

**WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE**

**Regular Meeting, 22 October 2019, 4:00 p.m.  
Union Capitol Rooms/WIUQC Riverfront 205**

**ACTION MINUTES**

**SENATORS PRESENT:** D. Banash, M. Bean, B. Bellott, J. Choi, S. Cordes, S. Czechowski, G. Delany- Barmann, R. Dimitrov, R. Filipink, D. Hunter, I. Lauer, T. Lough, M. Maskarinec, D. Oursler, B. Perabo, C. Pynes, J. Robinett, R. Sawhney, M. Stinnett, F. Tasdan, E. Taylor, K. Zbeeb (via teleconference)

**Ex-officio:** Mark Mossman, Associate Provost; Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Parliamentarian

**SENATORS ABSENT:** J. Franken

**GUESTS:** Victoria Baramidze, Steve Bennett, Ginny Boynton, Amy Carr, Katrina Daytner, Magdelyn Helwig, Buzz Hoon, Brian Locke, Sue Martinelli-Fernandez, Laila McCloud, Rose McConnell, Kristi Mindrup (via teleconference), Eric Sheffield, Araceli Villagomez

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. October 8, 2019

Senator Stinnett remarked that on page 4, the first paragraph discusses the test-optional admissions process for high school students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3. She asked if test scores will be involved if students' high school GPAs are below 3.3. Chairperson Pynes responded that students with GPAs of 2.0 to 3.29 will have to submit their test scores and meet the formula for regular admission ( $\text{High School GPA} \times 10 + \text{ACT} \geq 46$ ).

Senator Dimitrov remarked that on page 9 he is quoted as saying that "a few years ago it was stated that butter production in Bangladesh is the best predictor of the Dow Jones Average, but if there is no narrative it is impossible to use that correlation." He clarified that there is actually a correlation in both cases. Chairperson Pynes asked if it would be more accurate to replace "predictor" with "correlation"; Senator Dimitrov agreed to that change.

**MINUTES APPROVED AS CORRECTED**

Senator Tasdan if there is a formula that determined why the regular admissions GPA cut off is 3.3 rather than, for instance, 3.25. Chairperson Pynes responded that at the last Senate meeting, senators were provided with a table and report from CAGAS. He said that, essentially, CAGAS and Admissions considered the data, and students with high school GPAs of 3.3 retain at a higher average than WIU's currently enrolled students. He stated that there were 19 individuals who applied to WIU in Fall 2019 with 4.0 GPAs but a 14 or 15 ACT score -- which would equate to over 46 in the regular admission model -- who were denied admission because the University had a hard line at 16 ACT. He observed that the model predicts that students with a 3.3 GPA or higher are likely to be retained, and there are about 150 students in that group -- about 88 percent of whom had a 14 or 15 ACT and who would now be able to be admitted.

II. Announcements

A. Approvals from the President

1. Change to WIU Freshman Admission Policy

B. Provost's Report

Associate Provost Mark Mossman stated that Interim Provost Billy Clow and Associate Provost Russ Morgan could not be present for today's meeting. Interim Provost Clow asked Associate Provost Mossman to communicate the positive news that approximately 20 new hires have been approved

across the four colleges. He said the goal is for this announcement that there is hiring going on at WIU to be a “big splash.” Associate Provost Mossman expressed the recognition by the Provost’s Office that these hires do not meet the current need; every department needs hires, and everyone is working hard, but this is a first step forward. He invited senators if they have questions about the new hires to email Interim Provost Clow. Senator Bellott asked if Interim Provost Clow could email senators a list of departments with new hires; Associate Provost Mossman replied affirmatively. Chairperson Pynes replied that he will ask Interim Provost Clow to email the list to the Recording Secretary for distribution to senators. Senator Bellott asked if Interim Provost Clow could also describe the criteria used to determine who would be hired. Chairperson Pynes asked if Interim President Abraham created a new criterion for how the hiring process will work. Senator Robinett responded that there is a new hiring form. He related that the new form asks for specific information which is sent to the deans, who rank those requests and then move them forward to the Provost’s Office.

C. Student Government Association Report  
(Aracelli Villagomez, Director of Academic Affairs)

Ms. Villagomez was not present during the SGA report time but provided this report following the meeting:

The deadline for SGA scholarships has been extended to October 28 at 11:59 p.m. Students are encouraged to apply on PurplePost.

SGA plans to make another appointment to the Council on Student Activities Funds (CSAF) at tonight’s meeting. Jordan Huff will be appointed to fill that seat. The SGA Cabinet still has a vacant seat for a Vice President of Finance.

The Mayors Roundtable will be held tomorrow (Wednesday, October 23) at 7:00 p.m. at Macomb City Hall. This is open to all interested students.

A. Other Announcements

1. At the request of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, Faculty Senate will host an open forum for questions and discussion about the processes and priorities for the next WIU presidential search. All faculty members, as well as department chairs and academic directors, are welcome to attend. The forum will be held from 4:00-5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 29 in Morgan Hall 109. The Board of Trustees also plans to send out a campus wide survey where all administrators, faculty, staff, and students will be able to make their thoughts known to the Board.

