

Faculty Conference
April 19, 2002
Plowden Auditorium,
Richard W Riley College of Education

Minutes

- I The meeting began at 2.03pm. Jim Johnston passed out the draft of the Minutes of the April 12th ‘called’ meeting in Johnson theater, emphasizing that these were for *information purposes only* as they, together with the minutes of today’s meeting, would come up for approval in August.

The Minutes of the March 22nd Faculty Conference, distributed electronically, were approved.

The first order of business was to continue with the motion on the floor from the April 12 meeting, i.e., Academic Council’s motion to approve the Changes to the General Education program.

The question was called.

The two-thirds majority vote required to cut off debate was attained. (100 – yes, 43 – no).

Voting then took place on the GEN ED proposal from Academic Council, as amended. Paper ballots were requested and distributed. Members from the Rules Committee were asked to collect and count the ballots.

Jim Johnston proposed that the regular agenda of the meeting be allowed to proceed while the ballots were being counted. This was approved.

II **Report from April 12 Board of Trustees Meeting**

Jim Johnston congratulated Gary Stone and David Porter on their recent awards.

The Board approved three new degrees, allowing them to go forward to CHE for approval:

- (i) The BA in Economics
- (ii) The BS in Middle Level education and the
- (iii) MA in Arts Administration

The Board issued 5 million dollars in student housing revenue bonds
The University has returned 2.5 million dollars of its budget to the state.
It was ‘very likely’ that the House and the Senate would put a salary cap on our ability to raise tuition.

The Salary Study Committee and The Productivity Committee were meeting and would be presenting their reports to the President and The Board by mid May.

Discussion followed about the Faculty/Staff pay issue.

III **Report From The President**

Neither Dr. DiGiorgio nor Brien Lewis were able to be present. Jim Johnston referred the faculty to the email recently distributed by Dr. DiGiorgio.

IV **Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Dr Wilson added his remarks to the salary discussion, stating that there would be a 'real effort' to find the money to finance this. He felt positive about requests for new positions, although not yet finally approved, had not been instantly dismissed as had happened in previous years.

Dr Wilson thanked the faculty for a 'very, very good year this year'. He felt that both faculty and students were 'very dedicated to Winthrop University', endorsed by recent 'exceeds' indicators.

Dr Wilson thanked those concerned with the years of work on the GEN ED changes and hoped that continued good feeling would again prevail among Faculty, regardless of the outcome of the vote.

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Jim Johnston announced that the GEN ED proposal had been approved (Yes – 99, No – 53), pointing out that this was 'just the start', as committees would now be formed to implement the new program changes.

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V **Committee Reports**

Jim Johnston drew the Faculty's attention to Annual Reports by 10 standing committees that were on distributed electronically.

(i) **Academic Council**

Julian Smith informed the Faculty that, regarding the newly passed proposal from GEN ED, there would be approximately 11 committees forming within the next 2 weeks, each comprising 6 people. Therefore, approximately 20% of the faculty would be involved. He urged faculty to step forward to serve on one of the committees and encouraged them to participate in the approval process of the committees in the up-coming meeting of Academic Council.

VI **Old Business**

There was no old business

VII **New Business**

There was no new business

VIII **Announcements**

Jim Johnston announced that this year for the first time there would be two graduation ceremonies, with the Undergraduate commencement on Saturday May 5 at the Coliseum and the Graduate ceremony on Thursday, May 2. He encouraged faculty to attend.

Graduate Faculty Assembly was to take place immediately after the meeting, with standing committee meetings also being held at this time.

A vote of thanks to Jim Johnston for his service as Chair followed.

Tom Moore announced that Kelly James had received her doctorate and that Bill Rogers had won the Distinguished Professor award.

IX **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2.43pm

Respectfully submitted,
Marge Moody