

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Regular Meeting, 28 April 2020, 4:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

ACTION MINUTES

SENATORS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: J. Albarracin, D. Banash, M. Bean, B. Bellott, J. Choi, S. Cordes, S. Czechowski, G. Delany-Barmann, R. Filipink, J. Franken, 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: Billy Clow, Interim Provost; Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Parliamentarian

SENATORS ABSENT: None

GUESTS VIA ZOOM: Martin Abraham, Andrea Alveshere, Steve Bennett, Mark Bernards, Tom Blackford, Ginny Boynton, Jeff Brown, Merrill Cole, Katrina Daytner, Dennis DeVolder, Drew Donahoo, Jack Elfrink, Spencer Foust, Doug Freed, Shankar Ghimire, Charlene Gruel, Angela Lynn, Sue Martinelli-Fernandez, Jim McQuillan, Kristi Mindrup, Russ Morgan, Jill Myers, Kat Myers, Miguel Narvaez, Lorette Oden, Renee Polubinsky, Tim Roberts, Jim Schmidt, Emily Shupe, Gary Swegan, Melissa Telles, Bill Thompson, Sam Thompson, Araceli Villagomez, Gregg Woodruff

Chairperson Pynes asked attendees to mute their Zoom microphones and made it so that all chat communication, except for that between moderators (ExCo), would be public to everyone.

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. April 14, 2020

MINUTES APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED

II. Announcements

A. Provost's Report

Interim Provost Clow reported that efforts are being made to get ready for a virtual commencement ceremony to be held at 10:00 a.m. on May 9. He stated that there will be a very short ceremony that does not in any way take the place of a real commencement. Results of a survey sent to graduates regarding options for a much more formal ceremony in the fall shows that they would like it, according to the Provost, "the sooner the better." Interim Provost Clow said the administration is now waiting on the state to see when the University might be able to host a crowd of the size that might gather for a graduation ceremony, and he does not know when that might be. He added that the University is committed to doing something at some point to recognize the May 2020 graduates so that they can get their diplomas (covers) and honors recognitions.

Interim Provost Clow told senators that the administration has groups looking at options for the fall, such as speeding up the time table or breaking the semester into pieces. He noted that institutions are considering pretty much every option but very few have actually committed to a plan of action at this point because no one knows where things are headed. He observed that *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has published a list of different ideas for being able to deliver all sorts of resources for students and faculty. Interim President Abraham would like to have a decision made by no later than the end of June, but Interim Provost Clow stressed that the University is partly at the mercy of what the Governor decides and where the state goes.

Interim Provost Clow recognizes that there are a number of people who have been with the institution for a long time who are retiring, but they did not plan on going out this way. He feels bad that these individuals will not get the same sort of send off that traditionally is given to retirees. Interim Provost Clow hopes that departments consider some option down the road to honor those

retiring at the end of this academic year because this is not how anyone planned to leave after putting in a long career. He hopes the University can consider how to celebrate these retirees and all they have given to WIU over the years.

Senator Perabo asked Interim Provost Clow to talk about student and faculty representation on the groups discussing Fall 2020 options. She asked if Faculty Senate or SGA were asked to provide these reps. Interim Provost Clow replied that SGA has a group looking at options, too, and the two groups will get together at some point. He said the group is being kept small in order keep it as nimble as possible. This group includes faculty, chairs, the Registrar, and other representatives. Interim Provost Clow promised to bring everything forward at some point.

Senator Perabo had a student ask her about the timing for disbursement from the student emergency funds or notification as to whether students have been approved to receive them. Interim Provost Clow does not know if WIU has actually received the funding yet, although he knows that the University has received notification about it. He believes the funds will be disbursed as soon as possible after their receipt once the Governor releases the funding.

Senator Tasdan recalled that at the beginning of spring semester there was talk about hiring 20-25 faculty members, and he wonders what the status of those hires is now. Interim Provost Clow replied that about 12 have been hired so far, but it has been a brutal, long process. He is still trying to negotiate with Interim President Abraham, and final decisions will need to be made by next week on the remaining positions. Senator Tasdan asked if Interim Provost Clow knows how many might be hired for next year. Interim Provost Clow responded that budgets are being looked at for next year, but the University suspects funding will be considerably down from the state. He said the University knows that there will be some sort of cut from the state; he hopes there will be a flat budget but does not think that is probably realistic. Interim Provost Clow added that the administration is looking at all the options, and he is pushing to get as many positions filled as he still can.

