

**WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY SENATE**  
**Regular Meeting, 13 September 2016, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Capitol Rooms - University Union**

**ACTION MINUTES**

**SENATORS PRESENT:** M. Allison, V. Boynton, J. Brown, G. Delany-Barmann, D. DeVolder, D. Halverson, R. Hironimus-Wendt, K. Kapale, C. Keist, N. Lino, B. Locke, S. Macchi, H. McIlvaine-Newsad, J. McNabb, J. Plos, C. Pynes, T. Roberts, T. Sadler, M. Sajewski, D. Sandage, C. Tarrant  
Ex-officio: Kathy Neumann, Interim Associate Provost; Janna Deitz, Parliamentarian

**SENATORS ABSENT:** S. Szyjka

**GUESTS:** Amy Carr, Katrina Daytner, Anita Hardeman, Angela Lynn, George Mangalaraj, Sue Martinelli-Fernandez, Kyle Mayborn, Russ Morgan, Jill Myers, Nancy Parsons, Betsy Perabo, Darcy Plymire, Aimee Shouse, Joi Wells, Ron Williams

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. 30 August, 2016

**MINUTES APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED**

II. Announcements

A. Provost's Report

Interim Provost Neumann asked Registrar Angela Lynn to provide a final update on enrollments following the tenth day of classes. Total enrollment is 10,373 students, down 721 students from fall 2015 enrollment. Freshmen enrollment is officially 1,527; last year's fall freshman enrollment was 1,535. There were 967 new transfer students in fall 2016, compared to 1,105 in fall 2015. International student enrollment this fall is 491, down 14 overall. Graduate student enrollment is 572 for fall 2016, down from 628 the previous year. Dr. Lynn reported that the last two years of decreased fall enrollment are primarily due to students not returning in the previous spring semesters. Because only 45 percent of those not returning this fall were due to administrative holds, Dr. Lynn has concluded that the quantity of students that were lost between fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters was difficult to make up with new students this fall.

Interim Provost Neumann informed senators that the Curriculum Library's book sale will be held this week in Horrabin Hall. The annual College of Fine Arts and Communication School of Music Scholarship Concert will be held Friday, September 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the COFAC Recital Hall. The first Cultural Café will be held at noon on Monday, September 19 in the Union Grand Ballroom. The topic will be Peru. And Saturday, September 17 will be WIU's first Discover Western for the year.

Randy Kowalski, Deputy Director of the Office of Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, will speak on September 22 at 12:30 p.m. in Stipes Hall 121. Interim Provost Neumann asks faculty to encourage students who would like to learn about entrepreneurship and economic opportunity to attend.

Interviews will be held this week to replace Richard Carter, who recently retired as Director of the School of Distance Learning, International Studies, and Outreach. Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration professor Paul Schlag, who is currently serving as Associate Director of the Honors College, will interview for the Interim Director position on September 15 in Horrabin Hall 83, with the open session at 11:00 a.m. Jeff Hancks, Coordinator of Archives and Special Collections for University Libraries, will also interview on September 15, with the open session at

3:30 p.m. in Horrabin Hall 44. And Sociology and Anthropology professor Heather McIlvaine-Newsad will interview on September 16 in Horrabin Hall 83, with the open session to begin at 1:00 p.m. All interviews will be teleconferenced to the Quad Cities campus.

B. Student Government Association (SGA) Report  
(Joi Wells, SGA Representative to Faculty Senate)

SGA is currently updating its constitution and is looking for students to fill open committee positions. Ms. Wells asked senators to let SGA know if they hear of students that are interested in service.

C. Other Announcements

Eligible faculty in the College of Education and Human Services have received electronic ballots via Gmail to vote to fill an immediate vacancy on Faculty Senate. A two-year term is being used to keep the Senate in balance for an Education and Human Services position that is now vacant. Katharine Pawelko, Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration, and Emily Shupe, Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising, and Hospitality, returned petitions by the September 7 deadline. Voting, facilitated by the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR), will continue through Friday, September 23.

III. Reports of Committees and Councils

A. Senate Nominating Committee  
(Ginny Boynton, Chair)

**SENATE COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES:**

Council on Admission, Graduation and Academic Standards

Kitty Karn, Music	replacing	Ioannis Papakyritsis	17	FA&C
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Council on General Education

Betsy Perabo, Religious Studies	replacing	Erik Brooks	18	Humanities
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Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID) Committee

Leslie Melim, Geology	replacing	Bill Knox	19	A&S
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**SGA COUNCILS:**

Council on Student Activities Funds

Chase Catalano, Educ. Studies	replacing	Kristy Keefe	18	At-large
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There were no further nominations, and the slate of candidates was declared elected. Senator Boynton expressed special thanks to Senator Locke for his efforts to fill the CAGAS seat.

