter for AASCU: Consult website for specifics, ten major issues posted. First is the continuing decline of state support for higher education. The second is the cost to deliver a degree. This is a national concern. It would be helpful for everyone to take quick look to get a sense of what is affecting us. http://www.aascu.org/policy/publications/policy-matters/

Question raised about what the nonresident students retention rates are.

Answer: 10% last year. The difference is 300 students last year to 270 this year. Competition is intense. Are putting a plan together called the three plus one that would be very attractive to students.

Question about the three plus one issue. What institution does the degree come from?

Answer: The student would be finishing their degree at Western. It is available for Computer Science and Business. It consists of 48 credit hours.

Question raised about if the university has plans for commemorating Mario Pastega.

Answer: Yes something will be done but it is unsure of what. Are keeping ears open for what arrangements are. If anyone has any ideas please bring them forward. Want to remember him well.

**IV. Old Business**

**Restructure of Graduate Studies Committee/MA in Interpreting Studies Position –**

Committee on Committees has already offered their approval. This will be a new position.

**Action:** Motion made to approve. Motion seconded and approved by unanimous consent.

**V. New Business**

**CSE 623, Teaching ELL through Technology –**

Will have three ESOL courses. Student were required to take a generic technology course in the past and they did not like it or find it helpful. This new course will have specialized tools to help students learn English. They would spend the first part of term learning how to use the tools and then integrate them into projects, etc. It is a goal to make it available for all students on campus as well as off campus. This is a graduate level course. Will be first item of old business February 14th

**BM/MM Contemporary Music/Popular Music Track and BM/MM Contemporary Music/Jazz Track –**

Early on established emphasis in musical theatre. Situations are constantly evolving in music. Jazz and popular music are becoming more popular terms in music education. These come up in Google searches much more often that contemporary music. Want to identify these tracks in the catalog. In some cases the MUP would be limited for vernacular. Others have choices between electives. This can be done without any changes to the program. Want an identifier for jazz and popular music to come up simply for marketing strategy. Will be second item of old business February 14th.

**International Visiting Scholar Form –**

In Fall term, a visiting scholar from China that the math department was unaware was coming appeared at the door of her mentor. Everything was worked out; however, it is believed that the current form for international visiting scholars could be improved. Specifically, there is nowhere for the faculty mentor to sign. Want to have department head and division chair and faculty members have a line to sign on the form, as well as have a requested by line and a dean’s signature line. Will be put on senate webpage to share with division chairs. Unsure of what to do because it is not known if Faculty Senate has the power to do this. Action will probably be similar to how resolutions are written. An example of the new form compared to the old form was displayed. Will be third item of old business February 14th.

**VI. Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Report**

None.

**VII. Committee Reports**

**Joint Committee for Faculty Evaluation –**

Asking Senators to alert divisions that there will be an all-fac email with a link attached to an anonymous survey about faculty evaluation process. It will ask for feedback on open-ended questions and information about structure of classes or changes made to classes. It is crucial to hear from people about formative review. If anyone is unsure that the survey will not be anonymous, they can set up phone interview or something more fitting. This last fall, an overall response rate was 36.9%, excluding classes under 5 students. Spring information is not included because information is kept in two different places, electronically and paper. Response rate that is low and consistent are 11-30%, with most of courses falling under that. 31-50% are falling under 28% response rate. Only 16% response rate is falling over 51% of course response. An article discussing these results found that the best ways to get this information from students is to figure out how fast and easy they can get the information and how often the teachers stress its importance. Want feedback from staff at every step. Need to take this back to divisions. Really need faculty information even if they really do not care.

**VIII. Informational Presentations**

**Jensen Artic Museum –**

It has been difficult to get people to come into the museum, which has been on the end of Church St. for 26 years. Still, the museum does not get very many people from WOU. This is the only arctic museum in the Northwest and is only one of two, the other being in Maine. The arctic is comprised of Inuit or natives from Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Russia. There are many rare, beautiful and important pieces in the museum. The Canadian government has given gifts to the museum similar to gifts given to the Queen of England and Nelson Mandela. The museum relies on student volunteers. The museum has lesson plans for teachers created by students. There is a lot that students can do once they get involved. They can come to the museum for class projects or internships. The museum is currently undergoing a lot of changes. They are working on building a second exhibit space in downtown Albany. Soon the primary space will be in Albany. (Passed around many beautiful artifacts and books telling of people from the artic in Senate.)

Question raised about why Albany.

Answer: Albany expressed an interest. They were very excited.

Question raised about if they are open at Thursday at noon.

Answer: Yes but please call ahead because there are tours booked.

Question raised about if museum would shut down due to budget cuts.

Answer: Funding for the museum ended June 30th. Beginning July 1st friends of the museums began using money that was raised in foundation to continue to pay the curator. They simply need more money to keep the museum running. Friends of museums are continuing to raise money to keep it open but if funding does not come soon, it will be closed.

Question raised about what support we provide to museum. Are we giving them support in fundraising techniques?

Answer: Not sure. Someone else would be better to ask. The museum does have the same access to department resources that any other employee would. The down side is that access is there but museum is not a high priority. There is support but it looks different than what a professor may get. WOU does provide the building and heating. There is support but it is indirect vs. direct.

Comment: 1-2 years ago president Minahan discussed stopping university funding. That date has come and gone. We are now using restricted funds to continue to keep it running. Do not want to use student money or state money so we are asking friends of the museum to raise funds. There are a couple of years of funding left but realistically something new needs to happen. A new location with funding is a possible solution.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned**