

Winthrop University Faculty Conference
November 30, 2012
2:00 pm Dina's Place, DiGiorgio Campus Center

Minutes

At 81 members present, motion to do business was unanimously approved by voice vote. The meeting began at 2:09pm.

I. Approval of minutes for October 5, 2012 Faculty Conference

The minutes were approved by motion, second, and unanimous consent.

II. Report from the Chair of Faculty Conference

The Chair of Faculty Conference, Cliff Calloway, reported that the Board of Trustees endorsed the "Vision of Distinction" and allowed the administration to set summer fees at the November 2 meeting, and that President DiGiorgio discussed the unlikely increase in state revenue in the near future. The Chair of Faculty Conference referred the faculty to the Faculty Conference website for complete details of the meeting.

The Chair of Faculty Conference also reported that the Presidential Search committee will meet in mid-December to consider candidates' qualifications. He also noted that the Presidential Search may replace the annual retreat in February, and that presidential candidates will be brought to campus in early spring. A member of the faculty conference asked, "How many people applied?" The Chair responded "a lot."

III. Report from the President

Prior to the meeting of the Faculty Conference, the President of Winthrop University, Anthony DiGiorgio, sent out an email (in absentia) updating the campus community on national, state, and local developments. With regard to the nation, he reported that the "tax reductions" and "automatic spending cuts" related to the "Fiscal Cliff" (as Washington has labeled it) could affect Winthrop and that Winthrop would be watching this situation closely.

With regard to the State, President DiGiorgio reported that increases in Medicaid costs as well as the cost of the recent "hacking" of the S. C. Department of Revenue could absorb any increases in state revenue, and that Winthrop would continue to stay in touch with state lawmakers.

With regard to Rock Hill, President DiGiorgio reported that the Rock Hill City Council may soon approve the plan for "Knowledge Park" that would span from Winthrop's campus to downtown Rock Hill, and he noted that Winthrop's "College Town Action Plan" and "Life Long Learning Center" are part of this plan.

IV. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs

The Vice President for Academic Affairs, Debra Boyd, announced that 17 faculty searches are currently in progress.

She also described a new sabbatical policy that uses the language from "Roles and Rewards." She explained that the new policy will require a research presentation in an appropriate venue on campus or at a professional conference, since sabbaticals are considered a form of professional development. The new sabbatical policy is designed with

flexibility in mind and includes two application deadlines: November 1 and March 5. She explained that, whether a semester or full year, sabbaticals need to remain “cost neutral,” and she noted that an email about the new sabbatical policy will be sent out later. Vice President Boyd reported that nine applications for sabbatical leave were received this year, and that the Academic Affairs Office is making plans to respond directly to faculty members whose proposals are not approved.

Vice President Boyd reminded faculty members that all final exams should be met because they are very important to the learning experience of students at Winthrop. She also announced that mid-term grade reporting will take place during February 15 through March 3, 2013, and she recommended giving a few graded assignments prior to these dates. Vice President Boyd noted that the Academic Leadership Retreat will likely take place in another form at a later date than usual. She also reported that progress has been made on creating a Working Group for General Education.

V. Committee Reports

a. Academic Council – John Bird

The Chair of Academic Council, John Bird, introduced proposed curricular changes for approval. The Faculty Conference approved a new Interdisciplinary Studies program, modifications to the BME Choral and Instrumental programs, and two new minors: Legal Studies and Outdoor Leadership. The Faculty Conference also approved courses for areas in the Touchstone Program, including: HIST 111 (Global); CHEM 105 (Natural Science); FREN 401 and 402 (Humanities and Arts); and SPAN 401 and 402 (Humanities and Arts). The Chair announced the formation of two subcommittees: Academic Responsibility Subcommittee and General Education Working Group (with Academic Affairs). The Chair of Academic Council announced plans to meet for the “optional” meeting scheduled for January 18.

Action	Degree	Major	Conc.	Department	Action
<p>MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement from EDUC 275 to "Fulfilled in major with ARTS 281"; Change Social Science Requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "Met in major with EDUC 200"; Changes in required list of courses: Replace ARTS 201 and 202 with ARTS 204 and 206; Replace ARTS 370 with ARTS 364; Remove ARTS 355; Add ARTT as optional choice of designators; Add ARTE 593; Change Professional Education Sequence from EDUC 110, 210, 250, 275, 310, 390, 475, and 490 to EDUC 101, 200, 220, 401, 402, 410, EDCO 201, 202, 203, 305, 306, 350, and 351; Reduce total hours required for Degree from 131-132 to 129.</p>	BA	ARTS	CERT	Fine Arts	Approved unanimously by voice vote

NEW PROGRAM	BA	SCST	CSST	Interdis. Studies	Approved unanimously by voice vote
MODIFY PROGRAM: Remove Social Science Requirement; Change Professional Education Sequence from EDUC 110, 210, 250, 310, 390, 475 and 490 to EDUC 101, 200, 220, 401, 402, and 410 EDCO 201, 202, 203, 305, 306, 350 and 351; Add MUST 593 to list of required Music Education Core Course; Reduce total number of hours required for degree from 137 to 135	BME	CHOR		Music	Approved unanimously by voice vote
MODIFY PROGRAM: Remove Social Science Requirement; Change Professional Education Sequence from EDUC 110, 210, 250, 310, 390, 475 and 490 to EDUC 101, 200, 220, 401, 402, and 410 EDCO 201, 202, 203, 305, 306, 350 and 351; Add MUST 593 to list of required Music Education Core Course; Reduce total number of hour range required for degree from 137-138 to 135-136	BME	INST		Music	Approved unanimously by voice vote
New Courses for Touchstone Program: Hist 111 (Global) CHEM 105 (Natural Science) FREN 401 (Humanities & Arts) FREN 402 (Humanities & Arts) SPAN 401 (Humanities & Arts) SPAN 402 (Humanities & Arts)					Approved unanimously by voice vote

b. Faculty Committee on University Priorities – Jennifer Belk

The Chair of the Faculty Committee for University Priorities, Jennifer Belk, described the “big picture” focus for the Priorities Committee (in contrast to the Committee for University Life). She noted that the Committee is following closely the development of “Knowledge Park,” as described in President DiGiorgio’s update (via email) and is contributing where possible to the Presidential Search. Other recent concerns of the Committee involve recruiting students during difficult economic times.

c. No other committee reports were presented.

- VI. Unfinished business (none)
- VII. New Business (none)
- VIII. Announcements
 - a. Registrar Reminders - The Registrar, Gina Jones, reminded the faculty of grading deadlines sent via email. She encouraged faculty to call the Registrar's Office with any questions regarding a student's graduation status. She noted that grades of U, F, or IF must also include the last date a student attended the class because this information is needed by the Financial Aid Office.
 - b. Research Council Grants - The Chair for Faculty Conference, Cliff Calloway, announced that Research Council deadlines were being sent to faculty via email.
 - c. He also announced that the next meeting of the Faculty Conference and Graduate Faculty Assembly is scheduled for March 8, 2013.
 - d. Seymour Simmons (CVPA) announced that the Arts Ball is this evening, (Nov. 30). Dean David Wohl reminded faculty that the pottery sale is going on now.
- IX. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura R. Dougherty, Ph.D.
Department of Theatre & Dance