Senator Bellott asked about collecting data for Gen Ed and department-designed assessment courses for this semester. Interim Provost Clow responded that some information on departmental assessments has been put together and will be sent out tomorrow. He related that Assessment Coordinator Lori Baker-Sperry has compiled some basics of what can be done to make this semester's assessment process as minimally invasive as it can be.

Senator Hunter asked if there will be any faculty responsibilities for the virtual commencement. Interim Provost Clow responded that there will not, other than he would love for people to watch the ceremony.

Chairperson Pynes related that someone in the audience wants to know if there will be a review of the Geographic Information Science and Meteorology programs. Interim Provost Clow responded that there will be some of that today in terms of what they are doing curricularly.

Senator Stinnett asked when offers will be made to those faculty who have previously received verbal offers. Interim Provost Clow responded that because of the change in process, as far as he knows the only verbal offers would have come through Academic Personnel to the dozen or so faculty who have already been hired. He added that there may have been conversations, but no other offers should have been made outside of Academic Personnel because that is the only area currently allowed to make offers. Senator Stinnett related that her School was instructed to interview and told to hurry the process; they worked really hard in early spring and went through the proper channels. She related that School of Education Interim Director Eric Sheffield did what he was supposed to do regarding making those offers, and she now thinks this is kind of hanging out there in the administrative stratosphere, perhaps waiting for the President to complete the process. She added that faculty were wondering where this was because those waiting to be hired are valuable faculty members and will be snatched up by another institution if WIU does not close the deal. Interim Provost Clow understands this since a couple of faculty in other areas have been lost, and he is making a last dash effort to look at positions and budgets. He noted that everything changed around

spring break, and WIU was thrown into a different world. Since that time, Interim Provost Clow has been making a case for as many faculty positions as he can.

C. Student Government Association Report
(Araceli Villagomez, SGA Representative to Faculty Senate)

SGA voted last week for the President, Vice President, and BOT representative for next year. Daria Levchenko was elected SGA President; Kinsey Tiemann was elected Vice President; and Justin Brown was re-elected to the Trustee position. Ms. Villagomez said the candidates have been very active on Facebook. Chairperson Pynes observed that this will be Mr. Brown's third year as a member of the Board of Trustees, which might be a record.

D. Other Announcements

Chairperson Pynes has received a few emailed questions about the search for the 12th President of Western Illinois University. He has met with Board of Trustees Chair Polly Radosh and BOT Search Committee Rep Mark Twomey several times. They interviewed three search companies a little over a week ago and selected one of them for the Presidential Search. The name of the firm will not be announced until the paperwork is complete and the firm is notified. Chairperson Pynes anticipates that an initial search committee meeting will be held very soon to get things underway. He also announced that the Board of Trustees has chosen the two remaining members of the search committee, the public representatives from Macomb and the Quad Cities. A member of the audience asked on the group chat about the names of the public members. Chairperson Pynes promised to have those updated on the Faculty Senate webpage tomorrow. The Macomb representative is Belinda Carr, and the Quad Cities representative will be Steve McCann. Senator Oursler asked about the names of the search firms. Chairperson Pynes replied that there were three search companies who submitted bids: Greenwood Asher and Associates, Diversified Search, and WittKiefer. The three interviews with the search firms were held via zoom, and Chairperson Pynes will be happy to send the links to anyone who wishes to view them; the interviews lasted one hour and 40 minutes.

Chairperson Pynes expressed his thanks to outgoing senators for their service this past year and reminded them that their service does not end until the day before the start of fall semester. Chairperson Pynes welcomed Emily Shupe (Kinesiology), who won the tie-breaker to represent the College of Education and Human Services for a three-year term on Faculty Senate beginning this fall. He noted that Sebastian Szyjka was a good senator in the past but lost the card draw tie-breaker. Chairperson Pynes also thanked Recording Secretary Annette Hamm for her hard work on behalf of Faculty Senate.