IV. Old Business

A. Proposed Council for Instructional Technology Bylaws Amendment

1. Second Reading and Vote

The proposal would eliminate two of the Council’s duties: “To work with the appropriate administrators to help establish timelines for implementation of technological initiatives and to ensure accountability on these initiatives,” and “To oversee the Online Course Information Database and recommend improvements when needed to the Faculty Senate.” Additionally, the duty “To serve as consultants to the faculty and the Faculty Senate,” would be broadened to “...and appropriate university technology committees.”

**Motion:** To approve the bylaws amendment (Boynton/Kapale)

**MOTION APPROVED 21 YES – 0 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS**

V. New Business

A. Request to Create a New Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Chairperson Pynes explained that in 2005 the Executive Committee wrote a letter to the Board of Trustees complaining that the administration had created three new departments without coming through Faculty Senate: African American Studies in 1995, Social Work in 1997, and Women's Studies in 2005. The School of Nursing was approved in 2008 after going through both the Faculty Senate and Provost approval processes; Nursing provided their IBHE form as documentation to Senate. Chairperson Pynes stated that there was extensive discussion about the Nursing request, which can be found in the Senate minutes of September 16, 2008.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Sue Martinelli-Fernandez stated that she worked closely with professor Aimee Shouse on the request for a new Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Senator Boynton asked if there was any consideration given to folding the Bachelor of General Studies degree into the new department since it will be interdisciplinary. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that there have been discussions for a number of years as to how the University should handle its various interdisciplinary programs. She pointed out that the Bachelor of General Studies crosses the entire University, whereas the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences does not. She said that while folding General Studies into a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences could happen in the future, it would be difficult to do so at present in terms of the goals of each particular program; there have been discussions in the past about housing them in the same unit, but each unit presents its own special issues. Senator Boynton asked if the University still has an Interdisciplinary Studies major; Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that this still exists and is housed with General Studies.

Senator Allison remarked that the name of the department being the same as the name of the major seems confusing since both are to be housed within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She believes this seems to imply that almost any department within the College could be folded into the Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez corrected that the College name is simply Arts and Sciences, not Liberal Arts and Sciences, although this is a commonly made mistake. Senator Allison stated that if she made that mistake, others may do so as well. Dr. Shouse stated that the Liberal Arts and Sciences program was created ten years ago, and the similarity with the College name was considered at that time. Senator Allison suggested that a Department of Interdisciplinary and Area Studies, for example, might make more sense and be less confusing. Dr. Shouse responded that at this point a Liberal Arts and Sciences program already exists which incorporates all of the parts that will be included in the Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences, even though distinct disciplines will be added to it if the proposal is approved. She added that, once approved, department faculty can consider more closely how to create something relevant to its members and disciplines, so it might be modified at some point. Senator Allison asked if the department name might change. Dr. Shouse responded that the department name could change, but she does not want to go that far right now since there will be new people moving into the unit and working together for the first time. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez added that she and Dr. Shouse want members of the unit to have the opportunity to more significantly weigh on that decision; the name may change, but not at this moment.

Senator Allison pointed out that there are faculty across the College of Arts and Sciences who have taught Liberal Arts and Sciences classes but will not be part of the new department. She asked if these faculty members will no longer have access to the classes they have taught previously for the Liberal Arts and Sciences program once the department is created. She also wonders if creation of the department will reduce the exposure Liberal Arts and Sciences students will have to faculty across the College since now the primary faculty in the Liberal Arts and

Sciences Department will be those 11 that were displaced by elimination of their majors. Dr. Shouse believes it is too early to say if this will be the case. She is not opposed to having faculty who previously taught courses within Liberal Arts and Sciences continue to do so, but she agrees that the new department would have faculty across the Social Science and Humanities areas that could teach some of those courses. She specified, however, that none of those faculty will teach LAS 501, which focuses on the history and philosophy of the sciences, so the department will continue to rely on others to teach some courses. Dr. Shouse does believe, though, that since there will now be faculty assigned to the department, they should probably “get first dibs” at Liberal Arts and Sciences courses. Senator Allison observed that this would seem to restrict access, both from faculty to students and from students to interdisciplinary faculty that are not part of the new department. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez stated this would be truer in the LAS core courses. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez noted that faculty in the Department of English have always rotated teaching LAS 195, so it doesn’t “belong” to any one faculty member; other humanists, such as Gary Schmidt, former Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, have offered to teach this course in the past but were unable to do so. She pointed out that the Liberal Arts and Sciences program is constructed to take courses from other areas, so this discussion is really about the unique core courses for the program, which are only LAS 195 and 495. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez stated that although she sees the point that Senator Allison is making, there are other ways to facilitate student exposure.

Senator Brown admitted to similar confusion about the title as Senator Allison. He stated that because Liberal Arts and Sciences encompasses so many disciplines, it is usually the title of a college in a university structure rather than of a department. He observed that many disciplines that will be part of Liberal Arts and Sciences will not have representation in the department even though Liberal Arts and Sciences students will be taking courses in those disciplines. Dr. Shouse stated that the structure of liberal arts and sciences varies from university to university. Dr. Shouse related that once she became Acting Director last year, one of the first things she did was to research how liberal arts and sciences programs are structured in other places because she was not part of the original group that helped create the LAS major and graduate program. She related that they are very mixed, with some housing faculty in a department of liberal studies, which does not encompass the entire college but which tends to be area studies or interdisciplinary types of programs that do not necessarily fit in one department. She added that WIU’s proposal is not out of line with what is done in other universities. Senator Brown asked if other institutions have used Liberal Arts and Sciences as the department name. Dr. Shouse responded she likes the model used by North Carolina A&T State which houses similar programs and minors in a department of liberal studies, not unlike WIU.

Senator Delany-Barmann remarked that within her academic background, LAS stands for Latin American Studies. She asked what kind of faculty support and input was received and used when putting together the proposal. Dr. Shouse admitted that she and Dean Martinelli-Fernandez were not given a lot of time to gather much input, so the proposal was created by just the two of them. Senator Delany-Barmann asked if any of the 11 faculty members who would be housed in the new department have spoken to Dr. Shouse or Dean Martinelli-Fernandez about the proposal. Dr. Shouse responded that they have not. She did, however, tell those faculty that the proposal was being considered by Faculty Senate today. She added that individuals have asked her similar questions about how the department will work, but she thinks it will be a matter of time before everyone can figure that out. Dr. Shouse said she explained to faculty the need to work quickly on the proposal, and none of them asked why they did not see it before it went forward.

Dean Martinelli-Fernandez explained that there is a desire to create a home for faculty and students sooner rather than later. She related that faculty have begun to have conversations about various ways to frame the program with the additional members. She said the College is trying to do two things simultaneously: to create a home as soon as possible so that concerns can be addressed from both faculty and student standpoints, and to have ongoing discussions about what the department should look like with additional members. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez explained that decisions were not made about which individuals would remain in the program until July,

when faculty were not on contract, so there were limitations regarding the kinds of feedback that could be obtained while trying to quickly find a home for faculty and students.

Senator Allison asked if the Peace Corps program referred to in the proposal is the Peace Corps Prep program. Dr. Shouse responded that it refers to the Peace Corps Emphasis within the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, although students could complete the Peace Corps Prep program in the process of completing the emphasis. She added that former Liberal Arts and Sciences Director Amy Mossman worked closely with Karen Maulden-Curtis in the Peace Corps Fellows program on the Peace Corps Emphasis. Dr. Shouse stated that the emphasis has only been in existence about two years, but one Quad Cities student is currently enrolled in it and there are hopes that it will grow.

Chairperson Pynes explained that when the discussion refers to faculty not having a home, the reference is to some of those formerly housed in the Departments of Women's Studies, African American Studies, and Philosophy and Religious Studies. Philosophy faculty have been adopted into the Department of Mathematics, but faculty in the remaining disciplines do not have departmental homes.

Senator Hironimus-Wendt stated that he supports the proposal because it is crucial that this home be created now. He recalled that it has been three months since a dozen colleagues were taken out of their departments and no longer had a disciplinary home, so he thinks it is better to create the department now rather than to fine-tune it before it is created. He reminded senators that the Liberal Arts and Sciences degree program and LAS courses have been on the books for some time, so LAS is not a new concept, and it seems natural to call the department by that name.

Senator McNabb stated that when listening to Dr. Shouse speak, she was struck powerfully by her recurring identification of liberal studies. Senator McNabb pointed out that the new department will house African American *Studies*, Religious *Studies*, Women's *Studies*, and Environmental *Studies* and wonders if changing the department name to Liberal Studies might assuage some concerns about confusing college structure and department structure. Senator McNabb stated the liberal studies nomenclature is fairly common across the country, so that would put WIU in line and in a dialogue with preexisting programs. Senator McNabb is supportive of the larger initiative because she thinks it will be good for students and will give them the sense of a central focus within an interdisciplinary degree. She believes there should be a common core even within an interdisciplinary degree, and a department communicates that pretty forcefully. Dr. Shouse said she would not be opposed to changing the department name to Liberal Studies, adding that it was more out of convenience that the proposal was for a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She thinks Liberal Arts may better articulate what the unit will be doing. Senator McNabb pointed out that while the University has had a Liberal Arts and Sciences program, this unit will be appreciably different, so rather than inheriting a holdover name and identity, this may be an opportunity for rebranding in a useful way.

Senator Boynton expressed her support for creation of the department. She recalled that when Inessa Levi was Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, some faculty were hired specifically to teach LAS courses in the Quad Cities while being housed in their home departments. She asked if these faculty will still be housed in their home departments or will move to the new department once it is created. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that this has not yet been discussed; these faculty members – Everett Hamner and Dan Malachuk in English and Tammy Werner in Sociology and Anthropology – were specifically hired to teach in the LAS program but their tenures reside in their discrete departments. Senator Boynton asked if they will still teach courses for the LAS program; Dr. Shouse responded that she anticipates they will continue to teach those courses. Dr. Shouse has communicated and met with Quad Cities LAS faculty because she does not want any of the changes and efforts to grow the program on the Macomb campus to harm the existing program in the Quad Cities. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez sees creation of the department as an opportunity to look at things differently and strengthen various areas within the program.

