**Faculty Senate, 7/12/11**

**I: Roll Call: Present**

Michael Freeman, Katherine Schmidt, Jason Waite, Cheryl Beaver, Mike LeMaster, David Doellinger, Bob Hautala, Amanda Smith, Tracy Smiles, Maria Dantas-Whitney, Michael Phillips, Erin Passehl, Kevin Malkewitz, Edwin Cancel, Dana Ulveland

**II. Call for Corrections to Minutes**

No corrections to minutes.

**Action:** Minutes approved.

**III. President’s Reports**

**Gavin Keulks, Faculty Senate –**

The Senate website has been updated to reflect all meeting dates for the upcoming year. Any gaps in the schedule are stipulated in the bylaws.

The Executive committee met last week to set the agenda for today’s meeting. There was a request for support of an application to the state board of education made by Emily Peck. This was scheduled for discussion today because, at the time, she was the only candidate. Another candidate then applied and this item was then pulled.

Vicente Fox will be coming to campus October 20th. If anyone has any information they would like to publish and present to Fox please let Gavin know.

An update on the Portal meeting reflects that some of the wanted changes were easy to fix, while others were not. A retrieve or rollback option had been a very popular idea from many committees. However, debate came from whether one can actually roll something back and on what grounds. Some individuals are under the impression that if a document is not complete and would potentially be “rolled back,” it should instead be sent back entirely because the document is being changed, while others are not.

Question raised about where to find minutes from all of the different Senate committees. Answer: Not all Senate committees take formal minutes. Not all senate committees upload minutes to the website. Because it is not centralized or mandated in the by-laws, best to contact chairs of respective committees with such requests.

**John Minahan, Western Oregon University –**

Has decided to leave his position before school resumes in the fall. Reasoning is that he cannot keep up the energy level to manage the job as well as he would like. The necessary steps have been taken to make this transition as easy and safe as possible for the institution. If there has to be a time to leave, now is the time because the school is in such a good place. It is felt that it would be best if an interim filled the position for the next two years. A few internal possibilities have been suggested that could make this work. Will orchestrate a meeting for staff and faculty, as well as issue a formal announcement. The Chancellor has been informed.

The money has been granted for the extra lab building, as well as the turf field.

Question raised about how business would be conducted if there is not a definite confirmed interim person in position.

Answer: There is not an exact answer for this right now. The board would bring in someone from the outside, while looking for a person to hold the position permanently. It would be ideal if this could be delayed and someone from the inside could fill the position. Do not want someone who is looking to become president

\*Thanks to President Minahan for all he has done to transform this school. It is a very sad day.

**Marshall Gutherie, Staff Senate –**

The Staff Senate is alive and well and committed to the role they play here on campus. Their biggest platform is to work more frequently with feedback from staff, campus as a whole and the community. Everyone is going to see a lot more communication going out, hopefully leading to more knowledge about what the Staff Senate is actually doing.

**Jonathan Farmer, ASWOU –**

Not present.

**Kent Neely, Provosts’ Council –**

Provost Neely is currently in mainland China. He had two items he wanted everyone to be informed of. The first is that on June 23rd, the Academic Board Committee approved the revised charge for the Provost committee. It basically formalized and specified their existing duties and further charged them with articulation affecting academic matters. The second item concerned clarifying the Provost’s role in overseeing institutes.

**IV. Old Business**

**Curriculum & Instruction Content Area, MS in Ed:** It has been noticed that options in the MSEd program are not always meeting student’s needs. It has also been noticed that return rates from undergraduates are not as strong as they could be and that a lot of students with a middle/high focus are being lost, specifically to Portland State, as well as others. It is thought that adding an area in Curriculum and Instruction to the MSEd program would curb this loss. A degree in Curriculum and Instruction would bring students back to WOU and allow for flexibility within the program. The students would still take the same educational core but would then take eighteen credits of content core that differ depending on their focus. The exit requirements for the program would still remain the same. This would also be more appropriate for an administrative sort of degree. Additional offerings for incoming MSEd students will be added in the future but currently only the addition of the course ED64 is being proposed.

**Action:** Motion made to approve. Motion seconded and approved.

**V. New Business**

None.

**VI. Interinstitutional faculty senate report**

Currently need an additional member as well as one to replace Joel Alexanderm, whose term is expiring. These members are needed right away to help in Portland in collecting information and bringing Western’s concerns to the Chancellor’s office. You do not need to be a current Faculty Senator to take part.

**VII. Committee Review**

None.

**VIII. Informational Presentations**

None.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned**