

**Williston State College**  
**Faculty Senate Minutes (Special Meeting)**  
**February 10, 2023**  
**3:30 pm, Stevens Hall 210**

**Attendance:**

Matt Peterson	Lynne Raymond	Derek VanderMolen (President)
Amanda Davis	Kari Lesmeister	
Tim DeLorme	Hunter Erickson	

Carol Campbell- Staff Senate representative

Chris Kadrmas- Student Senate representative

Meeting called to order- 3:35PM by Derek VanderMolen (hereafter Derek V.)

1. Derek V. noted this was a Special Meeting called to discuss on topic brought forth by Dr. Hirning for Faculty Senate to address.
  - a. Dr. Hirning wants the faculty representative position on Executive Cabinet be rotating with department chairs and he would like Faculty Senate to resolve this. He related to Derek V., that the same person has held the position for the past 19 months.
2. Faculty senate member noted that this faculty position should be appointed by Instructional Cabinet. Reviewing Instructional Cabinet minutes from April 28, 2022, they state that Kim Weismann was selected to be the representative to Executive Cabinet for one more year-April 28, 2023.
3. Derek V. related that Dr. Hirning wanted Faculty Senate to look at it and if we cannot decide, he will.
  - a. Discussion on who serves on Instruction cabinet- VPAA, VPAA-Assistant, Department Chairs, Registrar, Katie Wenke, other positions related to instruction.
  - b. The current representative, Kim Weismann, has let Derek V. she does not feel welcome at Executive Cabinet.
4. Another faculty senate member noted that the origin of this seat by a faculty member was due to the only representation faculty had on Executive Cabinet with the VPAA. A request was made for Instructional Cabinet to select another representative to be on Executive Cabinet with the VPAA. It was noted a long time ago, Executive Cabinet only consisted of the President and Vice Presidents.
5. Derek V. noted that Dr. Hirning related he wants to trim down executive cabinet, he wants a yearly rotating faculty representative. Dr. Hirning shared that he was told it is a rotating position, but 2 department chairs said they have never been asked.
6. Amanda D. volunteered to be the faculty representative since she has the Monday 9:00-11:00AM time free in her schedule.
7. Discussion focused on when Executive Cabinet and Instructional Cabinet have last met.
  - a. Executive Cabinet Approved posted minutes for Executive Cabinet are from November 22, 2022, and Kim Weismann (Instructional Cabinet Representative) had shared notes from January 23, 2023 which appears to be the last time Executive Cabinet has met. It was noted that the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was

cancelled, and no meeting is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup>, (holiday), so the next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2023.

- b. Instructional Cabinet-Last meeting was January 19, 2023, February 2nd meeting was cancelled and February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting is on the calendar.
8. Discussion ensued on how to handle this request from Dr. Hirning since it should be Instructional Cabinet's decision and Faculty Senate has never been involved.
  - a. Question was posed if there was any written statement that says the faculty representative is required to communicate with other faculty members what occurred in Executive Cabinet. It was noted that the current representative sends information out to faculty after the meeting and Megan K. sends information out to her staff. Concerns that who ever becomes faculty representative may not send out communication to faculty about issues discussed in Executive Cabinet. Amanda noted if she is the representative, she would take notes and pass on information to faculty.
9. Matt P. made the motion that: Per the request of the President, WSC Faculty Senate nominates Amanda Davis to be the faculty representative on Executive Cabinet for the remainder of 2022-2023 Academic year. Since this position originated from Instructional Cabinet, we request they review and either vote to approve this nomination or vote on an alternate faculty representative from Instructional Cabinet. The current faculty representative no longer feels welcome at Executive Cabinet and requested to be replaced.
  - a. Kari L. seconded the motion
  - b. No Discussion
  - c. Motion passed
10. Derek V. asked if one other issue could be addressed before adjourning and all agreed to hear new issue.
  - a. Amanda. D. is the Faculty Representative for the Sunshine Committee. She asked if an amendment for use of funds can be allotted to faculty who have a death of animals. She related some faculty do not have children, but do have pets who are important in their lives. It was noted that up to \$70 is allotted for funerals, \$30-\$50 for hospital, \$30 for births. She suggested \$10-\$15 be allotted for death of a pet
    - i. Discussion ensued relating that the Staff and Faculty Sunshine Funds are separate funds.
  - b. Kari L. made the motion to amend the Sunshine Funds to include death of a pet., Hunter E. seconded the motion. No Discussion. Motion passes.
11. Meeting adjourned 4:35pm