Sent for Senate Approval: 5/13/2024
Senate Approved: [date]

Official Minutes
Faculty Senate Meeting May 6, 2024

Call to order: Senate President Brandon Dupont called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the April 22nd Faculty Senate meeting were approved as written by general consent. Minutes of the March 16th ACC meeting, April 17th SOCEC meeting, and April 23rd SLC meeting were accepted as written.

Reports and Announcements

Brandon Dupont, *Senate President* reported that:

- Nominations for seats on the Senate Executive Council are open. In the final Senate meeting of the quarter, new and elected senators will vote on officer positions.
- Western's Day of Learning and Community Building is scheduled for May 8th.
- Members of the Senate are invited to attend the Senate end-of-year happy hour on May 22nd at Structures Brewing from 4:30-6:30pm. Faculty are encouraged to RSVP via email by May 16th.

Brad Johnson, *Provost and Executive Vice President* reported that:

- The Washington State Council of Presidents meeting was hosted this week on Western's campus. Discussion included sharing strategies related to FAFSA challenges and the upcoming biennium budget, including negotiations around fund-split compensation.

Peter Pihos, *UFWW President* reported that:

- UFWW has sent communications related to the WAWU strike authorization vote. The intention is to ensure faculty labor is not used to replace the labor of student employees doing academic work.

Gabe Wong, *Associated Students Senate President* reported that:

- A resolution on Recommendations for Artificial Intelligence is expected to be finalized by the AS Senate next week.

For Approval

Discussion Items

Western Academic Workers United Bargaining and Potential Strike Update: Members of the WAWU Bargaining Committee reported on the potential strike of educational student employees. It was reported that wages, tuition assistance, bereavement leave, ADEI training, and protections against discrimination are WAWU's top demands. WAWU is looking to have a contract with the University by June but has been unable to come to an agreement. As a result, WAWU has issued a strike authorization vote. Voting will be open until May 9th.

NWCCU Accreditation Update: Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, presented an update on the NWCCU accreditation site visit. The accreditation team provided several commendations, including engagement with GURs, ADEI work, strategic planning, and RSI requirements for modality changes. Recommendations centered around improving outcome assessments at the degree and programmatic level. Additionally, it was recommended that the university complete the Facility Master Plan. Johnson reported that all recommendations are associated with an accreditation standard and will need to be rectified in the next accreditation cycle.

Proposed Faculty Handbook Revisions - Senate Bylaws 1-5: Brandon Dupont, Senate President, presented a Summary of Proposed Changes to the Senate Bylaws. Key revisions include the use of a secret ballot when there are multiple candidates running for an office as well as clarifications regarding vacancies, election timelines, and expectations for conduct. Senators are encouraged to review proposed changes to prepare for voting at the May 20th Senate meeting. Senators can expect a final vote on changes to Section I of the Faculty Handbook by the end of Spring quarter. Revisions to Section II and III of the handbook will be presented to the Senate in Fall Quarter. The Board of Trustees will vote on the revised handbook likely in October or December.

Items from the Floor

Constituent Concern: Senators raised concerns regarding a pre-design plan to relocate the Geology Department to Arntzen hall during the Environmental Science building renovation. Senators expressed concerns regarding the Anthropology and Sociology Departments being displaced and noted that many of their labs involve specialized equipment that is not easy to move. Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, stated that this was a preliminary concept, and that it would not become a course of action without all involved departments being consulted and in agreement. Senators emphasized a lack of communication during this process and requested more transparent communication moving forward.

Senators adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

FOR APPROVAL

Faculty Senate – ROSTER 2023-24

VOTING ATTENDEES				NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
Faculty members				**Student members**	
Troy Abel	CENV, UEPP	P		Gabe Wong, AS Senate President	P
Charles Anderson	CHSS-HUM, History	P			
Tim Bruce	Graduate School	P		**Standing Committees**	
Xiaofeng Chen	CBE, Decision Sciences	P		Eva Gil, SLC Chair	--
Liz Chen	CSE, Math	P		Bidisha Biswas, Leg Representative	P
Kristen Chmielewski	CHSS-SBC, HHD	--		Allison Giffen, Budget Representative	N/A
Catherine Clark	CSE, Chemistry	--		Derek Moscato, ATC Chair	--
Sondra Cuban*	WCE, HCS	P		Jennifer Seltz, OCE Chair	--
Kristin Denham	CHSS-HUM, Linguistics	P		Shevell Thibou, CUE Chair	N/A
Dawna Drum	CBE, Accounting	P		Kristi Tyran, ACC Chair	P
Brandon Dupont*	At Large	P		**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**	
Lindsay Foreman-Murray	WCE, Ed Leadership	P		Christopher Biano, Council of Deans	P
Allison Giffen	CHSS-HUM, English	P		Brad Johnson, Provost	P
Jim Graham	CHSS-SBS, Psychology	P		Peter Pihos, UFWW President	P
Kameron Harris	CSE, Computer Science	P		Sabah Randhawa, President	--
Ron Helms	CHSS-SBS, Sociology	P			
Erika McPhee-Shaw	CENV, ESCI	P			
Jeffrey Meier	CSE, Math	P			
Tesla Monson	CHSS-SBS, Anthropology	P			
Evan Mueller	CFPA,, Theatre	P			
Mark Peyron	CSE, Engineering & Design	P			
Clayton Pierce	Fairhaven	P			
Camilo Ponton*	CSE, Geology	P			
Jason Query	CBE, Economics	P		**Recorder**	
James Ray	CFPA, Music	P		Abby Peterson	P
Michael Slouber	CHSS-HUM, GHR	P		**Guests**	
Shevell Thibou*	Libraries	P		Becky Johnston, Faculty Senate	P
Derek Yip-Hoi	CSE, Engineering & Design	P		Lexy Aydelotte, WAWU	P
CHSS-HUM (VACANT)		N/A		Josephine Lausted	P
WCE (VACANT)		N/A			
				Voting attendees	26
				Non-voting attendees	10
				TOTAL ATTENDEES	36

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