

# 2014-10-3 Faculty Senate Minutes - WP - West Plains Faculty Senate team

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## Missouri State University-West Plains Faculty Senate Minutes 2014-10-03

**In attendance:** Amy Ackerson, Leigh Adams, Lu Adams, Craig Albin, Ed Birdyshaw, Sharon Bynum, Melinda Denton, Joyce Dewitt, Ana Estrella, Alexandra Graham, Aimee Green, Phillip Howerton, Jeff Huff, Joyce Jennings-Pineda, Sylvia Kuhlmeier, Michelle Kwon, Debra Mayers, Renee Moore, Connie Morgan, MaryAnn Mutrux, Barbara Nyden, Neva Parrott, Gary Phillips, Jacob Poulette, Cathy-Proffitt-Boys, Linda Risner, Joseph Rugutt, Chulapol Thanomsing, Jay Towell, A. Jerry Trick, Pat Walsh, Connie Yates, Emily Yeager.

I. Call to order at 9:00 by Debra Mayers. Introduction of new faculty present.

II. Additions and Approval of Agenda.

**Motion** to approve agenda by Jay Towell. **Second** by Gary Phillips. **Motion carried.**

III. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting.

**Motion** to accept minutes by Gary Phillips. **Second** by Amy Ackerson. **Motion** carried.

IV. Common Reader

Ed Birdyshaw updated the faculty on the process for creating a committee for the 2015-2016 common reader and the process of nominating and selecting a book for the program. It is proposed that the committee be selected by, and serve under the auspices of, the Dean's Office rather than the Faculty Senate. Nominated titles will be collected from all campus constituencies – students, faculty, staff and administration – using a web-based collection tool. Using a web-based survey tool to survey the campus community, these titles will be narrowed to a smaller field of 15 titles during the Fall semester. The committee will review the top 15 titles and reduce the list to three finalists by Thanksgiving Break. The committee will acquire desk copies, and members will read the book over Christmas break. The final decision for the book will be announced no later than the February Faculty Senate meeting.

V. Campus Update, Dr. Bennett

Dr. Bennett reminded faculty that President Clif Smart will be delivering the State of the University Address at 10:30 on October 7 at 10:30 at the Civic Center.

Dr. Bennett also noted that he recently visited with the Chamber of Commerce and shared the “Year in Review,” a video prepared by an MSU-WP student, William Mahan. He also noted that MSU-WP needs to be considering how it can help the workers who will be laid off when the local Invensys factory closes. The Chancellor also observed that since 2007 enrollment has increased by more than 25% and faculty by 33%. He also discussed the proposed handbook change to section 3.3.3, explaining that the section now limits how faculty ratings are compared across campus.

#### VI. Discuss of Section 3.3.3

Several faculty members expressed their concerns with the change to Section 3.3.3 proposed by administration: the suggested deletion of “At all levels of teaching evaluation, direct comparisons or rankings of faculty members between departments/divisions should be avoided.” President Mayers suggested that further discussion be postponed until closed session.

#### VII. Staff/Faculty Emeritus Wall(s), Banner, Protective Cover

Jerry Trick reported that he is exploring options for the banner and that the plaque for John Fohn is being corrected.

#### VIII. Emeritus Reception

Debra Mayers reminded faculty that the reception for emeritus faculty has been rescheduled for Nov. 12 at 2:30 to 3:30 in M216.

#### IX. Map Works Academic Updates

Pam Tate and Chulapol Thanomsing demonstrated how to make and respond to referrals and how to do the required academic updates on Map Works. Pam reminded faculty of the Map Works training scheduled for late October.

#### X. Bachelor’s Degree in General Education

Debra Mayers reported that MSU-Springfield will be offering a bachelor’s degree in general education and that this might enhance enrollment in some of our general education courses.

#### XI. HLC Approval for AA Degree Online

Debra Mayers stated that HLC will make a decision on approval for the on-line AA degree on October 27, 2014.

#### XII. RPT

Barbara Nyden noted that because the recently revised faculty handbook is still being assessed by the legal department, faculty must follow the old RPT regulations this year unless the Board of Governors approves the new handbook and votes to accept it retroactively. Barbara also presented a list of faculty members who are eligible to serve on the RPT committee this year. The following people volunteered to serve: Craig Albin, Joseph Rugutt, Barbara Caton, Connie Morgan, Jim Hart, Cindy Smith, and Gary Phillips. Barbara Nyden volunteered to serve as chair.

### XIII. RPT Academy

Debra Mayers reminded faculty that an RPT Academy will be held on October 17 from 1:00 until 3:00. Barbara Nyden added that this academy will cover most all aspects of applying for re-appointment, promotion, or tenure.

### XIV. MSU System Budget Committee Representatives

Debra Mayers called for two volunteers to serve as faculty representatives on the MSU System Budget Committee. It was noted that these meetings are commonly held through ITV. Joyce Jennings-Pineda and Sharon Bynum volunteered.

### XV. Campus Security Authority

Debra Mayers reminded faculty that sponsors of student organizations must complete Title IX training between October 1 and November 1.

### XVI. Credit by Assessment

Debra Mayers pointed out that faculty members wanting further information about credit by assessment should contact Sheila Barton in Looney Hall.

### XVII. Per Course Concerns

MaryAnn Mutrux explained how the new 6-hour per semester limit is creating difficulty for per course faculty, especially those who teach a course with a lab component. She added that this limit does not allow per course faculty to teach summer courses. Another concern of per course MaryAnn noted is that these instructors are now required to go through a time-consuming re-application process each year. She also expressed concerns with the lack of space afforded to per course faculty.

### XVIII. Assessment Committee Update

Gary Phillips stated that the assessment reports are a great place to mention budget concerns because assessment is inextricably linked to budgets. Gary also reminded faculty members of the assessment deadlines.

### XIX. Institutional Analysis Committee

Joyce Jennings-Pineda noted that IAC will also be looking at budget issues.

### XX. Curriculum Committee Update

Leigh Adams asked for any concerns with or objections to the curriculum changes accepted by the curriculum committee. Being none, the changes were approved by consent. Leigh stated that because the university catalog will now be available only in electronic format the due dates for curriculum proposals have changed. She announced that the tentative new dates are November 1 for changes to the spring catalog, January 1 for changes to the summer catalog, and April 1 for changes to the fall catalog.

### XXI. Handbook Committee Update

Barbara Nyden stated that the handbook committee will be meeting this afternoon (10/3) and will be looking at specific passages in the handbook that will need to be changed if it is approved.

#### XXII. Public Affairs Committee Update

Gary Phillips said that the public affairs committee has met by e-mail. He said the members had discussed the Citizen Scholar Award and expressed concern that students in Gohn Hall are being left out. To Barbara Nyden's inquiry if the Public Affairs Committee had authority to request money to sponsor speakers to visit campus, Gary responded that the committee had the authority to request such funding.

#### XXIII. IDS Information

Jerry Trick stated that nominations for Who's Who will be coming up soon. He added that a meeting to discuss IDS 297 was scheduled for 1:00 and a meeting to discuss IDS 110 was scheduled for 2:00 this afternoon (10/3). He also reminded faculty of an upcoming trivia contest for IDS students.

#### XXIV. Dean's Update

Pat Walsh reported that MSU-WP student enrollment has increased by approximately 25% since 2007. She also pointed out that although the fall 2014 total enrollment is the second highest during these years, the FTE for the current semester is the second lowest during these same timeframe. Pat also outlined the new pathway for accreditation, noting that although MSU-WP is accredited for ten years, there will be an HLC visit in four years to assess the status of the university.

#### XXV. Announcements

- Jacob Poulette announced that a Game Developer Meet Up will be held first Saturday of each month at the OzSBI Idea Center.
- Debra Mayers reminded faculty that the Faculty Emeritus reception has been changed to 2:30-3:30 to 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 12 in M216.
- Jerry trick mentioned that if the faculty plans to do something for Dr. Lunday, the plans need to be made soon.
- Debra Mayers mentioned that the three finalists for the position of Dean of Student Services will be visiting campus and that faculty can participate in this process.

#### XXVI. Closed Session

Discussion was re-opened concerning the deletion of the following sentence from Section 3.3.3 of the current revised faculty handbook: "At all levels of teaching evaluation, direct comparisons or rankings of faculty members between departments/divisions should be avoided." After several faculty members voiced their reasons why this sentence should be retained, a **motion** was made Leigh Adams that this sentence be retained, a **second** was made by Jeff Huff. **Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**

Adjournment was achieved without a motion being made, 11:02.

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