

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting

November 5, 2008

Woodard Hall (Red Room)

The meeting came to order at 4:00 pm and after a half-hour reception in the Red Room of Woodard Hall.

Minutes

The minutes from the faculty meeting on October 1 were approved unanimously.

Reports

Nina Mikhalevski, Acting Provost

Mikhalevski made three main points: 1) she thanked representatives on the faculty governance study group for putting together the recent conference and encouraged everyone to continue the discussion on faculty governance; 2) she had no further specifics on budget considerations, but wanted to remind everyone that we will hear what the governor proposes by Dec. 17; 3) she recommended that, if we are not unaware of the appropriate channels for accessing University data, we should feel comfortable contacting the Dean's office or the Provost.

Rosemary Barra, Interim Dean of the Faculty

Barra updated the faculty on the status of job searches. There were 13 faculty searches this year and 10 of them have now closed. The other 3 will close by the end of the semester. UMW will now continue the search process using the newly established hiring procedure.

John Morello, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

No report

Doug Holcombe, Chair, Academic Council, CGPS

No report

Mary Rigsby, President of the Senate

Distributed before the meeting. Adding to this report, Rigsby handed out a quick reference guide developed in conjunction with the Parliamentarian. Senators were asked to review the document and return it with comments. The revised document will be redistributed via email.

Suzanne Summer, President-Elect of the Senate

No report

Colin Turner, Student Representative

No report

Standing Committees

Academic Affairs Committee

Distributed before the meeting. Mary Beth Mathews (CPR) asked if departments are expected to establish a minor, or may do so at their own discretion. Andrew Dolby (Bio) noted that the latter was the case.

Campus Academic Resources Committee

No report.

Curriculum Committee

Distributed before the meeting

Faculty Affairs Committee

Distributed before the meeting. Alan Griffith (Bio.) asked for clarification regarding childcare as referenced in the faculty survey. Dave Kolar (Psych.) outlined the relationship between UMW and the childcare facility. Right now, the center often fails to contact the University when spots become vacant. The committee is working on establishing better lines of communication. He also commented on the online survey tools, this last one having been hosted by Survey Monkey. He encouraged anyone conducting a survey to speak with someone with a background in survey construction. Rigsby commented that, for institutional research, we should be able to contact the office of institutional research. Mikhalevski noted that that office was originally created for state reports. Since campus needs have changed, however, we can anticipate looking into how that information can be provided for the institution. She noted that the University was currently looking at models from other schools as well and, again, encouraged faculty to contact the Dean's office or the Provost if they need data in the meantime.

Faculty Development and Grants Committee

No report.

Faculty Organization Committee

Distributed before the meeting.

Promotion and Tenure Committee

No report.

Bachelor of Liberal Studies Committee

Distributed before the meeting.

Budget Advisory Committee

No report.

Curriculum Advisory Committees

First-Year Seminar Committee

Distributed before the meeting.

General Education Committee
Distributed before the meeting

Writing Intensive Committee
No report.

Speaking Intensive Committee
No report.

***Ad hoc* Committees**

The Faculty Advisory Committee for the University of Mary Washington Teaching Center Ernie Ackermann (Comp. Sci.) noted the funding opportunities included in the email that Steven Greenlaw (Econ.) sent about the Teaching Center. Information is available on teachumw.org website. Programs include open travel grants of up to \$500 per person (there is approximately \$10,000 budgeted to support these efforts) and the Teaching Program. Ackermann also noted that, in the shadow of the proposed budget cuts, the search for a Director may be in jeopardy. If funded, the search will proceed quickly and a report will be submitted to the Faculty Senate. Another question was asked regarding summer salary support for teaching activities. Summer replied that the committee was looking into faculty development grants that are teaching related.

UMW University Faculty Governance Study Group

George Meadows (CGPS) displayed the website on Faculty Governance (www.facgov.umwblogs.org), which includes blogs, notes taken at past forums, a list of common concerns, and other issues related to faculty governance. He handed out general questions regarding faculty governance on the two campuses to all the senators. Meadows felt it necessary for the Study Group to have a sense of the kind of governance structure the faculty supports in order to proceed effectively with its work. Williams asked about the possibility of having a faculty liaison with SCHEV or larger governance bodies. Rigsby noted that UMW Faculty Senate will have its own website with links to quick avenues of information pertaining to such organizations. The Senate should have a response from FOC about the *ad hoc* committee to set up the website at our December meeting. The longest discussion of the meeting ensued at this time. A number of concerns were raised, including the need to consult with individual departments regarding questions of governance and timelines. The senators found that they could not provide input about a model for faculty governance without first clearly articulating the problem that needs fixing. Central to this process is an understanding of what the relationship is between the two campuses and why a connection needs to be forged at all. After much discussion, Anand Rao (ELC) recommended holding a general faculty meeting for all CAS faculty to discuss the issue of faculty governance.

Old Business

All old business is still in the hands of committees

New Business

No motions submitted with the agenda packet.

In response to the discussion prompted by the UMW University Faculty Governance Study Group report, the following motion was introduced, seconded, and passed unanimously. *Motion:* that we dedicate the beginning of the December 3rd Faculty Senate meeting to hold a general faculty meeting, open only to faculty, that will address the question “what should the relationship be between CGPS and **CAS?**” Other Faculty Senate business will be handled following the general faculty meeting in extended time.

More details will be distributed by Rigsby. A similar meeting will be held by CGPS faculty, and we may hold a joint meeting for faculty from both campuses to continue this discussion.

Announcements

No announcements.

Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Antonio Barrenechea
Assistant Professor
Department of English, Linguistics, and Communication

