

Faculty Senate Minutes
Thursday, January 31, 2019, Alumni House, 1:30 p.m.

I. Attendance

K. Armbruster, K. Corley, G. Glasgow, T. Green, J. Haldeman, S. Jensen, D. MacCartney, J. Palmer, Kelly-Kate Pease, T. Reilly, G. Renz, C. Sagovac, H. Singaravelu, P. Witkowski.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. Upon motion by K.K. Pease, seconded by K. Corley, the Senate unanimously approved the minutes of the January 17, 2019 Faculty Senate meeting.

III. Old Business

2. Instead of replacing Xiaoyuan (Sue) Suo as the WSBT representative on CRF for 2019-2020, the Senate unanimously agreed to put her position on the upcoming Senate Committee ballot in order to fill the remainder of her term.
3. G. Renz said that Provost Schuster and President Stroble will present updates and answer questions at the February 12, 2019 Faculty Assembly meeting. M. Steed and N. Hellerud will update the assembly on the status of the Academic Program Review committee. A member of the Salary and Fringe Benefits committee will present the fall survey results.
4. Several Senators said the Webster Journal asked them to make statements on the status of Webster University compared to last spring. G. Renz reported that he, B. Lynch, the incoming Senate president, and Provost Schuster are attempting to set up a meeting with the newspaper to talk collectively.

IV. New Business

5. Provost Schuster spoke at this Senate meeting giving a brief update on the university. He stated the following:
 - Two houses had been put up for sale at the home campus
 - A dorm was sold abroad
 - Undergraduate enrollment is stable but graduate enrollment is declining
 - The first meeting was had to replace the Dean of LGCFA
 - The English as a Second Language program in Uzbekistan will have net income of about \$300,000
 - He would like the Senate to discuss the possible restructuring of the colleges/schools
 - Webster might possibly outsource some online courses. The faculty would continue to control course content.
 - Webster is pursuing the largest gift in Webster history
 - Spring enrollments for graduate students are lower than anticipated
 - Student retention this academic year was 79%
 - Moody's downgrade of Webster's bond rating and comments in the report "should not be blown out of proportion."
 - Webster is looking for ways to close the gap between revenues and expenses, including possibly closing campuses, reducing IT expenses, and layoffs.
 - Faculty salaries will not be reduce 8% as part of the budget cutting process

- The Senate budget is not large enough to cover the cost of having the institutes at Pere Marquette even before budget cuts to the Senate budget. Provost Schuster was asked if he would authorize extra funds to cover the costs of having the Fall 2019 and Fall 202 Fall Faculty Institutes at Pere Marquette (with overnight stays). He said he didn't know why the faculty had to stay at Pere Marquette overnight and said the Senate will need to look elsewhere for the additional money. He asked why the Senate doesn't go to the academic deans for additional money.
 - Provost Schuster offered to host a faculty social at his house.
6. H. Singaravelu gave an update on the accreditation of the counseling program in South Carolina. There was a recent campus visit and most standards were met. The look forward to receiving a letter in July stating if they will be accredited or not.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:30 p.m.