Chairperson Pynes told senators that the Executive Committee decided to hold the forum next Tuesday because many people keep that day and time free for Senate meetings. He stated that there will be a future meeting for Quad Cities faculty which will be scheduled by Board of Trustees Chair Polly Radosh; Trustee Patrick Twomey also plans to attend the forums. Chairperson Pynes told senators that this is a good opportunity for them to be able to talk to the Chair of the BOT. He added that reminder emails about the forum will be sent out on Thursday, October 24 and Monday, October 28. Questions about the forum can be directed to Trustee Radosh or Chairperson Pynes.

2. The video recording of the curricular workshop presented by the Faculty Senate Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (CCPI) has been posted on CCPI’s website: [http://www.wiu.edu/faculty\\_senate/committees/facultysenate/ccpi/index.php](http://www.wiu.edu/faculty_senate/committees/facultysenate/ccpi/index.php). The PowerPoint presentation which accompanies the video can also be found on the website, as well as the handout from the workshop session.

III. Reports of Committees and Councils

A. Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (CCPI)

(Steve Bennett, Chair)

Dr. Bennett told senators that CCPI only met for the first time this semester two weeks ago, and the meeting scheduled for this Thursday, October 24 is cancelled. He told senators that if any of their departments have curricular items to submit, CCPI would welcome them; the Council would rather have requests spread out than to have them all submitted at the end of the academic year.

1. Curricular Requests from the Department of Chemistry

a. Request for New Course

- i. CHEM 453, Forensic Mass Spectrometry, 3 s.h.

**NEW COURSE APPROVED**

b. Request for Change of Major

- i. Forensic Chemistry

Dr. Bennett pointed out that the major hours were reduced by 1 s.h., which is rare.

Senator Cordes asked what the difference is between Instrumental Analysis (CHEM 442, which is being dropped) and Forensic Mass Spectrometry (CHEM 453, which is being added). Chemistry Chair Rose McConnell responded that Instrumental Analysis covers a variety of instruments which are needed for Chemistry majors. This course had been used for the Forensic Chemistry majors as well, but students majoring in Forensic Chemistry will cover a number of other instruments in different specific courses, and Forensic Mass Spectrometry will be added to cover that topic more in depth than the course being deleted.

**CHANGE OF MAJOR APPROVED**

2. Curricular Requests from the Department of Mathematics and Philosophy

a. Request for New Option

- i. Actuarial Science (Option D)

Chairperson Pynes remarked there is a lot of support from different departments for this new option and expressed surprise that it has not been offered before now.

**NEW OPTION APPROVED**

B. Council on Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID)  
(Brian Locke, Chair)

1. Proposed Changes to Guidelines and Request Forms

Dr. Locke told senators that the WID Council has submitted rewrites of four crucial documents that were completed over the last academic year. He related that the changes were substantial enough that the Council decided to provide a before and after for each document to senators, in large part because the original numbering system will now be distributed throughout several new categories.

Senator Robinett asked what “tutorials” refers to and what would happen if a department does not offer tutorial programs. The proposed WID guidelines state that “The course(s) must include some form of instructional support for writing. This can include, but is not limited to: writing textbook, in-class instructional activities, group work on writing, conferences with course instructor, and tutorial support.” Writing Center Director Magdelyn Helwig, who serves ex-officio on the WID Council, responded that instead of tutorial support students can be sent to the Writing Center for assistance. Dr. Locke added that graduate assistants can be provided as another form of support. He noted that this is not a codified element of the guidelines.

Senator Hunter asked about references to WID class size of 20:1 and 25:1 in the current and proposed documents. Dr. Helwig explained that 20:1 would be the ideal WID class size, but 25:1 is required; this ratio was set many years ago, so it is not a change. Dr. Locke pointed out that the current guidelines are included in senators’ packets as a visual exemplar.

### **NO OBJECTIONS TO CHANGES TO WID DOCUMENTS**

Chairperson Pynes observed that there were concerns that the WID Council website is a bit outdated given that the documents on it were not consistent, but the Council will be working on updating that this semester.

Senator Cordes asked what resources are drawn upon to illustrate genre forms. Dr. Helwig responded that the WID Council has asked for the use of exemplars and some sort of text. She pointed out that one of the questions on the Request for WID Designation Form asks what exemplar materials are used. She added that part of the revamping of the website will be providing better resources. Chairperson Pynes remarked that Senator Lauer asked about online exemplars during the Executive Committee meeting.

Senator Tasdan asked if Mathematics writing courses are regulated by these guidelines. Chairperson Pynes responded that they would be only if they have been designated as WID courses. Senator Tasdan stated that MATH 391 is the WID course, but how WID is taught in this course is different than what is being discussed. Chairperson Pynes suggested that the WID Chair could meet with the department to discuss this if desired. Senator Lauer recalled that when the current WID guidelines were proposed, code writing was determined to meet the WID criteria. He recalled that this question was raised five or six years ago, and the argument was made that this was writing in their discipline.

#### IV. Old Business – None

#### V. New Business

##### A. For the Good of the Body

Chairperson Pynes suggested that if senators cannot attend the faculty forum to discuss the presidential search, this could be discussed now, but there were no comments.

**Motion:** To adjourn (Bellott)

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Susan Czechowski, Senate Secretary

Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary