

Winthrop University Faculty Conference

April 22, 2011

2 pm Barnes Recital Hall

Agenda

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|-------|---|---------------------------|
| I. | Approval of minutes of March 11, 2011 Faculty Conference | <i>(minutes attached)</i> |
| II. | Report from the Chair | Marsha Bollinger |
| III. | Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs | Tom Moore |
| IV. | Reports | |
| | Academic Council <i>(pages 6-7)</i> | Dave Pretty |
| | Personnel Committee <i>(page 8)</i> | Siobhan Brownson |
| | Rules Committee <i>(page 9)</i> | Mark Mitchell |
| | Roles and Rewards Committee | Beth Costner |
| | Faculty Committee on University Priorities <i>(page 10)</i> | Scott Huffmon |
| | Faculty Committee on University Life <i>(page 11)</i> | Matthew Manwarren |
| | Petitions Committee <i>(page 12)</i> | Emma Jane Riddle |
| | Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee <i>(page 13)</i> | Rebecca Evers |
| V. | Unfinished business | |
| VI. | New business | |
| VII. | Announcements | |
| | From the Registrar | Gina Jones |
| | Other announcements | |
| VIII. | Adjournment | |

Faculty Conference Membership (317) 35% = 111; 20% = 63

Winthrop University Faculty Conference

March 11, 2011

3 pm Kinard Auditorium

Minutes

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 with a quorum.

II. The minutes of December 3, 2010 Faculty Conference were approved as distributed.

III. Report from the Chair Marsha Bollinger

Dr. Bollinger asked if there were any questions regarding the report from the Board of Trustees February retreat which is posted on the Faculty Conference web page. In addition, she encouraged members to consider putting their name in nomination for the next Faculty Conference chair.

IV. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs Tom Moore

Dr. Moore quoted Dr. DiGiorgio by stating how these economic times are unprecedented and uncharted. He also reminded the faculty about the SACS visit begins April 4 and asked that each know the QEP and GLI. Dr. Moore reported that the Board of Trustees is grateful to faculty regarding Readiness Winthrop. Dr. Moore also expressed his appreciation.

V. Reports

Academic Council

Dave Pretty

- Dr. Pretty presented a large quantity of curricular materials, most for information only. The complete list can be found with the [meeting agenda and materials](#). Faculty Conference voted on and passed the following curricular items.

Add new programs:

BS CHEM-PHYS	Engineering-Physics Degree Track
BS CHEM-BCHM	Biochemistry Degree Track
BS BADM-SUBU	Sustainable Business Option
BA MCOM	Substantial changes to program

Drop Program:

BA PLSC-PPAD	Concentration in Public Policy and Administration
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Change number of credits in program:

BS SPMA	Reduce total number of credits required for major from 70 to 64.
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- Faculty Conference voted to approve a change in wording regarding **complete withdrawal from the University** as recommended by the Registrar and approved by Academic Council.

Documentation of such {extenuating} circumstances must be definitive and must be presented along with a request for withdrawal with the assignment of an N grade to the Registrar or his/her designee. Failure to withdraw officially may seriously affect a student's eligibility for future readmission or for transfer to another institution.

Personnel Committee

Siobhan Brownson

- Elections were held for Academic Council, Faculty Personnel, and Rules. There were no nominations from the floor.
- Faculty Conference voted to approve a motion to suspend the rules regarding voting on the ballot for those not in attendance at the March 11 Faculty Conference meeting be modified for this occasion only and that voting be allowed in the library until 5 pm on Monday, March 21.

Rules Committee

Mark Mitchell

Faculty Conference voted to place a bylaws change, **Article IX – Section 4**, on the agenda for discussion at the April 22, 2011 Faculty Conference meeting.

The President of the University, upon the recommendation of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, shall appoint three voting members of the Academic Council, each from a different major academic division of the University. The Faculty Conference shall elect three voting members at large. Each major academic division of the University shall elect members according to the following formula: one member for the first 25 full-time-equivalent faculty members or fraction thereof in that division and on additional member for each additional 50 full-time-equivalent faculty member or fraction thereof. **Members of faculty conference who are college or university Level administrative officers and whose administrative assignment is greater than 50% of their workload** shall be ineligible to serve on the Academic Council, either by election or appointment, except as secretary. Department chairs are eligible to serve on Academic Council. The term of the chair shall be one year. The Council of Student Leaders shall select one voting member, who shall serve a one-year term. The terms of the voting members of the Academic Council shall be three years and shall be staggered as determined by regulations adopted by the Faculty Conference. If a member ceases to serve, his or her successor shall be appointed or elected for the unexpired term only. A voting member may not serve in succession more than two complete consecutive terms. No person shall be eligible to serve as a voting member unless he or she has served two years as a student at Winthrop University or as a faculty member at Winthrop University immediately preceding his or her service.