Senator Tasdan asked about enrollment numbers. Interim Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Gary Swegan responded that he is very pleased right now with where enrollment numbers stand. He warned, however, that the coronavirus has been the subtext for enrollment, and no one can predict what the impact will be other than anticipating that it will not be good. Dr. Swegan stated that 4,287 students have registered so far for Fall 2020, so the University is running in very good shape compared to last year when looking at number of days until the start of fall semester. He noted that a date-to-date comparison is not as positive, but the semester starts a week later this year. New student numbers are up 16 percent as indicated by freshmen housing payments. Interim Associate Vice President Swegan related that Admissions began reaching out to freshmen once they were informed that the University would be going to some version of an online Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) and began allowing them to register early. He said 305 freshmen have registered so far, which they would have been unable to do in previous years so there is no way to identify if that is good, but he did not expect that so many would be willing to make that commitment this early. Interim Associate Vice President Swegan said that if the University were not experiencing the effects of the pandemic, he would be comfortable asserting that numbers would be up for new students in all categories -- freshmen, transfers, and graduate students. He feels good about the expressed goal of having a higher headcount in the fall than there was this past spring, but warned that all bets are off because of COVID-19. He added that the sooner that decisions can be made for Fall 2020, the better off he thinks the University will be.

Parliamentarian McIlvaine-Newsad asked if the University is considering offering students single rooms for safety for the fall semester since there is open residence hall space available. Interim Provost Clow replied that there have been conversations about this but he does not know what housing is planning at this point. He pointed out that even if students are put in separate rooms, they would still not have separate restrooms, and the University is unsure how to prevent them going into another person's room together.

Senator Oursler asked if there has been any movement on the search for a Dean for the College of Education and Human Services. Interim Provost Clow responded that the Dean search is going forward; it is in negotiations at the moment, and Interim Provost Clow hopes that an announcement can be made very soon. Chairperson Pynes asked about the search for a Dean of the College of Business and Technology. Interim Provost Clow responded he hopes that the results of a number of the administrative searches that have been run will be able to be announced at the same time.

III. Reports of Committees and Councils

A. Council on Admission, Graduation, and Academic Standards (CAGAS) (Mark Bernards, Chair)

1. Proposed Changes to Freshmen Admissions Policy

Dr. Bernards explained that CAGAS unanimously approved a proposal from Admissions for a test-optional, automatic admissions policy for students with high school GPAs of 2.75 or higher for Fall 2020 through Fall 2021; students with GPAs of 2.74 or lower would go through a holistic review. An email from Chairperson Bernards listing some of CAGAS's thoughts about the proposal was included with senators' materials for this meeting. Chairperson Bernards informed senators that many of WIU's peer institutions have already adopted similar policies, and CAGAS recognized the institution could be at a severe disadvantage if we did not have the same policy.

Chairperson Bernards related that one question that was raised was why the policy should be extended to Fall 2021. He explained that the argument that students who are beginning to apply now for Fall 2021 have not be able to take the standardized tests in the spring since those have been cancelled is compelling; in order not to limit the potential to bring in a good class for 2021, Admissions needs to be able to make acceptances and start the process of helping to build that enrollment.

Senator Perabo understands this is a pressing situation but wants to reaffirm the point about retention of students with GPAs in this range. She hopes that if Admissions sees that these students will only have a 50 percent retention rate, it is able to ratchet up the support that is provided to the students who are admitted. She noted that the University may need to have more online courses in the fall and thinks that those students who are weaker in general have more trouble with online courses. Senator Perabo appreciates that the University must do this, but she thinks the retention issue needs to be raised often, and the University needs to keep a really close eye on this. Chairperson Pynes remarked that this is similar to comments made by Senator Czechowski, who has asked what kind of support these students will receive.

Senator Filipink asked if Chairperson Bernards received an answer to his question regarding the justification for the 2.75 GPA threshold and how many students are currently admitted in that range. Chairperson Bernards replied that he did receive an answer, part of which was that 81.20 percent of the students who applied for Fall 2020 and were admitted fall between the 2.75 and 3.3 GPA range. He added that 1,686 students currently fit into that category, so the University has admitted vast numbers of those students already. Chairperson Bernards related that he asked during the CAGAS meeting why Admissions was not conducting a holistic review of these students, and Admissions responded that they are not equipped to do a holistic review for that many students. Chairperson Bernards added

that Admissions did not have figures at the CAGAS meeting regarding how many students fall between 2.75 and 3.0 GPAs. Dr. Swegan clarified that 1,686 of students who applied have between 2.75 and 3.29 GPAs; 1,369 of that number, or 81.2 percent, were admitted. Dr. Swegan found out today that only 36 of those students, or two percent, were actually denied; the rest simply have not completed their files, and he thinks a great number of them will be admitted, bringing the number of admitted students with GPAs of 2.75 or above much higher than 81 percent and probably closer to 90 percent. Chairperson Bernards asked how many students have between 2.75 and 3.0 GPAs; Interim Associate Vice President Swegan responded there are 701.

NO OBJECTIONS

2. Grade Change and Attendance Catalog and Policy Language

Chairperson Bernards related that CAGAS took up this issue at the request of the Senate Executive Committee. He explained that up to this point deans have had to sign off on any sort of grade change, and deans thought this was unnecessary. He stated that CAGAS proposes eliminating the dean signature requirement and removing the word “form” because the Registrar’s office is working to develop an online way to submit the request which will not require the chair signature either. Chairperson Bernards said CAGAS would like to retain an acknowledgement that the chair has seen the change, however, because that is consistent with the majority of WIU’s peers who still have department chairs sign off on faculty-instigated grade changes. He added that CAGAS tried to simplify the document to make it more straight forward.

Chairperson Bernards told senators the other change involves the attendance policy. He explained that every semester students seek to attend classes while not registered, usually while waiting for their financial aid to come through, which sometimes does not occur until several weeks into the semester. He said this leaves faculty members in a difficult position because they are grading work for a student who is not registered, and there has not been much in the way of a mechanism in order to tell the student they should not be in the class. Chairperson Bernards said that a search of policies at peer institutions showed that Northern Illinois University seemed to have the best one, so their wording was adopted by CAGAS. CAGAS believes it is reasonable to allow students ten days to attend class with permission of the instructor; if students have still not solved their financial aid issues after ten days, continued attendance would also need approval of the department chair. Chairperson Bernards believes this will give faculty some protection if they do not feel it is appropriate to allow students to continue to attend their classes.

NO OBJECTIONS

Chairperson Pynes commended Dr. Bernards on his hard work as CAGAS Chair this year and said he looks forward to having him on Faculty Senate next year.

B. Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (CCPI) (Steve Bennett, Chair)

1. Curricular Requests from the School of Music

- a. Request for New Course
 - i. MUS 103, American Traditional Music Ensemble, 1 s.h.

NEW COURSE APPROVED

- b. Request for Change of Option
 - i. Music: Teacher Education

Interim Director of the School of Music Jeff Brown explained that this request came about as part of a process that the Music Education Committee began last fall. He stated that the request to remove EDS 305, Measurement and Assessment of Learning in Academic Settings, is due to the fact that assessment already happens within a number of courses in the Music: Teacher Education curriculum. He said Music feels like this is adequately covered under a combination of those courses already in the curriculum. Chairperson Pynes pointed out that it will also free up 2 s.h. for those students. Director Brown admitted that the Music: Teacher Education curriculum is quite overloaded right now; at a minimum, students complete 137-140 s.h., but in reality it is often well over 150-160.

CHANGE OF OPTION APPROVED

2. Curricular Requests from the School of Computer Sciences

a. Requests for New Courses

i. CSEC 101, Introduction to Cybersecurity, 3 s.h.

Computer Sciences Professor Jim McQuillan related that Professor Binto George thought it would be nice to provide an introductory course geared mainly toward non-majors to give them a taste of the discipline. He remarked that there are already introductory courses to programming and networking, but there was no introductory course for cybersecurity.

CSEC 101 APPROVED

ii. CS 439, Methods of Teaching Middle and High School Computer Science, 3 s.h.

Professor McQuillan told senators that government and industries are asking for more computer science education in grades K-12, but there are not enough teachers with the qualifications to teach computer science currently. The School of Computer Sciences thinks it would be nice if current teachers had an avenue at WIU to enable them to teach computer science courses; additionally, it would be nice if WIU students who are working towards their teacher licensure could add computer science as an extra area in which they could teach. Professor McQuillan explained the intention is to provide add-on courses in an extra area that teachers could instruct in, not to provide licensure in computer science, and CS 439 would be one course that would work toward that.

Senator Filipink remarked that the request says the course will be team-taught with a faculty member in the School of Education. He asked if Education has any faculty available to do that. Professor McQuillan responded it has not yet been determined who that faculty member will be, but Computer Sciences has had multiple discussions with individuals in Education about this; specifically, they have spoken to Jim Olsen in Mathematics and Philosophy and with College of Education and Human Services Associate Dean Greg Montalvo. He related that the University Committee for Educator Preparation (UCEP) has looked at the proposal and endorsed it. Professor McQuillan added that Computer Sciences will need some support to teach the course because they do not have any faculty with the expertise to teach K-12 education.

Senator Tasdan asked if Computer Sciences could offer dual credit coding

or some other computer science course at local high schools so that a WI(U Computer Sciences professor could teach at Macomb High School and in neighboring counties. Professor McQuillan replied that CS 114, an introductory Python programming course, might be appropriate to be taught in high schools, and CS 214 is a General Education course and Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) transferrable, which might make sense as well. He thinks CS 114 might be a better starting point and that a dual credit course might make a lot of sense. Senator Tasdan remarked that Python is very popular. School of Computer Sciences Director Dennis DeVolder stated that CS 214 is scheduled to be offered at Macomb High School in Spring 2021.

CS 439 APPROVED

- b. Request for Change of Minor
 - i. Information Systems

Professor McQuillan told senators this is a relatively simple change: currently students typically take CS 114, Introduction to Computer Science, and CS 214, Python for Data Exploration, following that. He said that students do not actually have to take 114 before 214, but if students take 214 first they cannot take 114 afterwards, and the School wanted to get this in writing. He noted that if a student has taken CS 214 at another institution, they can use the extra 3 s.h. to take an upper division Information Systems course; alternatively, a WIU student may want to start with 214 and use upper division IS courses to replace the 3 s.h. [of 114]. Professor McQuillan noted that anything students could do before they can still do, but this provides them with more options to take upper division IS courses.

CHANGE OF MINOR APPROVED

- c. Request for New Minor
 - i. Computer Science Education

Professor McQuillan noted that this is related to the previously approved teacher education course. He thinks this will appeal to someone who already has the qualifications to be a teacher or someone who is working toward that. Professor McQuillan explained that the 18 s.h. minor would allow students to be able to take an exam and then teach computer science as one of their areas. He thinks science or math teachers may want to be able to teach computer science as well because their school may not have a computer science teacher, or current WIU Education students may want to have something extra on their resumes to help them get the nice job they may want. He stated that Associate Dean Montalvo suggested that it might be nice for the School of Computer Sciences to note the 18 hours that they had planned to use in a secondary endorsement as a minor as well and suggested that the catalog state that “This minor is not sufficient for an Illinois Professional Educator License.” Professor McQuillan said it is important that this statement appear in the catalog so that a student will not think they can just take these 18 s.h. and be able to teach; instead, this minor is intended for individuals who already have teaching qualifications or are getting them and want to be able to teach in a different area.

NEW MINOR APPROVED

3. Curricular Requests from the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Geographic Information Sciences (EAGIS)

a. Requests for New Options

i. Applied Meteorology

EAGIS Chair Sam Thompson told senators the request is based on two factors: 1) the American Meteorological Society's recommendation that the University include something that deals with the impact of weather on populations, and 2) most students end up working in applied occupations. He stated that the change is timely for current and future students and also will help with retention and recruitment efforts.

APPLIED METEOROLOGY OPTION APPROVED

ii. Operational Meteorology

Chairperson Thompson stated the Operational Meteorology option follows the National Weather Service track for students who want to pursue advanced atmospheric studies at different universities or at WIU. Senator Filipink observed that the feasibility study says the accrediting body recommends that there be three faculty members who can teach in this area, but EAGIS plans to try this with two. Chairperson Thompson acknowledged that the accrediting body highly recommends that, but, given the circumstances, on a short-term basis the department will be able to manage with two faculty members in the interim. Senator Filipink asked when the program is up for accreditation. Chairperson Thompson replied that one of the department's faculty members travels to the meeting in October. He stressed that what the accrediting body has stated is sort of a recommendation; the department would like to have three faculty members, but, given the circumstances and the resources available, they can manage with two for the time being. He does not think this will have an impact on the program. Chairperson Pynes asked if it will not have an impact in the short term or in the long term. Chairperson Thompson replied in the short term the department can work with limited numbers. Chairperson Pynes stated that it seems Chairperson Thompson's point is that in the long term three faculty members will be needed. Chairperson Thompson acknowledged that once enrollment in the program is higher, they will need three faculty members.

Senator Choi, who teaches meteorology, explained that three faculty members is the optimum number for this program because Meteorology is composed of three sections: Dynamic, Synoptic, and Climatology. He stated that traditionally each of the three faculty members teach a different section, but one of those faculty members is currently laid off, and Senator Choi does not know if he will be coming back. Senator Choi believes that in the short term the remaining two faculty members can manage, but the faculty member who is laid off has up to now managed the Synoptic section, which is weather forecasting, so this faculty member is definitely needed because he is an expert in this area. Senator Choi thinks the remaining two might be able to manage for a short period of time, perhaps as much as a year or two.

Chairperson Pynes summarized that currently there are three faculty members in the Meteorology program, but one has been laid off and is not coming back in Fall 2020, yet the department is creating an option that would ideally be taught by three faculty but might be able, in the short

term, to be taught by two. Senator Choi pointed out that accreditation does not involve the number of faculty but the kinds of courses offered; as long as Meteorology can offer those courses successfully, it can be accredited by the National Weather Service.

OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY APPROVED

Chairperson Pynes said he would be cautious for any program saying they can survive with fewer faculty than they really can because that is a recipe for failure. He thinks departments should be concerned saying they can do something in the short term given the metrics that programs are asked to have. He wished EAGIS good luck.

b. Requests for Changes to Majors

i. Meteorology

Chairperson Thompson explained that this change combines the two Applied and Operational Meteorology options to be reflected in the major overall.

METEOROLOGY CHANGE APPROVED

ii. Geographic Information Science

Chairperson Thompson explained that this is a minor change to rearrange the alignment of the options to switch A and B and some elimination in the composition of courses to allow for greater flexibility in course offerings.

GIS CHANGE APPROVED

Chairperson Pynes asked how the major will be offered given that the three faculty will be gone. Interim Provost Clow responded that when the department came forward with its curriculum proposals, there were discussions, and he was assured that they would be able to handle what they were proposing to change. He added that does not mean the Provost's office is not looking at all of the options that are available to them. Chairperson Pynes thinks this is important for senators to know because he thinks many people, even though COVID-19 has taken over the University's mental space, remember that there are still four to six faculty members who were laid off last year who will not be coming back this year, three of those in GIS and one in Meteorology.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Sue Martinelli-Fernandez stated that she worked with the EAGIS Chair to make sure that the department would be able to deliver the courses that students need. She said part of the reason they are able to do this is because of decreased enrollment, particularly in Meteorology. She pointed out that the end of the feasibility study stated that after several years of increased enrollment, the College will ask for additional faculty for this program. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez said she would love to see all Arts and Sciences faculty members off of the layoff list, but as to the question of whether the courses can be delivered, they can be. She added that if enrollment numbers increase because of these changes, the department and college will seek additional faculty support. She noted that in both cases, but particularly in Meteorology, the department recognizes that not all students have the most robust math skills, so they wanted to make sure they would be able to properly advertise two different kinds of tracks geared, in part, to the current skills of their

students; a student who wants to broadcast on radio, for example, may not need to use the complex math skills that they would have to use for the National Weather Service. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez is confident the department will see a robust increase in enrollment with these changes, and she will then request additional faculty support.

Chairperson Pynes asked if there is a public document that people can look at if they want to see a review of the program; he wonders if there was a review of the GIS program that was used to make these decisions that is available for public viewing. He also asked if the GIS Center will be affected at all. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that she had provided some additional information about the program, but that document went through various iterations. She offered to see what the final iteration looked like. She added that most of that information was included in the feasibility study, but there was some additional information that she would need to find. Interim Provost Clow agreed that most of what Chairperson Pynes is talking about is included in the feasibility study.

4. Curricular Requests from the Department of Kinesiology

a. KIN 146, Court Sports, 1 s.h.

Kinesiology Department Chair Renee Polubinsky told senators that this course came forward as a result of departmental assessment. When Dr. Polubinsky began as Chair, she met with teaching assistants who teach General Education activities courses and was told that they struggle to teach courses such as badminton, volleyball, and basketball for 15 weeks and keep students motivated over that time. The department decided to develop new courses to keep some of the fun going on in the activities classes, based on the comments from the TAs who teach them.

KIN 146 APPROVED

b. KIN 150, Outdoor Sports, 1 s.h.

Chairperson Polubinsky related that this course proposal came about after meetings with TAs and students and taking into account the equipment and facilities available for teaching them. She pointed out that there is a beautiful space outside Brophy Hall, including a lot of fields that go unused throughout the day. She related that the department tried to find some variety instead of offering two sections of volleyball or basketball and wanted to be able to integrate some other courses now and then.

KIN 150 APPROVED

C. Council on General Education (CGE)
(Andrea Alveshere, Chair)

1. Requests for General Education Designation

Chairperson Alveshere noted that both requests were approved for the Multicultural category of General Education.

a. QS 100, Introduction to Queer Studies, 3 s.h.

English professor Merrill Cole told senators QS 100 has been running for several years, and the department would like for it to be established as Gen Ed, similar to Introduction to Women's Studies, Introduction to African American Studies, and other courses with a particular multicultural perspective.

QS 100 APPROVED FOR GEN ED

- b. LAS 195, Introduction to the Liberal Arts and Sciences, 3 s.h.

Senator Perabo explained that LAS 195 is one of two core courses in the Liberal Arts and Sciences major, which was developed quite awhile ago and geared to WIUQC. She said the major involves students combining several minors into a major, including two in Arts and Sciences. Faculty from three different areas (Women's Studies, African American Studies, and Religious Studies) were moved into the Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 2016 when their departments were eliminated, resulting in Liberal Arts and Sciences moving from a program into a department. Senator Perabo told senators the department decided to take advantage of faculty expertise and develop LAS 195 into a Gen Ed Multicultural course; the department has made some revisions to shift it to a multicultural focus. Senator Perabo added that she has taught the course recently, and it has also been taught at WIUQC.

LAS 195 APPROVED FOR GEN ED

D. Council for International Education (CIE) (Miguel Narvaez, Chair)

1. Requests for Discipline-Specific Global Issues Designation

- a. ACCT 343, Intermediate Accounting III, 3 s.h.

School of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Decision Sciences Professor Shankar Ghimire stated that the course looks at accounting practices from an international perspective, comparing U.S. practices with accounting practices internationally. School Director Gregg Woodruff explained that the content from ACCT 441 was moved to ACCT 343. He stated that there are two basic accounting standards: the U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). He stated that only three industrialized nations in the world do not require IFRS standards – the United States, China, and Japan – so students taking ACCT 343 actually become bilingual in the language of accounting. Director Woodruff said this is significant for looking at the cultural impact of United States standards across the world and for looking at the impact of international standards on the United States. He stated that over \$7 trillion are invested internationally in the markets, so this is a very significant piece of the learning puzzle for accounting students now.

ACCT 343 APPROVED FOR DSGI DESIGNATION

- b. ECON 479, Microfinance in Action,

Professor Ghimire said ECON 479 was recently proposed as a new course to be offered on a full-time basis. He said the course has been taught as a short-term study abroad course, but the school would like to offer it to other students interested in global microfinance issues but not limited to developing countries. He said the school thought the course would be interesting to other students who may not be able to attend a study abroad course.

ECON 479 APPROVED FOR DSGI DESIGNATION

E. Senate Nominating Committee (Jeremy Robinett, Chair)

Chairperson Robinett echoed Chairperson Pynes commendations of the Senate Recording Secretary, stating that her efforts made the work of the Committee this year much easier than it would have been without her.

1. Faculty Nominations

SENATE COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES:

Council on Admission, Graduation, and Academic Standards (CAGAS)

Tim Waldrop, Art and Design replacing Stacey Macchi 2022 FA&C

Council on Campus Planning and Usage (CCPU)

Bill Howard, Art and Design replacing Ian Shelly 2023 FA&C

UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES:

Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) Advisory Committee

Janice Gates, Management/Mktg replacing Brent Payne 2021 B&T

There were no further nominations, and the three candidates were declared elected.

F. Committee on Provost and Presidential Performance (CPPP)
(Feridun Tasdan, Chair)

1. Evaluation of Interim Provost Clow

Chairperson Pynes related that traditionally Faculty Senate goes into closed session to have a discussion about the evaluation of employees. He suggested that if a senator wishes to make such a motion, he can try to send all other attendees to a Zoom break room or ask everyone except for senators to leave the meeting. He stated that, alternatively, the agenda could be reordered so that the CPPP report follows New Business.

Motion: To reorder the agenda to move the CPPP report to the end of the agenda (Filipink/Robinett)

MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

IV. Old Business – None

V. New Business

A. Questions for Executive Committee/New Business for the Next Academic Year

Chairperson Pynes asked if there are any things senators would like to see achieved throughout the summer or for the next academic year. Senator Perabo would like to see the Senate Executive Committee involved in the conversations about Fall 2020. She has heard that faculty are part of these conversations but thinks it is unclear how faculty are represented on these committees. She was impressed with the comments during the Executive Committee meeting but would like for ExCo to continue to be involved and keep the Senate informed on what is going on and the different options. Senator Perabo remarked that so many faculty are going through this transition to online, and schools across the country are having conversations about the different possibilities, that she would like faculty to be part of the conversation on an institutional basis and not random faculty from whatever group was put together.

Chairperson Pynes does not know how the Provost's office or the administration picked faculty to be on the discussion groups. He sent an email out with suggestions for Fall 2020; specifically, Chairperson Pynes thinks the best suggestion is to open in early August and end before Thanksgiving. He thinks it is imprudent to send students home for Thanksgiving and have them

return to WIU two weeks later. Chairperson Pynes recognizes that the University is in a very difficult situation, and noted that Interim Provost Clow hears that Senator Perabo would like the Executive committee involved in some way with these discussions. Chairperson Pynes noted that the Executive Committee does a lot of hard work to try to make sure that faculty voices are heard and helps in the decision making process for the University. He added that while Faculty Senate is advisory, faculty are the people who are actually teaching students, and that matters.

Senator Perabo pointed out that when committees are formed to consider major issues, typically Faculty Senate is consulted and asked to find faculty representatives. She noted that the Senate has a process it generally goes through when a decision of this magnitude needs to be considered. She knows the Union is concerned with bargaining changes and working conditions, which is good and necessary, but every faculty member has done something in the last two months that relates to this decision and knows a lot about the possibilities for the fall. Senator Perabo would like for this to be a big, systematic effort. She understands that the decision itself has to be “nimble,” as Interim Provost Clow put it, but she thinks everyone needs to be in the mix and consulted, and Faculty Senate is a good way to provide faculty input on decisions like these. She would like for Faculty Senate to pay attention to that side of it.

Chairperson Pynes remarked that the Executive Committee members often get put on committees so that they do that type of work, and they are willing to do it when asked. He noted that the Senate Nominating Committee is the standard mechanism used by Faculty Senate to place faculty on committees; Interim Provost Clow is usually very good about asking for this service, and Chairperson Pynes is not sure if there is some other kind of alacrity that is necessary in order to get this work done. He is sure that Interim Provost Clow hears this request loud and clear. Senator Robinett noted that every college is represented on the Senate Nominating Committee, and there are also representatives from the colleges – chairs and others – in the list of names from the Fall 2020 working group that he is serving on.

Chairperson Pynes stated that those senators whose terms on Faculty Senate are ending might want to say what they would want the Executive Committee to work on next year. He added that senators can also do this via email to Chairperson Pynes or to the Recording Secretary, Ms. Hamm. Senator Lauer remarked that a lot of these kinds of discussions get distilled through informational conversations as people bump into each other, but there is no longer the opportunity to do that, so it is important to make those requests more formally.

B. For the Good of the Body

Chairperson Pynes noted that if individuals are not yet members of WIU’s sick bank, this is something they might want to consider, particularly if they have a ton of sick time. He added that this could be beneficial for someone else.

Senator Oursler remarked that \$110,000 for the student emergency fund was raised on the recent WIU Day of Giving. He said it was great to watch so many alumni and community members donate to help WIU’s students out.

Motion: to convene to executive session to talk about the CPPP report (Lauer/Filipink)

MOTION APPROVED 22 YES – 1 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Faculty Senate adjourned to closed session at 5:17 p.m.

Susan Czechowski, Senate Secretary

Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary