

## WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Regular Meeting, 10 October 2020, 4:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

### ACTION MINUTES

**SENATORS PRESENT:** D. Banash, M. Bean, B. Bellott, M. Bernards, L. Brice, A. Carr, J. Choi, S. Cordes, R. Dimitrov, R. Filipink, D. Hunter, I. Lauer, T. Lough, S. Macchi, M. Maskarinec, D. Oursler, C. Pynes, J. Robinett, R. Sawhney, M. Stinnett, E. Taylor, J. Wroblewski, K. Zbeeb

**Ex-officio:** Billy Clow, Interim Provost; Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Parliamentarian

#### SENATORS ABSENT:

**GUESTS:** S. Bennett, T. Blackford, D. Carithers, C. Conrad, D. DeVolder, S. Martinelli-Fernandez, F. Godwyll, A. Hamm, R. Hamm, W. Hoon, G. Hunter, M. Inman, A. Lynn, K. Mindrup, R. Morgan, M. Mossman, M. Narvaez, L. Oden, E. Orwig, M. Owens, S. Rock, T. Sadler, J. Stiermann, B. Thompson

#### I. Consideration of Minutes

##### A. 1 September 2020

The 1 September 2020 minutes were tabled to a future meeting without objection.

#### II. Announcements

##### A. Provost's Report

Interim Provost Clow acknowledged that university employees have been subject to an unemployment scam. Jeanette Malafa is working with other state-wide leaders to protect WIU employees from the scam. If you get a call or email from Human Resources or IDES, please reply that you still work at WIU. Provost Clow will provide other relevant information to employees caught up in the scam.

Chairperson Pynes mentioned there were three members of the executive committee affected by the fraudulent unemployment claims. Senator Brice mentioned that he received a call from IDES in which he was informed that private employers were being affected by fraudulent unemployment claims as well. Chairperson Pynes said that everyone should follow the advice provided by HR.

Interim Provost Clow stated that the Office of Distance Education and Support (ODES) announcements will be sent out at the end of the week to fill the position held by retired Director of the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR), Roger Runquist. He also mentioned that a third instructional designer was hired; however, the university had one designer resign. Interim Provost Clow mentioned that we're hoping to hire another designer in the near future.

Interim Provost Clow congratulated the Provost's Excellence Award winners:

- Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching: Emily Shupe, Department of Kinesiology.
- Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Internationalizing the Campus: Rebekah Buchanan, Department of English.
- Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in University/Community Service: Megan Owens, Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration.
- Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching with Technology: Jason Franken, School of Agriculture.
- Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Scholarly/Creative/Performance/Professional Activities: Sherry Lindquist, Department of Art and Design.
- Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Multicultural Teaching: Edmund Asare, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

- Outstanding Academic Advisor: Kelly Morris, University Advising and Academic Support Center.

Interim Provost Clow also acknowledged Dr. Brian Locke of the School of Music was named the 2021 Distinguished Faculty Lecture.

B. Student Government Association Report  
(Elizabeth Orwig, SGA representative to Faculty Senate)

SGA had Interim President Abraham visited and discussed what campus would look like in the spring. He expressed that things would be very similar. Molly Bird was elected Senator at-large. University Housing and Dining visited SGA to address concerns and the benefits of the new contract.

SGA scholarships were also awarded with an announcement coming before Thanksgiving. SGA also recently met with the Mayor Inman to discuss the city demographics and what part the university and students play in that for offerings of things like restaurants.

Admissions and Student Services' office of traditional programs will visit SGA at their next meeting.

C. Other Announcements

1. Spring for Books:

Lisa Melz-Jennings announced the yearly request for springs for books campaign. Lisa Melz-Jennings reminded us that the campaign was started by academic advisors a few years ago to focus on students in need—in particular those students who didn't have enough money for books.

Lisa Melz-Jennings expressed thanks to the faculty and others for past gifts and for spreading the work. Everyone should watch for an email from Timothy Hallinan for the springs for books campaign. She proudly announced that one hundred percent of gifts received go to supply books for students. She mentioned that thirteen scholarships were awarded last year and twelve scholarships will be awarded this year. Lisa Melz-Jennings acknowledged and thanked the Senate for their support. Chairperson Pynes mentioned that he included the spring for books form in the Faculty Senate digital package and everyone should have access to that form.

