



OFFICIAL MINUTES Faculty Senate Meeting November 27, 2023

Call to order: Senate President Brandon Dupont called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the November 13th Senate Meeting were approved with amendments by general consent. Minutes of the October 20th SLC meeting and November 7th ACC meeting were accepted as written.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Dupont, Senate President reported that:

- Shevell Thibou will serve as CUE Chair for Winter and Spring Quarter.

Gabe Wong, Associated Students Senate President reported that:

- A Graduate Student Senator was appointed to serve on the AS Senate.

ACTION ITEMS:

Michael Slouber was elected as Senate VP/President Elect. The vote was unanimous, and he was the only nominee.

ACC Proposal to Review All Previously Approved Hybrid/Online Courses: Jeff Hart, Vice President of the ACC, provided additional information regarding the proposal as discussed in the last Senate meeting on November 13th. Hart explained that the University is currently undergoing accreditation. Part of accreditation involves ensuring that online courses meet college modality policies. This process is a way to ensure that all online/hybrid courses are meeting the standard.

Jamie Lawson, Catalog and Curriculum Specialist, [presented on course modality approvals](#). Lawson stated 476 courses have permanent non-face-to-face modality approval. Woodring has the most permanently approved online courses of any college.

Senators expressed concern regarding the amount of time required for college curriculum committees, particularly in colleges that have a substantial number of online courses. Senators expressed a desire to streamline the process or secure additional support. Jamie Lawson stated he would be working closely with colleges as needed as a support during this process. A suggestion was made that the ACC clarify that for colleges that feel the deadline is insufficient, there may be flexibility granted by the ACC.

A motion made by the Senate Executive Committee (and seconded) **to approve** the ACC's proposal **passed** with one objection and one abstention.

AS Resolution on Fossil Fuel Divestment: The AS Senate has asked that the Faculty Senate endorse a [Resolution on Fossil Fuel Divestment](#). Gabe Wong, AS Senate President, stated the primary requests of the resolution are to have greater transparency from the WWU foundation, to include student and faculty voice, and to have University values reflected in

decision making. Senators expressed concern regarding the title of the resolution and expressed that another title may better represent the resolution's focus on environmental social governance.

A motion made by Dawna Drum (and seconded) **to approve** the resolution with an amendment to include a statement indicating that the Faculty Senate supports the students' work with an emphasis on their three main goals related to transparency, University values, and faculty and student voice, **passed** with two abstentions.

UPRC Restructuring: Allison Giffen, UPRC Chair, presented updates on the [proposal to dissolve UPRC](#) and replace it with two positions, a Budget Liaison and Deputy Budget Liaison. Giffen reported that the proposal has been updated to address feedback posed at the most recent Senate Executive Committee meeting. Changes include requiring Budget Liaisons to regularly attend Senate meetings and provide quarterly reports. Positions will serve one-year terms. Giffen reported the seats on the University Budget Committee for the Budget Liaisons have been confirmed by the Provost's Office. Past UPRC members were canvassed regarding this change. The majority of responses were positive and endorsed the restructuring.

A motion made by the Senate Executive Committee (and seconded) **to approve** the proposal to restructure UPRC **passed** with three objections.

Senators adjourned at 5:09 p.m.