

**Williston State College
Faculty Senate Minutes
March 31, 2023
4:00 pm, Stevens Hall 116**

Attendance:

Matt Peterson	Lynne Raymond	Derek VanderMolen (President)
Amanda Davis (Teams)	Hunter Erickson	Gail Raasakka - Absent
Tim DeLorme	Kari Lesmeister	

Richard Stenberg-Guest
Steve Grunenwald-Guest
Kim Weismann- Guest (Teams)
Carol Campbell- Staff Senate representative

1. Meeting called to order- 4:03PM by Derek VanderMolen (hereafter Derek V.)
2. Minutes from March 3rd Special Meeting stand approved.
3. PREVIOUS BUSINESS
 - a. University Mace- Policy and Procedure-
 - i. Matt P. made motion to approve, Hunter E. seconded, No Discussion- Motion carried.
 - ii. This will go to Faculty Council next meeting in April
 - b. Senate Representatives:
 - i. Hunter E. term is up this May, Department voted for Hunter to serve another 3-year term.
 - ii. Lynne R. is retiring, A&HS department voted Steve Grunewald to server the 1 year remaining on her term.
 - c. Overload Policy- This issue was not brought up at the last Faculty Council meeting. Dr. Hirning. still wants Faculty Senate to look at making a policy. It was related that ND College at Bottineau updated their policy to 24 credits total one can teach which is 9 credits of overload.
 - i. This topic is tabled to bring up at next Faculty Council meeting.
 - d. VPAA Job Description- The job description was updated to correct information listed. Dr. Hirning never gave Derek feedback about the job description.
 - i. Derek related that a interview committee has been set up and Dr. Hirning has asked this interview committee to come up with interview questions.
 - e. UNIV Courses- Derek raised question do we as Faculty Senate want to put out a statement on the importance of UNIV courses and we do not want them removed.
 - i. Request that this statement is sent to the President and two interim VPAAAs
 - ii. Decision to start with statement from Senate and then approach Council for a statement.

- iii. Concerns raised:
 - 1. How course will be staffed and when will they run.
 - 2. In the past they have begun before the semester begins and ALL of these days have been removed from the Fall schedule.
 - 3. VPAA and President did not discuss with Megan K. about her staff being pulled to help run UNIV courses.
 - 4. Staff are not trained or hold Master's degrees required for the course and its transfer status
 - 5. VPAA's decided Kirby Lund will be the Lead teacher-even though he has told them he will only teach 2 classes of UNIV
 - 6. VPAA's cancelling classes when tuition dollars are needed
 - 7. Need caps on class sizes
 - 8. Appears VPAA's do not understand the importance of UNIV courses.
 - iv. Derek asks we review Matt's statement on Teams about UNIV and get feedback to him by Monday morning.
- f. Other- Update on Bill 1446 on Tenure-
- i. WSC put a statement in to the Senate Education Committee. The bill came out of committee with a 6-0 vote to pass the bill.
 - ii. Bill was defeated in the Senate – 21 Yea to 23 Nay.

4. NEW BUSINESS-

- a. New Officers for 2023-2024 Academic year. Need to think about President, Vice President and Recorder positions.
 - i. Matt P. and Derek V. declined President position- need to fill, Senate president does not have to be a voting member but is preferred they have served on Senate before.
 - ii. Amanda D. stated she would like to continue as Vice President and Steve G. stated he would serve as Recorder for his one-year term. Amanda D. moved that nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for both positions. Matt P. seconded, No Discussion, Motion carried.
- b. Bagpipes for Graduation was removed from Agenda-question about them was withdrawn.
- c. Professional Development Policy & Procedure- Faculty Professional Development Committee requested these be reviewed and cleaned up since there are two avenues to approach funding for professional development.
 - i. Matt P. and Amanda D. volunteered to review the policy and procedures.
- d. Procedure 465 Violation Report- Changes were made to the Fall schedule by Wanda Meyer- (interim VPAA) without the A&HS Department Chair's knowledge or approval after the A&HS Department Chair had sent the approved Fall schedule to the VPAA administrative assistant.
 - i. Procedure 465- has been in place since 2020 and states Class Schedule Timeline for each semester goes through Department Chairs for approval

- before submitting them to be placed in the Class Schedule. Department Chairs have the ultimate say in what classes appear on the schedule.
- ii. No memory of this procedure being violated before.
 - iii. Richard S. (Guest) related he met with Dr. Hirning regarding morale issues created by this interim VPAA and the changes made without going through proper procedure. These changes caused confusion in advising students.
 - iv. Discussion ensued with decision for Derek V. to create a letter regarding the violation of Procedure 465 and Faculty Senate dissatisfaction to Wanda M. (interim VPAA) and Dr. Hirning.
 - v. Amanda D. motioned that Faculty Senate send a letter to this VPAA and Dr. Hirning regarding the violation of procedure 465, Hunter E. seconded, No Discussion, Motion carried.
- e. State CTS- They have requested feedback on looking at new LMS in the future. Question is to stay with current Blackboard Ultra or open the door to look at other LMS platforms. This decision would go through VPAA position to present to AAC. This change would be system-wide. Take this information back to departments for discussion.
- f. Rank & Tenure Committee Membership- This group reports to Faculty Senate. It is made up of 3 Rotating Tenured Faculty members. Kyle N. is rotating off and Ken Q. is staying on, Amanda D. is rotating to be the President of the committee but is asking for a faculty alternate to serve for 1 year in her place since she is putting in request for Full Professor next year.
- i. Matt P. volunteered to serve the 1-year term for Amanda D. and Derek will check with other faculty for the open 3-year term.
 - ii. Lynne R. motioned Matt P. serves a 1-year term on Rank & Tenure, Hunter E. seconded, No Discussion, Motion Carried.
- g. New Emeritus Faculty- Reminder to think of professors for this honor, must have served 20 years at WSC and was in Good Standing.
- h. Other- Nothing
- i. Committee Reports-
- i. Staff Senate- Jenae H. will be stepping down as President in May, ALC reported that 85% of graduates will attend WSC in 8 months and noted they have a 95% success rate. IT will be updating phones to Teams, Admissions will begin using Target X, Train ND needs instructors.
 - ii. Student Senate- Reminder not to schedule events during sporting events and other organization meeting times. Renovations are being made to eSports area in the dorm. Exploring possibilities of classes and activities regarding “adulthood” with Kathy J.

iii. CCF- No report

5. Adjournment- Derek V. adjourned meeting at 5:34pm