**MOTION:** Senator Brice moved to reorder the agenda to have New Business Item A. moved to (now) before Announcement Item 2. Motion Seconded by Senator Lauer.

Senator Lauer and Brice withdraw their motion to reorder the agenda.

2. Mayor Michael J Inman, Mayor of Macomb:

Mayor of Macomb, Michael J. Inman is happy to be at the Faculty Senate meeting today. He is here to announce a proclamation making 10 November 2020, Russell and Annette Hamm Day. The proclamation reads:

**Whereas**, Russell and Annette Hamm are lifelong Macomb residents who met, married, flourished, and have given back to the community at every turn.

**Whereas**, Russell and Annette Hamm have four children—A.J., Paris, Britain, and Rome—who they raised in Macomb.

**Whereas,** Russell and Annette Hamm promoted higher education at Western Illinois University by graduating and sending all their children to WIU for a family total of ten degrees from WIU – six undergraduate and four graduate degrees.

**Whereas,** Russell Hamm has served the Macomb community as a “founding father” of La Familia in 1982, as an original board member of the Macomb Area Umpires Association, by volunteering and maintaining the lawns at the Unitarian/Universalist Church, as a Trustee and Treasurer of Everly Park, as Park Board Commissioner, as a volunteer YMCA coach, a member of Macomb Beautiful, and as a 20 year employee at Western Illinois University.

**Whereas,** Annette Hamm has served the Macomb community as the chair of the Edison School candy bar fundraiser for seven years, as chair of the Parent Teacher Organization for 11 years, as the scheduler of the Macomb Area Umpires Association for 18 years, as a member of Macomb Beautiful, and as a 38 year employee at Western Illinois University with the last 18 years as the constant public face of the Faculty Senate.

**Whereas,** Russell and Annette Hamm retired together from Western Illinois University on June 30, 2020 with a combined service of 58 years.

**Therefore:**

I, Michael J. Inman, Mayor of the City of Macomb, Illinois do hereby proclaim

Tuesday, November 10, 2020 as: **Russell and Annette Hamm Day**

I encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing Mr. and Mrs. Hamm for their numerous contributions to Western Illinois University and the Macomb community.

**MOTION:** Senator Brice moved to reorder the agenda to have new business item A to occur before reports of committees and councils. Senator Lauer seconds.

**MOTION PASSES WITHOUT OBJECTION**

New Business

A. Resolution Celebrating the Career, Dedication and Excellence of Annette Hamm

Chairperson Pynes announces that there are a few guests who would like to speak.

Dennis DeVolder, Director of the School of Computer Science and former Chair of the Faculty Senate is recognized to offer a statement supporting Annette Hamm for the Senate record.

“Annette Hamm made my work on the Faculty Senate much more bearable. I could not have asked for a better office manager. Annette's sharp memory for all things across the Senate and its councils provided answers more quickly than I could have hoped. Her organizational skills moved mountains of paperwork on tight timelines. Her ability to distill the content of Senate meetings into minutes that were clear in meaning spared many of us from our own outbursts and rambles. Her willingness to take on additional tasks helped me to meet deadlines when outside duties as Senate chair generated more work than I could accomplish on my own. In the most busy and difficult times, Annette accomplished all of this with positive words and a smile.

I rarely meet people who love their job as much as Annette loved hers. In all of my years on Senate, including three years as Annette's supervisor, Annette seemed both happy and excited to be at work. She never had a bad word to say about anyone, even if they deserved it, and her positive outlook was contagious. Annette's skill as an outstanding office manager earned multiple awards and recognition, and the people she worked with tried to recruit her. Sherman Hall couldn't get her, I couldn't hire her away to Computer Sciences; we all failed because Annette loved the Senate. I knew that she wanted to remain Senate office manager until retirement, and while it didn't go exactly as planned, that's what she did.

It is a great pleasure to be able to participate in this celebration of Annette Hamm's contributions to the Faculty Senate and to Western Illinois University. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.”

Steve Rock, Professor of Economics, Emeritus and former Faculty Senate chair for seven years:

“I echo Dennis DeVolder’s comments. Annette was the glue that kept the Senate together. For the Senate to function efficiently we needed good work in the office, and Annette did the best job of anyone. She kept all the Senate committees and councils running smoothly, served on multiple provost and presidential searches, and overall made it all work. I wish her and Russ all the best in retirement and know that she will be hard to replace.”

Chairperson Pynes states: Before reading the resolution, I want to make a short comment about Annette, and I can’t agree more with Dennis and Steve and their comments.

Chairperson Pynes offers his remarks for the Senate Record. “First, I always bristled when Annette would refer to me as her boss. I think she liked doing it because it made me uncomfortable. Truth be told, that relationship was reversed except for when I had to approve her timecards. The four years I was chair with Annette at the table were my finest years at WIU in large part due to her guidance and insistence on our established processes. If someone asked me who my favorite colleague at WIU has been during my 16 years, there is no question, it is Annette Hamm.

Second, what makes Annette wonderful in my mind, and why she was such a great person to be the foundation or backbone of the Faculty Senate at a university is simple: she loves words, she loves reading, and she loves learning. Discussing books, language, and learning with her never got old—even though she’s wrong about extra credit, but oddly compelling on defending two nights for celebrating Halloween. Annette embodies the values of a university education, and that’s why she supported it every day at work, lives it every night at home, and encourages it in all her children and friends. She is hopelessly committed to reading, WIU, and the Faculty Senate. I am grateful for the kind of person she is and to be able to call her a colleague and friend.”

Annette Hamm expressed thanks to everyone and hoped that Mayor Inman was listening to the two nights for Halloween comment. She wants to thank everyone for the kind words. The last 18 years working for the Faculty Senate have meant the world to her. It was her honor to work for the Faculty Senate.

Chairperson Pynes on behalf of the Executive Committee and Senators offers the following resolution.

### **Western Illinois University Faculty Senate Resolution Honoring the Career, Dedication, and Excellence of Annette Hamm**

#### **RATIONALE**

**WHEREAS**, The Faculty Senate at Western Illinois University has been in Existence for more than a half century; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm has been the longest serving Recording Secretary and Office Manager in the long and august history of the Faculty Senate serving four Presidents, six Provosts, and nine separate Faculty Senate Chair tenures; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm has witnessed and endured more lengthy faculty conversations, extended debates, and important discussion about university governance and curriculum than any other person in the history of Western Illinois University with over 700 Senate, Executive Committee, and CCPI meetings attended; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm recorded and chronicled more detailed minutes of the lengthy conversations, extended debates, and engaged discussion about university governance than any person in the history of Western Illinois University with over 1500 hours of shorthand recorded minutes and more than 5000 pages of typed minutes produced; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm has performed her duties with uncommon grace, diligence, patience, insight, efficiency, and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm is a singular faculty resource in that she retains more institutional memory than any other employee on campus and shares that knowledge to those in need; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm guided Executive Committees, Senate Chairs, Council Chairs, and numerous administrators without the slightest hint of self-aggrandizement or false pride; and

**WHEREAS**, The Honorable Annette Hamm consistently defended faculty, faculty voice, and faculty governance in all areas that affect the welfare of the University defined by the Senate Constitution and approved by the Board of Trustees.

## **RESOLUTION**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Faculty Senate of Western Illinois University bestows upon Annette Hamm the Honorary rank and title of “Emeritus Senator-at-Large” with all the benefits, advantages, and responsibilities accruing to that position.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT** this Resolution be permanently recorded in, and distributed via, the Minutes of the Western Illinois University Faculty Senate.

## **RESOLUTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT OBJECTION**

### III. Reports of Committees and Councils

#### A. Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (Steve Bennett, Chair)

##### 1. Report to Modify CCPI Forms

Fifteen CCPI forms are being offered for modification. Associate Provost Mark Mossman expresses that for the benefit of HLC accreditation, these modifications to the forms will be useful for showing two things: student learning assessment and that courses are linked to the mission of the institution. That our mission is operationalized in the curriculum.

Mossman states that going forward these forms could be used to indicate that our curriculum process does these two things and that we don't have to have actual data for the upcoming HCL visit.

Chairperson Pynes asked Associate Provost Mossman if he has example language that could be used to fulfill what CCPI might be looking for with these changes so that Senators and others will know what is expected from these changes in forms. Chairperson asks if there is something like the list of CCPI verbs that could be offered to folks to model the linkages language.

Senator Banash expresses concern that assessment is on all the forms, and that he can easily think of classes that won't offer assessment data that goes to directly support the mission of the institution. This strikes Senator Banash as having unintended consequences. Namely, either that it prevents courses and programs that don't have clear linkages or it will promote bad assessment. Would it be acceptable to say that assessment that is linked to the mission played no role in the creation of a course? Associate Provost Mossman indicated that he had a similar conversation with Senator Robinett over email recently. Associate Provost Mossman expressed that this aspect of the form isn't designed to be

prohibitive, but rather a way to help disciplines grow a culture of students learning assessment since different disciplines have easier or more difficult methods of assessment. If you need to put N/A, then you can put N/A.

Senator Banash is also concerned that faculty members are losing control of curriculum and that there is more external control of these processes, but he does understand the point of assessment for accreditation. Senator Banash worries about the creeping influence into faculty control of curriculum more broadly. Associate Provost Mossman doesn't think this is the place for us to have a debate about good versus bad assessment or if we should have it at all. The point here is to strengthen our evidence that we have assessment on campus.

Senator Filipink agrees with Senator Banash and thinks this is a slippery slope moment where we add two seemingly innocuous lines to all these forms, and it strips away faculty autonomy to appease HLC accreditors. But now these requests will be with us after HLC goes. Senator Filipink worries that giving up authority for a bit of convenience is to give up that authority forever and doesn't see the long-term value. Senator Filipink doesn't think these need to be added to the multi-purpose change form. Changing course numbers seems to not be the kind of activity that needs to be attached to the university mission or assessment.

Senator Filipink states that it is unclear why a course on the history of the Persian Gulf war needs to be linked to the mission of the instruction or have a component of assessment above the student's grade in the course.

Chairperson Pynes points out that the stated mission (or mission statement) of the university doesn't actually capture the full mission of the institution and so there are going to be cases where a course might satisfy the mission of the institution, but not the stated mission (mission statement) because the stated mission (mission statement) actually underdetermines what the full mission of the university as a university is. This is similar to how when we removed the diversity requirement from the forms because you might not be able to increase diversity of say a math, logic, or history of philosophy of science class. Chair Pynes says that some classes are offered at a university because of the big mission of the institution which isn't expressed by the stated mission.

Senator Bernards asks Associate Provost Mossman what is meant by annual student learning assessment activities? Chairperson Pynes indicated that there are different types of assessment: general education, major assessment, and program assessment. Associate Provost Mossman agrees and states that our assessment and curriculum and governance models are really good for HLC purposes. But long term he believes that these requested changes will be good for helping faculty think about student learning assessment, which is relevant and useful.

Chairperson Pynes recommends a Senator make a motion to table this issue until Associate Provost Mossman provides model language and an assurance that N/A in cases wouldn't be justification to reject a course or other change.

Senator Brice moves to table the request to modify CCPI forms. Senator Filipink Seconds.

#### **MOTION TO TABLE PASSES WITH 17 YES VOTES**

IV. Old Business – None

V. New Business

A. Resolution Celebrating the Career, Dedication and Excellence of Annette Hamm

Reordered to earlier in the meeting after other announcements 2.

B. IBHE Faculty Advisory Council Update & Discussion (Senator Carr)

Senator Carr mentioned that senators who are interested in the IBHE strategic plan, can find the IBHE meeting on the September's PowerPoint on the IBHE website.. The strategic plan is a consultant lead study and it is focusing on equity and underserved students and placing higher ed in the larger context of K-12 education.

Senator Carr is concerned that there isn't enough faculty input on these bodies. In particular the issue of dual credit teacher credentialing, which the current draft of the strategic plan seeks to expand. This is an effort to get more high school teachers eligible to teach dual credit college courses. This is an effort to outsource faculty labor and these documents are almost complete created without faculty input.

Senator Carr believes that we as faculty need to pay attention to the legislation as it is proposed later in the fall and into next year. She quoted some of the questions on the strategic plan draft, including "How do we restructure the size, scale and mix of delivery models to meet community needs and available resources?" This raises concerns about alternative credentialing and badges and the like. Another question in the strategic plan draft is, "How do we collaborate with the K-12 systems to develop stronger partnerships to support college pathways and what is the role of early college?" Senator Carr stated she thought it was important for the strategic plan to highlight scholarships and research of faculty for the production of knowledge, but that research and scholarship are diminished if college teaching shifts significantly to high school teachers.

Senator Carr also stated WIU should consider setting limits on dual courses. She mentioned that questions and comments from WIU faculty were placed on the IBHE website anonymously.

C. For the Good of the Body – None

**Motion:** To adjourn (Brice)

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:55 p.m.