

**Faculty Senate Minutes****February 28, 2017***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):, Brent King, Paul Disney, Zenon Zygmunt, Kevin Helppie, Mary Harden, Michael Phillips, Lyra Behnke, Elisa Maroney, Bob Hautala, Jennifer Taylor, Claire Ferraris, Jaime Marroquin, Thomas Rand, Sue Kunda, Michael Baltzley, Cheryl Beaver, Laurie Burton, Kimberly Jensen, Shaun Huston, Scott Tighe, Josh Schulze (substitute for Ken Carano), Chloe Hughes, Marie LeJeune, Melissa Carron (substitute for Joel Alexander)  
Ex-officio in attendance: Adele Schepige, Stephen Scheck
3. Corrections to and approval of minutes from previous meeting
  - Approved as posted
4. Institutional Reports
  - 4.1. Adele Schepige, Faculty Senate President
    - See posted report
  - 4.1.1 (Repeat) Call for University Budget Committee faculty members
    - These are advisory positions; you do not need bookkeeping or accounting skills
    - President Fuller predicts two organization meetings this spring and three to five regular meetings per year.
  - 4.1.2 Program review and self-study timeline and process questions
    - These reflect the questions that have been sent to Adele as Faculty Senate president, if you have additional questions; please send an email to Adele who is collecting such questions.
  - 4.2. Rex Fuller, University President
    - At the capitol today, testifying in the House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce on transfer issues and affordability.
  - 4.3. Stephen Scheck, University Provost
    - See posted report
    - Program review- please see the posted FS questions on program review with responses from Office of Academic Affairs for detailed responses.
    - Division chairs have been working with deans on a template
      - Hope to have volunteers for program reviews next year
    - Model UN has dinner fundraiser this Friday

- Gave a shout out to Sharyne Ryals, Social Science, complementing her on her professional and friendly help with students.
- Note, the University Budget Committee will be high level recommendations for allocating funds for strategic initiatives

## 5. Consideration of Old Business

### 5.1. International Student Success in Creative Arts, Jen Bracy, Creative Arts

- Ongoing discussion about helping international students come better prepared
- Presented statistics and data to demonstrate why TOEFL and IELTS scoring number is one of factors to consider
  - WOU requirements are TOEFL score of 61 and IELTS score of 5.0)
  - A lot of universities favor TOEFL.
  - Some studies show that IELTS is considered easier to take
  - TOEFL as point of comparison, linguistically demanding programs like visually design, recommended 5.5 score and additional English study recommended
- Considering new information presented to Creative Arts by Neng Yeng
- Difficult to assess or make changes to 2+2 program
- Are there not studies on TOEFL vs. IELTS? Have not researched that yet
- Do not want to diminish caliber of program
  - Important to recognize if students not meeting program requirements and is certainly appropriate to be reviewing any of programs
- Safety issues also involved – language challenges can compromise students and classroom safety when students do not understand safety rules
- Need to assess program but a big hurdle to get changes through Chinese ministry of education
- IELTS at OSU is 5.5, at U of O is 6.0
  - If moved up to 5.5, equal to OSU, negative ramifications are that more students would choose OSU
  - Need to rewrite proposals based on new information received
- Divisions can discuss current proposal and if questions and ideas, send directly to Jen

## 6. Consideration of New Business

### 6.1. Dual Language Specialization, Joshua Schulze, Teacher Education (P4207)

- There is a need particular with the Salem-Keizer School District
- Teachers who would like to add specialization to existing license, this program currently exists as certificate program. TSBC also requires specializations, not certificates

### 6.2. Sustainability, Mark VanSteeter, Social Sciences (P4161)

- New major that aligns closely with our new Strategic Plan; Sustainability and Stewardship
- Addresses learning outcomes: inquiry and analysis and integrative learning
- This major weaves connections between humans and environment and will be beneficial to reputation of Western and be in demand in market
- Think students would find relatively easy employment

- The Foundations in the major gives students a background and understanding in basic biology, economics and how humans and environment interact, and the concentrations allow students to focus on passion/interest. Capstone as well has a couple of options. No new faculty needed. Please send questions to Mark.

### 6.3. Art & Design Major, Rebecca McCannell, Creative Arts (P4130)

- Over past decade, we realized there is not a clear distinction between our art and design majors, and so we are merging two programs which additionally allow more flexibility. We are hoping to get away from Visual Communication major, but will leave it on the books for international students who already have 2 + 2 agreements on this. The new major has no new classes; it mimics our previous programs but streamlines the path to graduation.
- Also made same changes to minors, more flexible and reduce the hours in the BFA to (from 130) close to other university's programs
- One new class introducing- Adding 410 critique course

## 7. Informational Presentations and Committee Reports

### 7.1. Academic Infrastructure Funding Recommendations

Dirk Freymuth, Academic Infrastructure Committee Chair

- \$100,000 budget which started last year when AIC went to single round of funding for equipment purchases but not remodeling renovations.
- Total of all proposals this year just over budget (see posted document)
- All proposals did have partial funding options (is good thing if going to submit AIC proposal)
- One proposal partially funded but AIC will forward full amount of proposal even though total is \$907 over the \$100,000 allotted.

### 7.2. Chloe Hughes, Lobby Day report

- Went with a number of students to state capital on February 14
  - Rachel Gries, Ami Diaz, Rubi Tapia, Cristian Uruza, Derek Villalobos, Jorge Duran, Cynthia Olivares (Student Body President), Lilaah Jones, Jaime Hernandez, Hector Virgen, Felicia Dickinson
- Was not only to think about more funding for higher education also to consider student debt
  - Started with hearings with senators and representatives; some of newer representatives and senators actually knew little about higher education and had no plans on how to fix funding. Some senators and representatives did have plans to make greater efficiencies in higher education
- Met with individual representatives
  - Met with Paul Evans
  - Clear how much lobbying goes on by paid lobbyists at the capital
- Kate Brown came to meet with students, faculty and administration
  - Talked about plans supporting funding of higher education, particularly as measure 97 went down
  - Talked about need to make Oregon sanctuary for students

### 7.3. Sue Monahan, Academic Effectiveness

- No announcements today

8. Adjournment at: 4:33pm

**5 – 5:15 p.m.**

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