

Winthrop University Faculty Conference

April 22, 2011

2 pm Barnes Recital Hall

Minutes

- I. A brief presentation was made by Carrie Morphis, Winthrop's new Victims Services Coordinator, to highlight services her office can provide.
- II. Faculty Conference voted to do business in the absence of a quorum.
- III. Minutes of March 11, 2011 Faculty Conference were approved as distributed.
- IV. Report from the Chair, Marsha Bollinger
Dr. Bollinger reviewed the Faculty Leadership Committee report on the April Board of Trustees meeting. Dr. Bollinger reported that the statement of Academic Freedom that was endorsed by Faculty Conference at the March meeting was not accepted by Dr. DiGiorgio.
- V. Report from the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Tom Moore
Dr. Moore asked if there were questions regarding the SACS visit. He thanked the SACS and AAAS team as well as faculty for their hard work with wrapping these up. He closed by encouraging the faculty to attend both commencements.
- VI. Reports

Academic Council, Dave Pretty

There were no items on which to vote. Dr. Pretty went through [items](#) for information only. Dr. Pretty also thanked the chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum (Dr. Marilyn Smith) and the chair of the General Education Committee (Dr. John Bird) for their hard work this year.

Personnel Committee, Siobhan Brownson

The faculty voted for next year's open committee positions. Candidates for Faculty Conference Chair presented their statements.

Rules Committee, Mark Mitchell

Dr. Mitchell presented Article IX, Section 4 of bylaws. After some friendly amendments, Faculty Conference voted to approve the following language:

Faculty Conference Bylaws, Article IX – Section 4:

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 one additional member for each additional 50 full-time-equivalent faculty members 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 began by thanking members of the committee. After some discussion, Faculty Conference voted to endorse the [Roles document](#) (hand count, 76 in favor, 23 opposed) and the [Recommendations document](#) (voice vote) as distributed by the Roles and Rewards Committee in April 2011.

No questions were asked about the written reports provided with the agenda from the **Faculty Committee on University Priorities**, the **Faculty Committee on University Life**, the **Petitions Committee**, and the **Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee**.

TALONS report, Tim Drueke

Mr. Drueke reported that, in a move to use less paper, faculty will soon access pay information online.

VII. Unfinished business
There was no unfinished business

VIII. New Business

The following motion was introduced and passed by vote.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Conference directs the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee to develop and propose a new definition of Academic Freedom for consideration by Faculty Conference. This new definition will capture the spirit of the Faculty Conference resolution passed on March 11, 2011, while satisfying the concerns of the administration. The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee will present its revised, proposed definition to Faculty Conference by the second meeting of Fall 2011.

IX. Announcements

The Registrar, Gina Jones, announced grading deadlines.

It was announced that Graduate Faculty would meet directly after Faculty Conference.

X. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Lewis