

Consideration of Minutes

A. 29 November 2016

MINUTES APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED

II. Announcements

A. Approvals from the Provost

1. Requests for New Courses
 - a) NUTR 410, Medical Nutrition Therapy II, 3 s.h.
 - b) RPTA 476, Special Topics, 3 s.h., repeatable for different topics to 9 s.h.
2. Request for New Minor
 - a) Cyber Security
3. Request for Change of Minor
 - a) Industrial Technology
4. Requests for Changes of Majors
 - a) Dietetics
 - b) Hospitality Management
 - c) Nutrition and Foodservice Management

B. Provost's Report

Associate Provost Parsons told senators that Interim Provost Neumann could not be present due to attending contract negotiations.

Associate Provost Parsons announced the following upcoming events:

- Restricted schedule changes and registration by permission continues through Monday, January 30.
- The Student Activities Fair will be held tomorrow (January 25) from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Union Grand Ballroom.

- The “Pay It Forward” blood drive will be held tomorrow from 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the Union Heritage Room.
- Women’s basketball versus IUPUI will be held tomorrow night at 7:00, and men’s basketball versus IUPUI will be held at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, January 28, both in Western Hall.

Chairperson Pynes asked about spring 2017 preliminary enrollment figures. Registrar Angela Lynn told senators that currently spring enrollment is about 91 percent of fall enrollment. She explained that spring enrollment figures are always less than fall because many students graduate in December and others are suspended or dismissed at the end of fall; those number combine to exceed the number of reentry students for spring. She added that WIU spring figures are pretty consistently 90 to 91 percent of the previous fall enrollments. Dr. Lynn told senators there was concern that WIU would not meet that usual threshold, but she takes it as a good sign that it has already been reached. Dr. Lynn added that if enrollment is down in the fall, it tends to be down a percentage or two lower in the spring, but WIU’s enrollment decrease is the same for spring as it was for fall, which is good. She said there have been many efforts to get students to register and to meet their obligations, and it looks like that has helped the University not to lose any more ground.

Chairperson Pynes asked the Registrar if enrollment was down about 6.5 percent in fall 2016 and is down 9 percent this spring, which is the normal fall to spring decline (according to the Registrar), whether that means it can be assumed the spring 2016 to spring 2017 change will be about 6.5 percent; Dr. Lynn confirmed this is correct. She said this spring’s figures are much better than what is typical for spring semesters, so she is cautiously optimistic. Senator Pawelko asked what the actual numbers are currently. Dr. Lynn replied that currently spring enrolment is 9,431; last year, enrollment was 10,098 as of the tenth day. Official tenth-day figures will be released on Wednesday, February 1.

Senator McNabb noted that in the week leading up to spring classes there was still a lot of registration activity. She asked if that has now slowed down. Dr. Lynn replied there is still going to be movement through Monday, January 30 as students get special permissions to register for classes, especially if they are trying to get their University Housing and Dining Services bills paid off. She added that students will be removed from housing if they do not get registered soon. Yesterday was the last day of regular spring registration, and today is the first day of restricted registrations, but Dr. Lynn predicts that registrations will continue to climb until the tenth day.

Senator Roberts asked if the Registrar has any sense of how Eastern Illinois University and Chicago State are doing with spring enrollments since they seem lately to be “clumped together” with WIU. Dr. Lynn replied that their figures will not be released until after the tenth day of classes. She added that only two institutions (University of Illinois and Illinois State) saw enrollment increases last fall, and overall enrollments were two percent less than the previous year in all state institutions combined. Chairperson Pynes remarked that the University of Illinois has announced it wants to increase its enrollment by 15 percent over the next five years – 7,000 students on the main campus and 15,000 overall. He pointed out that this means WIU is not just competing with its own past enrollments and with peer institutions but also with the University of Illinois because they want to grow. He added that F()1tsiy of3(h)21(t)8]TJ ()Tj 02(2)-5(e)9(nt)-5(h d)11(ar

SGA elections will be held in April. Students will elect a new President, Vice President, Board of Trustees Student Representative, and five Senators At-large. Ms. Svirupskaite asked senators to encourage their students to start thinking about running for seats.

The State of the Student Address will be held on March 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sherman Hall

Senator McNabb asked if the position is just for this semester; Senator Boynton confirmed this is correct. Senator Boynton explained that Dr. Bailey this past fall served on the Council on General Education (CGE) as a replacement for a member on sabbatical so has been attending GERC meetings since it was constituted; it seemed appropriate that she should continue when another members of her college had to step down from GERC due to a class conflict. As there were no further nominations, the nominee was declared elected.

IV. Old Business – None

V. New Business

A. Request for Moratorium on New Requests for Inclusion in General Education

Chairperson Pynes explained that when the Provost requested that a General Education Review Committee (GERC) be established, she told the Executive Committee that it was fine for the Council on General Education to continue to accept new requests for inclusion in Gen Ed. He related that GERC decided they wanted there to be a moratorium on these requests, and this has historically occurred during previous reviews, but there has to this point not been a formal request. GERC has now asked Faculty Senate to approve a moratorium for the current academic year (2016-2017). Senator Boynton asked if GERC would be making its recommendations to the Senate in March; CGE Chair Darcy Plymire responded that they plan to make a report as scheduled.

Dr. Plymire explained that GERC is larger than CGE, being comprised of all CGE members plus

Senator Hironimus-Wendt recalled that there was a discussion this year regarding whether the President of the Union should be able to serve on the Senate and centered on what percentage of his primary duties involved teaching. Chairperson Pynes recalled that ExCo made the determination last spring that the Union President's primary duties were for the Union, which should prevent him from serving on the Senate or its councils but not from voting. He pointed out that this is another example where membership eligibility and voting eligibility were cleaved, where a faculty member can vote but cannot serve for a particular reason. He added that ExCo came to that conclusion because access and power should not be concentrated in a very few individuals and instead think that many faculty should serve and have access. Chairperson Pynes added that the issues surrounding access and service are very democratic ones and are not about preventing a particular person from serving or doing something on the Senate.

Senator Allison remarked that item #4 in the Executive Committee minutes discusses the problem of students