Senator Allison remarked that she certainly wants faculty members to have a home, but this touches on concerns she has as a faculty member in the Department of English. She pointed out that if Drs. Malachuk and Hamner are not assigned to teach LAS courses, decisions will need to be made within her department about what they are assigned to teach, and that has not yet been discussed. She asked if most of the LAS majors are located in the Quad Cities; Dean Martinelli-Fernandez confirmed this is true for the undergraduate degree. Senator Allison asked about the logistics for housing the department on the Macomb campus when the majority of students are in the Quad Cities. Dr. Shouse responded that she will be in contact with the students and work with their advisors in the Quad Cities. She added that there is a good LAS advisor at WIUQC, students rely on their faculty quite a bit, and Dr. Shouse travels there when they have events. Senator Allison pointed out that if Drs. Hamner and Malachuk do not teach LAS in the Quad Cities, that would mean travel for them to the Macomb campus. Dr. Shouse responded that, while she cannot promise they will teach in the LAS program forever, she certainly intends for them to teach LAS courses for the near future as that is part of their job responsibilities. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez pointed out that English now has a major in the Quad Cities, and Dr. Malachuk's teaching responsibilities for Liberal Arts and Sciences have greatly diminished. She does not foresee Dr. Hamner's schedule changing from what it is currently.

Senator Kapale believes it is wonderful that a home has been found for the displaced faculty and he supports the department's creation. He asked what the role of science is in the proposed name of the department. Dr. Shouse responded that by far the most common way to complete a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree is through the Paired Minors Emphasis; students can choose minors from two different categories, including Humanities, Natural Sciences/Mathematics, Social Sciences, and Interdisciplinary. She said that while most students choose Humanities and Social Sciences, Natural Sciences/Mathematics is not omitted; one student currently has chosen minors in Anthropology and Zoology. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez added that LAS offers various introductions to the sciences; professors teaching LAS 195, Introduction to Liberal Arts and Sciences, invite guest lecturers from Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences/Mathematics. Dr. Shouse, who teaches LAS 195, stated that she will have representatives from Humanities visit her class in the next two weeks, then move into the sciences. She assigns general interest readings to introduce students to the kinds of things the sciences do. Dr. Shouse related that her students this year chose the theme "Who Am I?" This will include understanding human identity and students' place in the cosmos. LAS 195 students will then move into the Social Sciences and look at interdisciplinary programs. Dr. Shouse stated that when she hears of faculty doing research that cuts across these areas, she is trying to reach out to them as potential speakers. Senator Hironimus-Wendt pointed out that Dr. Shouse, who will serve as Interim Chair of the department, is also a social (political) scientist. He added that if the name of the department is changed to Liberal Studies, the LAS prefix may also need to be changed to LS. Chairperson Pynes pointed out that there is currently no motion on the floor to change the name of the department.

Senator Roberts asked if faculty from the "orphan programs" whose departments were eliminated will be primarily assigned to the Macomb campus and, if so, how they will teach students primarily located in the Quad Cities. Dr. Shouse responded that faculty already drive to the Quad Cities to teach classes for the LAS program, so she does not anticipate much change. Religious Studies professor Amy Carr added that some of the faculty who will be assigned to Liberal Arts and Sciences have already been teaching in the Quad Cities for their major and minor programs, and those classes will now feed into the LAS degree. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez added that the administration is considering a request from one faculty member to be reassigned to WIUQC.

Senator Roberts asked if the goal is to have students from both campuses in the LAS degree program; Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that this is already the case. Senator Sadler asked how many of the 68 undergraduate students in the LAS major are located in Macomb; Dr. Shouse responded there are 17 on the Macomb campus. Senator Sadler asked if there are currently zero full-time faculty members in LAS on the Quad Cities or Macomb campuses; Dr. Shouse confirmed this is correct. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez added that the initial four faculty hires for the LAS program were to deliver courses in the Quad Cities; there are now three faculty who deliver these courses, all of whom hold tenure in other departments, not in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Senator Sadler asked if there are 51 undergraduate students in the LAS major in the Quad Cities; Dr. Shouse corrected that there are 54-55 undergraduate LAS majors in the Quad Cities currently and 17 on the Macomb campus. Senator Sadler remarked that geography and travel are pretty important questions for the proposal. He asked if 11 faculty are proposed to be merged into the LAS program; Dr. Shouse responded that is correct, and that number includes herself. She added that Liberal Arts and Sciences will also deliver the minors from the three eliminated disciplines (Women's Studies, African American Studies, and Religious Studies) as well as associated Gen Ed courses.

Senator Sadler asked how many LAS courses are required; Dr. Shouse responded there are two. Senator Sadler asked if that is the same between the Quad Cities and Macomb; Dr. Shouse responded that the requirements are the same in both locations. Senator Sadler asked if students wishing to take an upper-level course in Women's Studies or in African American Studies would first have to take the two required LAS courses; Dr. Shouse responded that they will not. Senator Sadler asked if any problems are expected with this departmental transformation in recruiting students for upper-level African American Studies, Women's Studies, or Religious Studies courses; Dr. Shouse responded that as long as the minors remain robust, she does not anticipate any problems. She stated that there were 63 students minoring in Women's Studies in spring 2016. She added that courses will be offered that have a likelihood of attracting sufficient numbers of students and noted that students need courses in their minors as well as in their majors.

Senator Sadler asked if there is any way to forecast the optimal level of faculty that will be needed in the department and how the department will go about thinking about this question since many more LAS students will be on the Macomb campus than the Quad Cities campus in the future. Interim Provost Neumann responded that she does not foresee the numbers changing a lot; the three minors will be folded into Liberal Arts and Sciences, but the rest of the parameters will not change. Senator Sadler asked how many students will be lost with the majors being eliminated. Dr. Shouse responded that about there are currently nine students majoring in Women's Studies, two in Religious Studies, and 18 in African American Studies for a total of 29. Senator Sadler asked if the majors will go away after these students have moved through the system; Dr. Shouse responded affirmatively.

Senator Sadler asked if the 11 faculty are "by acclamation" part of the new Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences or how this would be determined. Interim Provost Neumann responded that the plan is for faculty in Women's Studies, African American Studies, and Religious Studies to now be housed in the Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences and their tenure will be moved into that department. She explained that the faculty will work on departmental criteria so that Liberal Arts and Sciences will have the ability to function administratively like any other department. Senator Sadler asked if faculty must have tenure currently in order to be admitted to the new department; Interim Provost Neumann responded that they do not, and the new department will also include Unit B faculty.

Senator Boynton asked if a student can still major in History and minor in Religious Studies, for example, without being affiliated with Liberal Arts and Sciences in any way; Dr. Shouse responded affirmatively. Senator Allison asked if the 68 undergraduate students are majors in LAS; Dr. Shouse responded that currently there are 75 total undergraduate students and eight graduate students in LAS. Senator Macchi observed that the reason for creation of a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences is to fold the existing minors into it and for LAS students to have a home department, but it seems as if their home is already on the Quad Cities campus. She asked if any discussion has taken place about the department being located on the Quad Cities campus since that is where most of the majors are currently located. Dr. Shouse stated that while most LAS majors are at WIUQC, most students in the Women's Studies, African American Studies, and Religious Studies minors are on the Macomb campus. She admitted that it is not as "clean" as programs such as Sociology, which have a major in the Quad Cities but most of their students on the Macomb campus. Dr. Shouse added that the Women's Studies minor is offered in the Quad Cities, but no students are enrolled in it at that location. She explained that when she refers to a departmental home, she really means an academic home, although a physical place where students

can know which office to go to is also important. She stated there is a physical place for LAS students to go to in the Quad Cities, and Dr. Shouse communicates with Quad Cities LAS faculty a lot. She added that those faculty members also serve as mentors to the LAS students.

Senator Macchi asked if faculty who will be folded into the department will be required to travel more to the Quad Cities since that is where most of the LAS majors are located and the intention is for the program is to grow on both campuses. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that she sees increased growth occurring mostly on the Macomb campus rather than in the Quad Cities, particularly with the addition of faculty from the various new disciplines being housed in Macomb. She stated that currently College of Arts and Sciences Assistant Dean Jim Rabchuk in the Quad Cities is sort of functioning as a “father hen” of the LAS students and works with the LAS student group on that campus. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez stated it has been very hard for LAS students on the Macomb campus to find one place, metaphorical or otherwise, that they can view as a presence for the major, and she thinks that is partly why LAS enrollment is lower in Macomb than at WIUQC. Chairperson Pynes remarked that Senator Macchi’s question touches on some confusion regarding the program. He pointed out that students do not have to take one of the minors that will be included in the proposed department; students can obtain an LAS degree without minoring in any of the disciplines that are being folded into the new department.

Senator Boynton asked if LAS students are required to do a senior project; Dr. Shouse responded that this depends upon who is teaching LAS 495, the capstone course, and how they want to structure it. Senator Boynton remarked that at one time students were having a hard time finding faculty who were willing to mentor these students, but the proposal would potentially solve that problem because students would not have to find faculty from other departments. Dr. Shouse agreed that it should help. She added that before she was involved with the program she advised many LAS students on their thesis or graduate projects, but it will be helpful for students to have a department that they can turn to.

Senator McNabb remarked that the comments concerning the campus issues are important ones. She asked how many General Education course are being offered in Religious Studies, Women’s Studies, and African American Studies on the Macomb versus the Quad Cities campuses. Dr. Shouse responded that in a given calendar year, typically two Women’s Studies courses are offered online; two of the three Religious Studies courses each year are Gen Ed, and one is typically offered online; and five or six sections of African American Studies courses are offered for General Education each year. Senator McNabb noted that while there are concerns about providing a presence for LAS students in the Quad Cities, the new LAS faculty will already have significant teaching assignments on the Macomb campus. She stated that while she understanding this will be a process that will be negotiated over time to meet student needs, she believes the 51 LAS students in the Quad Cities must be cast against the hundreds of students already taking courses from these faculty in Macomb. Dr. Shouse stated that LAS 195 and 495 are the only courses that are required for all LAS students; other courses may be chosen from what is available in the Quad Cities. She added that one of the 11 faculty members has also expressed an interest in moving to the Quad Cities. Senator McNabb noted that with the Paired Minors students could take online courses from any area they are interested in, so location is less relevant with that path. Dr. Shouse added that Women’s Studies and Religious Studies are already offered as minors in the Quad Cities; while African American Studies is not offered as a minor there yet, Dr. Shouse is considering how to make that minor available to Quad Cities students as well.

Senator Allison remarked that Drs. Malachuk, Hamner, and Werner were brought in specifically to develop the LAS program and have worked to grow it in the Quad Cities but now will not be in the new department. She believes it will be odd to have a department that they incubated but will not be a part of. Dr. Shouse responded that this conversation has occurred, and consideration has been given as to how to make sure these faculty members are included in the process while still respecting that there will be a department and departmental faculty on the Macomb campus. She said the three faculty will be included in discussions, and she will keep them informed as to how any decisions will affect Quad Cities students. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez added that WIU has a history of including associate faculty in the departmental structure. She related that when she was

an untenured faculty member, she was always included in discussions about Women's Studies and was able to attend meetings and provide input. She does not see the creation of a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences changing too much how Quad Cities faculty can contribute and provide good ideas to the program. Senator Allison remarked that she is associate faculty in Women's Studies by virtue of teaching a Women's Studies course but she has never been invited to departmental meetings. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez responded that she would invite herself. Dr. Shouse stated that this occurred when the Department of Women's Studies was new and trying to establish departmental autonomy and determine questions regarding what role faculty teaching courses that are cross-listed with Women's Studies should play in determining departmental policy. Senator Allison reiterated that the three existing LAS faculty members will be outside the department. Senator McNabb observed that new documents and departmental criteria will be created for the Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and she would strenuously endorse the idea of including a provision for these individuals so that they will be invited to departmental meetings and have a vote on the future of the program. She added that there will be opportunities during the formation period to ensure that individuals who have been playing a guiding role are still invited to the table after the department's creation. She suggested that if these individuals can be given a label, such as affiliated faculty, that allows them to be full participants in departmental dialogue about the program's future, that would be just and valuable.

Chairperson Pynes reminded senators that there is no motion on the table.

**Friendly amendment:** That the department name be changed to Liberal Studies (McNabb/Boynton)

Senator Boynton asked if there can be a friendly amendment without a motion on the table.

**Motion:** To create the proposed department (Boynton/McNabb)

**Friendly amendment:** That the title of the department be changed to Department of Liberal Studies (McNabb/Boynton)

Chairperson Pynes stated that if the friendly amendment is not supported by Dean Martinelli-Fernandez and Dr. Shouse, the Senate would need to vote on it. Senator Roberts asked if the motion could be tabled. Chairperson Pynes responded that the motion could be tabled, but Interim Provost Neumann would like to see the proposal, if approved, be presented to the Board of Trustees (BOT) at their meeting on October 7, after which it would go on to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). Dean Martinelli-Fernandez said she sees the suggestion to change the name to Liberal Studies as a friendly amendment, but LAS faculty present at the meeting have expressed concerns that they were not all part of this discussion. Interim Provost Neumann remarked that the department name could easily be changed at a later date to something more reflective once LAS faculty have had the chance to consider it. Dean Martinelli-Fernandez asked if this would affect the subcode for IBHE; Interim Provost Neumann responded it will not because department names have nothing to do with Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes. Senator McNabb said her amendment was intended to be friendly, but that if it is sparking more conversation than individuals are comfortable with at the moment, she does not mind withdrawing it.

#### **SENATOR MCNABB WITHDREW THE FRIENDLY AMENDMENT**

Chairperson Pynes asked if the Quad Cities senator has any comments or concerns; Senator Halverson responded that he does not. Senator Hironimus-Wendt asked if the motion to table is privileged since the motion on the floor is to accept the proposal and then Senator Roberts made a motion to table. Chairperson Pynes responded that Senator Roberts asked a question but did not make a motion.

**Motion:** To table the motion (Roberts/Allison)

Chairperson Pynes asked Senator Roberts whether his intention was to table the motion until a specific date. Senator Roberts responded the purpose of his motion to table was to alleviate

concerns that he has and others may have, not just regarding the semantics of what the department is called but how it will function as to the relationship between the two campuses and the impact of the large major being in the Quad Cities. He would like to see discussion tabled until the next Senate meeting.

Senator Hironimus-Wendt asked if the motion to table is debatable. Chairperson Pynes responded that senators will be voting on it but the motion to table can be discussed.

Dr. Shouse asked to address the premise that there will necessarily be problems because the majority of students are on the Quad Cities campus. She pointed out that the LAS program has existed and thrived on two campuses for a decade. She said the Director of the program has always been located in Macomb while the growth has always been in the Quad Cities, so the program must be doing something right up there and she is not concerned about balance. She does not anticipate that creating the department on the Macomb campus will harm the Quad Cities program because it has existed that way for the past ten years.

Senator Hironimus-Wendt said he would be appalled if senators were to drop the ball now on creation of a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He pointed out that there are 11 colleagues who last semester experienced significant harm, and the motion is intended to create a department where they can reestablish themselves. He believes that to put off for two weeks or a month what will almost certainly be an inevitable vote in favor of creating the department in some fashion would seem to perpetuate and unnecessarily extend the harm. He urged senators to oppose tabling the motion.

Senator Halverson said he would be in favor of tabling because he is hearing a lot of talk about the Quad Cities and he has no idea how his colleagues on that campus feel. He expressed reluctance to vote to approve creating the department until conferring with faculty in the Quad Cities.

Senator DeVolder pointed out that the major and minors have been in existence and operational for a number of years; the thing that is different is the addition of faculty from three degree programs that do not currently have a home. He asked what the plan was for finding a home for these faculty members prior to the proposal to create a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences or if that was the plan all along. Interim Provost Neumann responded that a lot of discussion transpired over the summer regarding the best place to house faculty from the four disciplines. She related that Philosophy faculty, in conjunction with Mathematics, decided that merging the two departments was the best fit for them. Interim Provost Neumann stated that the remaining displaced faculty told her that keeping them together would make them stronger, and the proposal is a result of those discussions. Chairperson Pynes asked if this plan occurred prior to or after eliminating those programs; Interim Provost Neumann responded that they occurred after. Senator DeVolder asked whether, as the elimination of the four programs was being contemplated and it was determined that faculty would need a home, creation of a Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences was the original plan; Interim Provost Neumann responded that the proposal was the outcome of the discussions with faculty in those areas.

Chairperson Pynes informed senators that a two-thirds vote is needed to pass a motion to table.

**MOTION TO TABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27 FAILED 6 YES – 13 NO – 2 ABSTENTIONS**

**MOTION TO CREATE A DEPARTMENT OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES  
APPROVED 14 YES – 2 NO – 5 ABSTENTIONS**

Chairperson Pynes stated that consideration of the new department will be on the BOT agenda for October 7. Senators with additional comments or questions should contact the BOT chair by two weeks prior to that date.

B. Proposal to Constitute a General Education Review Committee

Chairperson Pynes related that Interim Provost Neumann has asked Faculty Senate to create a committee to review General Education. He added that during a lengthy discussion, the Executive Committee asked the Provost about her desires for the committee and put together a proposal:

**Charge:**

The committee will conduct:

- 1) an examination of the purpose and necessity of each individual General Education category, to include discussions of:
  - Multicultural versus other graduation requirements, such as Foreign Language/Global Issues
  - Human Well Being and UNIV 100 in light of recent changes to the First Year Experience Program
- 2) an examination of the number of hours required within each category
- 3) an examination of the overall number of hours required for the Gen Ed requirement, to include discussions of whether Gen Ed is too big and whether it is sufficiently focused
- 4) a review of the structure of General Education assessment
- 5) an examination into how WIU's Gen Ed identifies itself relevant to peer institutions in the state, to include discussions of:
  - what peer institutions include in their General Education cores
  - how other institutions craft a more palatable selling point for General Education
- 6) a discussion of and examination into any relevant issues that arise from the review process

The committee should invite relevant guests as needed.

**Meetings:** The review committee will meet at the regular Council on General Education meeting times (every other Thursday from 3:30-5:00 p.m.).

**Timeline:** The committee is asked to present a final report to the Faculty Senate on March 28, 2017.

**Membership:**

- 16 – entire membership of Council on General Education (CGE)
- 4 – one faculty member from each academic college (to be nominated by the Senate Nominating Committee)
- 1 – representative from CAGAS (ex-officio)

**Friendly Amendment:** That Faculty Senate add to the list of members the two most recent chairs of the Council on General Education since they bring a lot of institutional memory and experience to the issue of General Education (Boynton/Hironimus-Wendt)

Chairperson Pynes asked if this would be amenable to the Provost; Interim Provost Neumann responded that it is. He asked if it would also be amenable to Senators Sandage and Allison, who served as the two most recent chairs of CGE; both replied that they would be willing to serve on the review committee. Senator Sandage added that some of the bullet points on the list are things that CGE has already worked on in the recent past.

