**Faculty Senate Meeting 2/22/11**

**I: Roll Call: Present**

Bob Hautala, Maria Dantas-Whitney, Scott Grim, Zenon Zygmont, Susan Daniel, Henry Hughes, Terry Gingerich, Jonathan Farmer, Kent Neely, Tad Shannon, Mark Girod, Mike LeMaster, Janeanne Rockwell-Kincanon, Cheryl Beaver, David Foster, Pete Poston, Michael Freeman, Cheryl Davis, David Doellinger, Kevin Helppie

**II. Call for Corrections to Minutes**

No corrections to minutes

**Action:** Minutes approved.

**III. President’s Reports**

**Gavin Keulks, Faculty Senate –**

Executive Committee met last Thursday (2/17). They took care of many minor proposals. Emails were sent to everyone to notify them of the changes. Extra work due to Dean accidentally rejecting proposals has been taken care of. This is not a senate issue but Vicente Fox will be the Jensen Lecture speaker in October, information which was also sent in email.

**John Minahan, Western Oregon University –**

Minahan is presenting, along with the president from Southern Oregon University, today to the House of Higher Education subcommittee. Presentation is concentrated on the growth seen at Western. The full head count of students has risen over the last five years. This year, as of today, WOU is 7.0% above last year in registrations. Applications show that WOU is 25% ahead of applications at this same time last year. The numbers of graduate students are also up but it is difficult to assess information concerning them because they are allowed to enter into the program at any time. Interesting indicator of growth is that each year WOU continues to set a new bar. Compared to students from 2006 – 2011 the bar has been passed each year. Given the emphases over the last three years of recruiting students from the Latino population, admitted students are far ahead of the numbers the previous year. The only dip found is in upperclassmen males. University ratio is 60% female to 40% male. Subcommittee wanted to know what the school was doing to try and recruit first generation and diverse students. Minahan has a copy of the final report and will submit it this Friday (2/25). Will be sent to NW Commission Friday (2/25) or Monday (2/28).

Question raised about information of selectivity of incoming freshman. Is WOU going down in quality in order to get higher numbers of enrollment?

Answer: No. Requirements have stayed the same. Our graduation rates are high for underrepresented students.

**Lisa Catto, Staff Senate –**

Western’s very first Relay for Life will be held April 16th. It is a twelve hour event to raise money and show support for cancer victims, survivors and their families. Encourage everyone to make teams.

**Yasmin Ibarra, ASWOU –**

January and February have been focused on the legislation and how OSUA is representing them. Opposed bill SP559 and supported bill SP742 on tuition equality, as well as other bills to ensure that everyone will have access to higher education, which would increase Oregon’s work force. Students are also in support for ending funding sweeps. March 3rd  is the hearing at the capital and they are looking for testimonies to share. Would like to thank John Minahan for his support.

**Kent Neely, Provosts’ Council –**

None.

**IV. Old Business**

**Crime Analysis Certificate:** Proposing a certificate in Crime Analysis to be another track for criminal justice majors. Proposal is the departments attempt to keep ahead of growing technology in the field of criminal justice. Certificate would allow students to easily enter into this field. Very, very few other universities offer this certificate program. Requiring computer science minor is very different from other programs. (See article b. on Senate website)

Question raised about if universities in other states were looked at for their programs.

Answer: Yes. There are only about 6 programs in the country that offer this certificate, the closest to WOU being in California. No other university offers the certificate and requires a minor in computer science.

**Action:** Motion made to approve. Motion seconded and approved. Changes will be made in portal.

**Fire Science Minor Optional:** Is proposing that the Fire Science degree requirements be altered to offer a minor optional track. This is to serve the transfer and non-traditional students that are common to this program. This program is a pre-professional degree and requires special circumstances. The average age of a student enrolled is 36 year old. Most students are full time employees of the fire service department looking to get a degree in order to get a promotion; others have already started their career and opted to get a degree later on. If the minor was made optional it would help this program regain its competitive edge. The major cannot just be changed because it must stay under regulations. For traditional students, a minor would be encouraged. (See article c.)