Roles and Rewards Committee

Beth Costner

Dr. Costner reported that the Committee was withdrawing the current document for vote due to some changes in wording that are necessary for legal reasons. However, she asked for any comments from the floor. There was a good deal of discussion in reference to the definition of scholarship within the [Roles and Rewards document](#). The committee will consider these recommendations.

Library Committee

Melissa Carsten

The Louise Pettus Achieves will be moving to the old Bookworm Building and will be fully operational in August 2011. Faculty are requested to complete user surveys on the Ebrary system that is currently being piloted by the library and set to be fully operational by the summer. Also, please be aware of another Ebook system being reviewed by the library for possible adoption. The Demand Driven Acquisitions system will allow users to access millions of titles and the library is only charged for the book after it is accessed a certain number of times. Both of these new systems are being looked at/piloted by the library for possible adoption.

Faculty Committee on University Life

A written report was provided with the [agenda materials](#). No questions were offered from the floor.

SACS Reaffirmation Report

Karen Jones

April 4-6 is the SACS visit. The main portion of the visit will be devoted to the QEP. To help faculty be more prepared, Karen Jones posed five questions regarding the QEP that all should be ready to answer.

GLI Report

Karen Kedrowski

Karen Kedrowski reviewed the GLI and provided a [website](#) for further information. There will also be a GLI Professional Development Conference on September 17, 2011.

VI. Unfinished business

Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee

Rebecca Evers

- The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee requested the endorsement of the following statements for the Faculty Manual.

Statement of Academic Freedom:

Institutions of higher education exist for the common good. In the quest for this common good the right of faculty members to academic freedom is of fundamental importance. Academic Freedom empowers faculty to discuss responsibly all relevant matters in the classroom; to explore all avenues of scholarship, research, and creative expression; and to speak or write as private citizens* without institutional discipline or restraint.

*When speaking or writing as private citizens: Members of the academy faculty will adhere to all applicable laws and University policy that mandate any actions taken by employees as private citizens be done on the employees' personal time and without the use of state or University equipment, supplies, or facilities. Furthermore employees, when acting as private citizens, should clearly state that they are not speaking for the University.

- After significant discussion and several amendments, the following statement of academic freedom was endorsed by Faculty Conference:

Institutions of higher education exist for the common good. In the quest for this common good, the right of faculty members to academic freedom is of fundamental importance. Academic Freedom empowers faculty to discuss responsibly all relevant matters in the classroom; to explore all avenues of scholarship, research, and creative expression; and to exercise civil liberties or civil rights as private citizens* without institutional discipline or restraint.

*When exercising civil liberties or civil rights as private citizens, members of the academy faculty will adhere to all applicable laws and University policy that mandate any actions taken by employees as private citizens be done on the employees' personal time and without the use of state or University equipment, supplies, or facilities. Furthermore, employees, when acting as private citizens, should clearly state that they are not speaking for the University.

VII. There was no new business.

VIII. Announcements

The registrar, Gina Jones, will send out an email with upcoming important dates. She also announced the summer session kick off.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. L. Mark Lewis
Faculty Conference Secretary

REPORT FROM ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Academic Council met on Friday, April 15.

Academic Council approved the following program modifications:

Degree	Major	Conc.	College	Department	Action
BA	THTR	PERF	VPA	Theatre & Dance	<i>Modify Program:</i> Add THRA 173 (1) to required courses in the major; Reduce number of electives required in the major by 1 credit hour
BSW	SCWK		ASC	Social Work	<i>Modify Program:</i> Remove SOCL 316 as an option to meet the statistics requirement
BS	DIFD	WEBD	BAD	Comp Sci & QM	<i>Modify Program:</i> Remove VCOM 363 and Add VCOM 362 to list of courses required for the major

From the General Education Committee

General Education Certifications

I. First Certify

A. Global

1. EDUC 315--accepted

B. Social Science

1. EDUC 315--accepted

C. Humanities and Arts

1. EDUC/HIST 312--accepted

D. Historical Perspectives

1. EDUC /HIST 312--accepted

II. Recertification

A. Logic, Language, and Semiotics

1. ARTS 281—accepted (also retroactive for students currently enrolled)

HONR 232X was accepted retroactively for Fall 2010.