**Friendly Amendment:** To change the second bullet point on #5 to “how other institutions craft General Education programs with more appeal for students.” (Boynton)

**Friendly Amendment:** To change #3 from “...whether Gen Ed is too big...” to “...whether General Education is the correct size...” (Boynton)

Interim Provost Neumann had no objections to the two friendly amendments.

Senator Macchi asked if #1 refers to the Human Well-Being category or to UNIV 100 or both; Chairperson Pynes confirmed that it refers to both. Associate Provost Parsons pointed out that other categories/courses have encountered issues through the years; for instance, the inclusions of Financial Health in the Human Well-Being category and CS 114 and 214 in the Math/Natural Sciences category have generated much discussion. Chairperson Pynes clarified that the UNIV 100 reference was included as an “e.g.” for #1, and other issues can be considered.

**Motion:** To create the General Education Review Committee (McNabb/Boynton)

**MOTION APPROVED 19 YES – 0 NO – 1 ABSTENTION**

Senator Boynton asked if the current Chair of CGE will also be the Chair of the General Education Review Committee or if the Committee should elect a chair. Chairperson Pynes responded that the standing CGE chair should also chair the Review Committee.

C. Proposal for CCPI Review of Comprehensive Majors and Definitions of Academic Terms

Interim Provost Neumann has also asked that Faculty Senate charge the Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (CCPI) to review comprehensive majors and definitions of academic terms. In communication with her and the Chair of CCPI, the Executive Committee drafted a proposal:

**Charge:**

CCPI will conduct:

- 1) a review of the existing definitions of academic terms
- 2) an examination of the comprehensive major, to include:
  - whether the understanding of a comprehensive major as a broad-based unit of instruction has changed to now prevent students from getting sufficient exposure outside their major disciplines
  - a consideration of the restrictions placed upon comprehensive majors due to accreditation requirements
- 3) an examination of majors and minors within the same discipline
- 4) a review of the process by which departments are applying academic terms, such as the creation of emphases or options that later evolve into minors or majors
- 5) an examination into what constitutes a discipline, a program, and a core and consideration of adding these to the definitions of academic terms
- 6) an examination into whether curriculum in general should be “tightened”
- 7) a discussion of and examination into any relevant issues that arise from the review process

The council should invite relevant guests as needed.

**Meetings:** Meetings will be held at the regular Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction meeting times (every other Thursday at 3:30 p.m.).

**Timeline:** CCPI is asked to present a final report to the Faculty Senate on March 7, 2017.

**Membership:**

14--entire membership of Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction plus Provost’s office representative (Linda Prosis)

Senator Roberts asked what item #6 means. Chairperson Pynes responded that Senator McIlvaine-Newsad suggested that item, and she has already left the meeting. He explained that the request from Interim Provost Neumann was for Faculty Senate to look at the comprehensive major because it has morphed into some things that were not originally intended when comprehensive

majors were first created. He suggested that perhaps “tightened” in #6 should be changed to “focused.” Senator Roberts stated that #6 represents a substantial issue that sends a mixed message regarding whether majors will remain comprehensive or become more specialized following the review. The Senate Chair and Vice Chair agreed that #6 can be removed from the charge.

Senator Allison noted that the reviews by CCPI and CGE will be conducted at the same time and might be interrelated. She is concerned that the two committees could make completely different recommendations that could be intertwined. Interim Provost Neumann sees these as two fairly distinct committees with not enough overlap to cause concern. She pointed out that the General Education Review Committee will not delve into what constitutes a comprehensive major or the relationship of majors and minors in two related areas, which is what CCPI will be focusing on. Senator Allison pointed out there is a relationship between comprehensive majors and Gen Ed. Chairperson Pynes explained that CCPI has developed a list of definitions of academic terms which will be the primary focus of their charge.

Senator Hironimus-Wendt related that about six years ago former Provost Dallinger, with the assistance of Associate Provost Parsons, who was CCPI Chair at the time, engaged in a similar discussion. He pointed out that comprehensive majors are not the same as a comprehensive university; it is a complete different construct. He explained that some comprehensive majors are overly big and may have gone beyond the justification that was used to create them, which speaks to the incorporation of minors within comprehensive majors because of their size. He believes that what constitutes an option, track, and other academic terms and review of these constructs will not necessarily affect CGE in any way. Chairperson Pynes pointed out that if the discussions did affect CGE, the charge specifies that any relevant guests can be invited to participate.

**Motion:** To accept the charge to review comprehensive majors and the definitions of academic terms (McNabb/Brown)

**MOTION APPROVED 20 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB**

**Motion:** To adjourn (McNabb)

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Senate Secretary

Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary