

SENATE MINUTES FOR November 14, 2008
JBK 11

CALL TO ORDER: 12:17PM

All members present or substituted except Mo Cuevas , John Cooley, Liz Matos, Leigh Browning

Minutes of October 17, 2008 motion to approve – Linda – second by Scott (for Perry)

Comments from Dr. O'Brien (15 minutes)

Getting ready for legislative session, too many bills about tuition and moratorium on increases; mandatory report card idea, university rating, WT is using VSA report but Senator Shapiro also wants financial data, reporting requirements may increase; explanation for requiring password changes is that new student email system regulations required it, we were in violation because 2100 students still had temporary passwords and so system was vulnerable; faculty also using vulnerable passwords, need more complex passwords and have them change every 90 days; WT gets over a million probes from hackers all over the world: we need more training on IT security, major violations at other system schools; Money from band camp does NOT go into President's office

Hansen asked about putting our documents onto internet instead of intranet –it can happen.

Proposed student fees for JBK and athletic complex are being discussed. Students seem to be more interested in other issues: solar panels, family housing on campus; most people do not seem to understand rules about fund-raising for specific targets –must be used for that target, not for anything else; is same reason for problems with course fees, must be used for that course and nothing else, by law; system schools audited and in trouble for misuse of course fees

Support WT sports – Go Buffs!

NEW BUSINESS

Faculty travel: air travel and personal credit cards – don't do it!

Hansen meeting with Dr. Hallmark

12.07 – Evergreen contract, terminal degree not needed at WT, can change that within the policy, a lot to be worked out, Senate needs to be proactive

Post-tenure-review

Standards

Distance learning fee

Other issues?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (10 minutes) Review of Fall Issues

Status of policy on externally-funded leave (Pulliam, Viswanath, Lee)

One meeting led to searching for policies already in place, issue with Evergreen people? Hansen said should not be a problem since externally funded; Vis asked, but will they have a contract when they get back from leave; Also a Faculty

Handbook issue

Policy on Graduate Faculty Status – Tim is working on standards

Student absence from class (Trela, Cuevas, Price) – Trela researched how different labeling is done at universities of our size: if it is called **service learning** then is tied to a class syllabus and done extra-curricular, done at time does not conflict with other classes; if it is **university-sanctioned activity** then student can get permission to leave other classes, is up to student to get that permission; **university-excused absences** usually NCAA sports and professor have to give time off; Hansen wants to put in Student Handbook and get policy approved by President
Senate Constitution and by-laws (Budget and Faculty Governance Committee) – no progress and needs to be changed
Distance Education Fee: thanks to Liz for prompt action

FORTHCOMING BUSINESS:

Implementation of third-year review procedures – maybe Provost will set guidelines, or maybe System requires certain policies

Post-tenure review: status of Dean Henderson’s committee work – Karen reported committee has draft almost ready to send to Provost

Reconciliation of differences among policies

- ARFP/PT discrepancies – if anyone sees problems, please report so can be fixed, numerical system problematic for some

- Faculty Handbook and Student Code of Life – committee structure discrepancies, grade appeal, etc.

Students want WT to be more environmentally friendly: Hansen said to get students to write a letter to Senate with proposals, coordinate with Student Government

ANOUNCEMENTS (2 minutes)

Congratulations to Theresa Trela on Minnie Stevens Piper award nomination

Provost’s chat on December 10

Coffee Shop at Library reopening Monday

STARR Center on second floor of library now

Adjourn (1:02 PM)