Only the First Certify courses needed AC approval. All courses were approved.

Proposal to Stagger General Education Recertifications

Currently, Winthrop operates on a schedule of recertifying courses for General Education every five years. That schedule puts an undue strain on both departments and the General Education Committee: the work of recertifying courses all falls at the same time, meaning that the totality of the work must all be done in one year, leaving the other four years relatively empty. Our committee proposes a staggered schedule, as follows:

Year One: 100-level courses (all categories)

Year Two: 200-level courses (Writing and Critical Thinking; Quantitative Skills; Technology; Oral Communication; Logic, Language, Semiotics; Global Perspectives)

Year Three: 200-level courses (Historical Perspectives; Social Science, Humanities and Arts; Natural Science; Constitution Requirement)

Year Four: 300-level courses (all categories)

Year Five: 400-level and 500-level courses (all categories)

We recommend that this schedule begin in the academic year 2012-2013, with 100-level courses up for recertification. Even though the bulk of these courses were recertified in 2009-2010, starting over now with a staggered schedule will lighten and disperse the workload in the years to come.

The motion was approved.

FROM FACULTY PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

April 22 Faculty Conference Elections

(Ballots to be distributed at Faculty Conference meeting)

Faculty Conference Chair (1 open position)

Cliff Calloway, CAS

Will Thacker, COB

(nominations from floor)

Academic Freedom and Tenure (3 open positions)

Gerry Derksen, CVPA

Dave Pretty, CAS

Donna Nelson, CAS

(nominations from floor)

Academic Conduct Committee (1 open position)

Trent Kull (CAS)

Sue Lyman (CAS)

Sarah Spring (CAS)

(nominations from the floor)

DiGiorgio Student Advisory Board (1 open position)

Jennifer Belk (CVPA)

Mark Lewis (CVPA)

Shebby Nelly-Goodwin (CAS)

Guy Reel (CAS)

(nominations from the floor)

Judicial Council (1 open position)

L. H. Dickert (CVPA)

Trent Kull (CAS)

Sue Lyman (CAS)

(nominations from the floor)

Faculty Representative to Attend Student Governance Meetings (1 open position)

Kristi Schoepfer (COE)

(nominations from the floor)

Rules Committee

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Faculty Committee on University Priorities Report AY 2010/2011

(Eight tenured members; 3 year staggered terms for seven elected faculty members: 1 each from degree -granting colleges; 1 from Library; 1 from Univ College; 1 from Graduate Faculty Assembly. The Chair of Faculty Conference serves ex officio with vote. One year term for elected chair.)

(Standing committee of Faculty Conference)

Scott Huffmon (t)	Arts and Sciences	College Faculty Assembly 2013
Chair – elected (1 year term 2010-11)		
Charlie Bowers (t)	Education	College Faculty Assembly 2011
Mike Matthews (t)	Business Administration	College Faculty Assembly 2013
Marge Moody (t)	Visual and Performing Arts	College Faculty Assembly 2011
Frank Pullano (t)	University College	Elected 2012
Bill Rogers (t)	Graduate Faculty Assembly	Elected 2013
Gale Teaster-Woods (t)	Library	Library Faculty Assembly 2012
Marsha Bollinger (t)	Chair, Faculty Conference	<i>ex officio</i>

The Faculty Committee on University Priorities met 5 times during the 2010/2011 academic year. We met in an attempt to determine what should consume the committee's attention this year. It was decided that the committee would attempt to bring more information concerning the Readiness Winthrop initiative to the faculty. We had an orientation meeting with the President, a meeting with the President and Executive Officers to discuss the shape that Readiness Winthrop was taking, a meeting to plan interviews with Deans and Executive Officers regarding Readiness Winthrop so that the committee could produce a report to the faculty, and a follow up meeting with the President and Executive Officers as the contours of Readiness Winthrop became more apparent.

The Committee produced one report regarding how the Deans and Executive officers viewed the impact of the Readiness Winthrop initiative on the faculty and had two meaningful and open dialogues with the President and Executive Officers concerning Readiness Winthrop and the university's plans for dealing with budgetary strains.

Faithfully submitted,

Scott H. Huffmon, PhD

Chair, Faculty Committee on University Priorities

Faculty Committee on University Life
Report to the Faculty Conference, April 22, 2011

The Faculty Committee on University Life met on April 12, 2011. At this meeting, the committee discussed the following.

- Two concerns were brought to the committee by a faculty member in the Chemistry/Physics/Geology department.
 - The first had to do with interruptions being caused during class time by campus lawn care workers.
 - The second had to do with environmental concerns resulting from debris pulled into the Sims building. Exhaust hoods are at negative pressure, which means that debris from the outside is pulled into the building whenever a door or window is open.

The committee has contacted J.P. McKee and is awaiting a response with respect to these two issues.

- A concern regarding the Environmental Safety Office was brought to the attention of the committee. Specifically, there are concerns that this office is under-staffed and that the job is too big for any one person, causing certain duties to be overlooked. A member of the committee will be in touch with Mitzi Stewart for feedback as to what is being neglected, what could be improved, and how extra assistance might allow her office to perform these tasks more effectively. Our committee is researching other comparable institutions of size as to how they deal effectively with environmental safety issues. Once our committee has gathered all the necessary information, we will then decide what course of action to take.
- The committee continues to discuss issues regarding faculty compensation for Independent Study courses and Summer Experiential Learning courses. In both cases, the committee has taken into consideration the following.
 - Compensation varies from department to department, even within one college (for example, Arts and Sciences).
 - It is not clear where the dollars in tuition go when a student enrolls for an independent study course or summer experiential learning course.
 - How faculty might be rewarded for overseeing certain independent study research-intensive projects that might lead to public presentation.
 - How faculty can be rewarded for teaching independent study courses when a student needs a particular course not offered near the time of the student's graduation.
 - How faculty teaching summer experiential learning courses can be compensated more comparably to those who teach traditional summer courses for the same number of hours credit.

The committee will be in touch with Tom Moore about these issues and will report back to the faculty our progress at future meetings.

- The committee will host a Brown Bag lunch forum in late September open to all faculty members. This will give faculty a chance to voice concerns they have with respect to university life at Winthrop.
- Our new members for the 2011-2012 year are Elke Schneider (College of Education) and Tracy Griggs (Arts and Sciences). Members of the committee thank Cecile Leung (Arts and Sciences) and Kristi Schoepfer (College of Education) who are rotating off this committee at the end of the academic year.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Manwarren, Chair

Report of the Undergraduate Petitions Committee

2010-2011 Academic Year

The Petitions Committee makes decisions about undergraduate petitions related to general education requirements, academic suspension and dismissal, and other university-wide academic regulations.

During the current academic year, the committee has met at least once a month and has decided 113 petitions. Of these, 56 were approved, and 57 were denied. Additional details are included in the table below. The committee would like to thank Ms. Catina Vinson, of Records and Registration, for preparing the table and also for providing staff support to the committee during the year.

	Approved	Denied	Approved on Appeal*
Academic Suspension/Dismissal	27	23	8
General Education	6	9	3
Changing/Combining Catalogs	5	5	0
Course Overload	11	10	0
Residency Requirement	3	1	0
Hours above 299	2	2	0
S/U Policy	2	6	0
Required Hours To Graduate	0	1	0
TOTAL	56	57	11

*Petitions that were denied by the committee, and approved on appeal to the Office of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, the committee began encouraging students who faced academic suspension and dismissal to reflect on the causes of their difficulties and develop an action plan for improving academic performance. That policy has been continued. Many of these students were counseled by Dr. Gloria Jones, Dean of University College, or by Ms. Marilyn Sarow, Assistant to the Vice-President for Academic Affairs. In some cases, the committee readmitted a suspended or dismissed student, with a limitation on the number of credit hours that the student could take in the first semester or summer term following readmission.

Emma Jane Riddle, College of Business (Chair)
Jackie McFadden, Dacus Library
Nakia Pope, College of Education
Darren Ritzer, College of Arts & Sciences
Karen Stock, College of Visual and Performing Arts
Marilyn Sarow, Office of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee

Annual Report to Faculty Conference

22 April 2011

Committee Membership: A. J. Angulo, Keith Benson, Laura Glasscock, Shelley Hamill, Carol Marchel, Marguerite Quintelli-Neary, Julian Smith, and Sue Spencer

During the 2010-11 academic year, the committee completed their work on a definition of Academic Freedom for the WU Faculty Manual. On March 11, 2011, Conference voted and accepted an amended definition on 11 March 2011.

Submitted by

Rebecca Evers, Chair