The Faculty Senate was called to order by Robert Rosenman, Chair on Thursday January 30, 2014, in FSHN T101 at 3:30 p.m. Forty-four (44) members were present with seven (7) absent and eight (8) nonvoting members present.

Minutes of November 14, 2013 meeting were approved as circulated.

Announcements (Information items).

1. Senate Officers met with President Floyd and Interim Provost Bernardo on January 17, 2014.
2. Amendment for a program name clarification from Professional Science Master’s in Electrical Engineering to correct the name to Professional Science Master’s in Electrical Power Engineering
3. Minor Change Bulletin #5 (Exhibit L)

Announcements (Reports).

1. Remarks by the Chair.—R. Rosenman

   The Legislative Council of Faculty Representatives met and is focused on helping to meet student financial needs. Students who have decreased financial stress tend to have better academic success.

   A request to Larry Seaquist was made to help address additional funding for higher education and compensation of faculty. It was noted that block grants to be used as the university sees fit could be a viable strategy for salary disbursement.

   Regarding a constituent concerns the WSU’s ranking in US News and Report has slipped from its previous position, it was noted that the Administration has reviewed this. No concerns were raised as there are a variety of factors used to create the rankings and our leadership is confident that our university is on track with our strategic plan. The other constituent concern asked if athletics was being funded at the expense of academics. Our leadership is committed to fiscal accountability funding of academics and funding of athletics are properly segregated.

   At the recent winter graduation, it was evident that the students are proud about WSU, and its faculty and its administration.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda.

   Motion to move clarification wording on constitution to a Discussion Item, as previously circulated.
   Motion carried.

Agenda Items. (Action Items)

1. Memorandum of Understanding between the Provost and the Faculty Senate regarding the Creation, Movement, Renaming or Elimination of Departments and Colleges. (Exhibit U)
   Motion carried
2. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for Undergraduate Major Change Bulletin # 4 (Exhibit W) – R. Zack
   Motion carried.

   Motion carried.

4. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for a Proposal to revise Rule 54 (Exhibit B). R. Zack
   Motion carried.

Agenda Items. (Discussion Items).

1. Recommendation from Research & Arts Committee for the Smart Environments Research Center. (Exhibit C).
   L. Lavine, B. John Mariadoss

   Questions arose about the actual cost and funding source, as well as lab space. It was noted this center is
   self-funding from grants and no request for WSU funding was made. No additional lab space was requested.
   When asked if there is a University Policy on support of centers, the Provost advised that centers must be
   reviewed every 5 years.

2. Recommendation from Research & Arts Committee for the Center for Transformational Learning and
   Leadership. (Exhibit D) – L. Lavine, B. John Mariadoss

   Questions arose about budgetary support and funding. Request to have clarification of funding before the
   next meeting. When asked if it would be available to CAHNS only, it was noted that many programs would
   be open to all WSU.

3. Potential restructuring of Senate committees (Exhibit E, E1). – Craig Parks

   Exhibit E (Budget Committee review) will be removed from the agenda since there was no change. Exhibit
   E1 (Graduate Studies Committee [GSC] review) will remain on the agenda for discussion. The question
   arose about adding the exact number of faculty for extra clarity. It was noted that this idea was taken into
   consideration and decided against so that when there is a creation of a new college, the wording is adaptable
   as the university evolves without having to amend rules. Proportionate representation of graduate students
   per colleges was asked and it was noted none of committees have proportionate representation with exception
   of Faculty Senate itself.

4. Recommendation from Graduate Studies Committee for Graduate Major Change Bulletin #3 (Exhibit F) – J.
   Yoder
   No discussion

5. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for Undergraduate Major Change Bulletin #5 (Exhibit G) – R. Zack
   No discussion

6. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for Undergraduate Major Change Bulletin #6 (Exhibit H) – R. Zack
   No discussion

7. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for UCORE Bulletin #5 (Exhibit I) – R. Zack
   No discussion
8. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for UCORE Bulletin #6 (Exhibit J) - R. Zack
   No discussion

9. Recommendation from Academic Affairs for UCORE Bulletin #7 (Exhibit K) - R. Zack
   No discussion

10. Clarification wording to the constitution on election policies: It was noted that no changes were being made to the constitution, but wording changes were proposed to reduce confusion about the election of senators. This proposal was circulated prior to the meeting via email. Further clarification of the wording was proposed. An additional request was made that we run the numbers to be sure that the proposed changes do not adversely affect the apportionment of senators.

Constituents' Concerns.

A concern was raised about nature of a GSC course entitled “Reverence for Animals”. It was noted that this class is a course based on human animal bond, not on animal treatment.

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Sheila Converse, Executive Secretary