Question raised about other programs on campus that don’t have minors. Don’t these programs have larger majors to make up for the lack of credits from not having a minor?

Answer: If they could get the students to take courses here within the major instead of having to go somewhere else and take other classes that would be great. Also, if someone had a large amount of transfer credits, they could fit into the elective category.

Question raised about the necessary degrees to obtain a certain type of promotions. What is it that employers expect when their employees go and get a degree?

Answer: The main intent is an officer development degree. It’s not a skills degree. Would like degree to include upper level thinking, problem solving, manager skills, etc. They are not expecting the degree to represent a general education degree.

Question raised about if there are courses outside of the major that the students would be taking.

Answer: Yes. There are management and budgeting, business, communications, writing and other courses that the students would be encouraged to take. These would be brought in under electives and not under a minor.

Question raised about if having a minor is inconvenient or retention rates are low are good enough reason to get rid of minor. Have they looked to build an infrastructure to support a minor or have more departments that offer minors?

Answer: There are some courses that students can take online but not many. It would be restrictive to say that the program requires a minor but only in this subject.

Question raised about if this would this take away from quality of program.

Answer: The department honestly believes it will improve the program.

Question raised about if any of the programs at other universities require minors.

Answer: None other than Western.

Question raised about if the homeland security minor could work, considering it can be taken online.

Answer: This minor could work but most of the students in this program have been in the business for 15 years and have already received a lot of this training that a homeland security minor would provide.

Question raised about expanded majors.

Answer: This did go through Curriculum Committee and it passed. Has not gone through ARC yet.

\*Senate member thinks that Faculty Senate should support this proposal. He personally talked with the local fire department and they thought this proposal was very strong.

**Action:** Motion made to approve. Motion seconded and approved. Changes will be made in portal. Two votes against approving proposal.

**MUP American Vernacular Studies:** If you come to Western and want to study trumpet, you come and sign up with an MUP and take your private lesson each week. Many students are doing this same thing with American Vernacular Studies. Proposal is only requesting numbers that would be available in the catalog so students can sign up under these numbers. The numbers are MUP170, 270, 370, 470,and 670. American vernacular requirements are more extensive than any other private study requirements. The students must play what instrument they play, as well as write and do other scholarly activities. (See article e.)

Question raised about the coverage of polkas under this course.

Answer: Yes. It will cover polkas because they have integrated themselves into the culture.

Question raised about if there are other vernaculars outside of the Americas would be covered.

Answer: No. Only North and South America would be covered.

Question raised about if this program would be working with other departments.

Answer: Yes. It is very common to work outside of your own department.

**Action:** Motion made to approve. Motion seconded and approved. Changes will be made in portal.

**Gen Ed/LACC Report:** Proposal was sent to Faculty Senate because of the amendments needing to be made. Committee on Committees had feedback/recommendations for the proposal but none were action based. ARC has three distinct amendments. Today, the Senate will be voting on each amendment separately and whether to accept (or not) the entire proposal. (See article f.)

Question raised about if this should be a new business item and not amendment driven because it is a whole new proposal coming out of ARC.

Answer: Procedurally, the Senate can vote March 8th and make it a new business item. The Executive Committee voted that it should come before Senate now and have the previous option as an emergency option if needed.

Question raised about this being an informational presentation the first time it came to Senate.

Answer: It was part of the committee reports.

**Action:** Motion made to postpone voting until March 8th so individuals can meet with their own departments and discuss this. Motion seconded.

Further discussion

Question raised about if Senate is voting to support modifications to informational reports.

Answer: Yes. Senate has to accept this informational proposal. It was not accepted in September but was submitted to three committees and an amendment was made. All Senate is doing is agreeing to approve a subcommittees report. Under Robert’s Rules, this has to be done. Once we approve or reject the three amendments the document can be approved or not.

Question raised about if the changes being made are the highlights within the documents because these changes are very minor.

Answer: Yes. The only changes are changing a few words and dropping a bullet. The big one is making a change to ARC committee members. LACC committee decided to reorient this and it is now tied to a degree. ARC went back to divisional model. That is what the debate is about. This is significant because it is the committee’s structure.

Question raised about why ARC wanted to change their structure.

Answer: The felt that there should be representation among degrees and not just departments.

\*Voting on this item would say that ARC’s structure is so (or not). It would be official.

Question raised about if Senate could vote on amendments today but vote on entire proposal on March 8th.

Answer: Voting should probably be postponed until everyone has talked to their colleagues.

\*ARC recommendations maybe should not have so much weight because their committee only affects the LACCs, while this is a bigger issue. Student reps are also hard to find for Senate Committees. The student senate never has the requested number of students on it. In the future, students could be assigned to attend this committee.

Question raised about history majors being either a bachelor of science or a bachelor of arts. How would you decide who represents the history department? Would you have two representatives; one for each?

Answer: There could be an honors representative. BA and BS are very similar so one representative wouldn’t be a large concern.

Question raised about a division not being represented by this ARC recommendation.

Answer: Yes. It does look like a division could not be represented entirely.

**Action:** Motion approved to postpone voting until March 8th. One vote against approving motion. Will be first item of old business on March 8th.

**V. New Business**

**MA in Criminal Justice Changes:** Proposing three changes to the graduate program. The first two changes are minor adjustments to program, allowing students to take 500 level courses as electives and allowing the students to see their degree plan options. The third change is larger and is proposing that special independent study could be a degree plan option. Currently the catalog states that students must take the thesis option. Proposal is not altering any courses or majors. (See article g.)

Will be second item of old business on March 8th.

Question raised about if this proposal even needs to go through this process.

Answer: There are a few degree changes. FEC decided they were not comfortable with approving it and thought it should be routed to the Senate.

**Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Option:** Proposing an addition to the chemistry major and the addition of two new minor tracks to go a long with this major option. This program would give chemistry majors a pre-professional option and provide diversity. There has been a lot of interest shown towards this program. Students would take 39 biology credits and 61 chemistry credits. They could take a natural science track or a health and community track for a minor. A lot of students come out of the nursing program and end up changing their major. This major would allow those students to take advantage of all of the courses they have already taken if they switched their major to this program. Overall, new program is low overhead. It is only adding two new courses (Chem 322 and Chem 347). It does not require any new facilities or professors. (See article h.)

Question about if department has a list of the courses that would be offered.

Answer: As of right now, no. The list is pretty packed because of pre-reqs for the required courses. Students would have to take anatomy, genetics, cell biology, physics and anything else they would need to get into medical school. Natural science minor is 29 or 30 credits and health and community minor is 26 credits. This can be seen on portal.

Will be third item of new business on March 8th.

**Economics Program Changes:** Proposing two big changes. The first is splitting Econ 311 into Econ 311 and 312 to allow for the coverage of more material, as well as the coverage of some behavioral economics. The other big change is to rename Econ 315 to say econometrics in title. Course content would not change just title. Instead of being called Economic Analysis and Report Writing, it would be called Econometric Analysis and Report Writing. Statistics would also be required as a pre-req. Proposal also states that because a new course is being required, electives must be cut back on. Upper division electives are being reduced by one course because it is being replaced by Econ 312. Other courses that are not economic courses but fit under the degree can be put in place. Proposing one new course, Econ 365 Economics of Organized Crime, taught by Zenon Zygmont. Is a very interesting course that looks at how the underground economy works. (See article i.)

Will be fourth item of new business on March 8th.

Question raised if Econ 365 can be cross listed with criminal justice because they have tons of students that need more courses to enroll in.

Answer: It is a seminar course that is ideally for 12-15 students. Is a unique class with a unique structure. There are no papers or tests and instead require readings and have extensive discussions. Very good environment that students enjoy. Do want more students and wouldn’t be against it but would like to keep numbers down because large numbers would make a seminar impractical.

**VI. Interinstitutional faculty senate report**

None.

**VII. Committee Review**

None.

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned**