

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Regular Meeting
January 10, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.
West Campus Community Center**

I. **Call to Order:** **President Dakkuri** called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. **Attendance**

Officers Present: President Adnan Dakkuri, Vice-President Robert Loesch, Secretary Douglas Haneline

Officers Absent: None

Senators Present: Aiken, Bandstra, A., Bandstra, J., Berghoef, Borst, Carter, Cline, Cron, Griffin, Hanna, Heck, Hettiarachchy, Jewett, Key, Kouider, Lewis, Liszewski, Lovsted, McLean, McMartin, Miller, Morton, Nagel, Papo, Potter, Purvis, Schmidt, Thapa, Thomas, Tymes, Wheeler, Watson, Weemaes

Senators Absent: Abbasabadi (excused), Conati (excused), Klope (excused)

Ex-Officio Members Present: Vice President Michael Harris

Ex-Officio Members Absent: President David Eisler

Guests: David Nicol, Roberta Teahen, Bill Smith, Tom Oldfield, Don Green, Pat Klarecki, Jon Gaskell, Daniel Burcham, Leonard Johnson, Alex Pomnichowski, Richard Cochran

III. **Approval of the December 10, 2005 Minutes** – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator J. Bandstra to approve the December 10, 2005. Motion carried.

IV. **Open Forum**

Senator Key moved to invite Academic Affairs Vice President Michael Harris to sit at the table as a member of the Academic Senate. There was no support for the motion. **President Dakkuri** explained that when the Senate Charter was revised in 2004-2005, the President of Ferris, the Academic Affairs Vice President, and the President of Student Government were added as *ex-officio* members with the right to address any issue before the Senate. **Senator Nagel** asked for clarification. **President Dakkuri** stated that a motion could be made under New Business.

V. **Reports**

President Dakkuri told Senator that Dr. Eisler would not be joining us today, he is attending a funeral. **President Dakkuri** reported to Senators that on December 16, 2005, he received a note from Leonard Johnson stating that the University Curriculum Committee deferred to the Senate to make a decision on the on-line degrees at Ferris. The UCC requested that an ad hoc committee be formed to review this issue. The Senate Executive Committee will meet to address this item, providing details at a later date. A copy of this document is available in the Academic Senate Office or at FLITE.

Vice President Loesch reported that on November 29, 2005, the Senate Executive Committee appointed Maureen Watson to the vacancy on the University Curriculum Committee (Librarian/Counselor seat). He stated that the Executive Committee will appoint members to the International Education Committee. Twenty-one faculty members have volunteered to serve on this committee, representing all colleges except the Michigan College of Optometry.

Secretary Haneline had no report.

President Dakkuri asked for the consent of the Senate to allow Vice President for Student Affairs Daniel Burcham to address the Senate in regards to the Greek Life Task Force.

Dr. Burcham explained that this task force had been formed at the request of the Senate. That document is attachment A of these minutes. He thanked Senators Haneline (co-chair), Loesch and Lovsted for their work. He also noted that the students were great to work with and wrote most of the report. Burcham said that the students are very interested in the outcome of their work, and that the implementation of some suggestions

from the report has already begun. Dr. Burcham reported that it is his opinion that student groups involved will raise their academic standards to follow those of the University. On March 24, 2006 there will be an all-Greek summit. Recruitment, retention and services among the groups will be discussed. A self-help guide will be developed for the overall Greek system. Surveys will be going out to all groups, asking what type of interaction they have, what would they like to see their organization do, and what services they need to carry out those plans. One of the positives of the Greek system is the relationship maintained with alumni. Dr. Haneline added that this is a good example of how actions of the Senate can benefit the entire University.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. University Curriculum Committee – UCC Chair Leonard Johnson** updated Senators on the items presented to the committee since the last meeting. That document is Attachment B of these minutes. The UCC will be meeting on Wednesdays this semester; proposals to be reviewed must be submitted by Friday to allow for distribution to committee members prior to meetings.

VII. New Business – Revision of Management Program

Motion by Senator Aiken, with support from Senator Thomas, to approve the Management Revision Proposal. Drs. Alex Pomnichowski and Bill Smith of the College of Business attended the meeting to respond to questions or concerns. A lengthy discussion focused on items including the mathematics requirement, the dual listing of the project management course, and the advisability of directed electives. Following the discussion, with an agreement to include a revised check sheet in the proposal, **Senator Papo** called the question. The question carried, and the main motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Announcements

A. Vice President Harris thanked Senator Key for his kind comments. The Academic Affairs newsletter is available on the Academic Affairs webpage. He assured Senators that funding worthwhile sabbaticals would be available and that a FOIA has been received from the *Detroit Free Press* requesting sabbatical information from the past five (5) years. More sabbaticals will be sponsored this year than were sponsored last year. On February 1 Dr. Harris will begin faculty lunches. Ten additional classrooms were renovated over the holiday break, bringing the total to 20 rooms renovated to date. Work will begin on Unit Action Plans in the very near future; negotiations are approaching with Jim Green named as Ferris' Chief Negotiator. He will report to a steering committee comprised of Board members Snead and Cook, General Counsel Miles Postema, and administrative representatives William Potter, Richard Duffett and Nancy Peterson-Klein. Dr. Hooper of Allied Health will be leaving soon to begin a new career; an interim dean announcement will be made very soon. The search for the College of Technology Dean is progressing; references are being checked, with interviews being scheduled for the first two weeks of February. Sixteen new faculty lines were added last academic year; five lines will be added this academic year, making a total of twenty-one additional faculty positions. Dr. Roxanne Cullen, Associate Vice President will be following up on recommendations made by the Academic Program Review Council, and a report will be forthcoming.

IX. Open Forum

Senator Papo told Senators that SWN 218 has been updated and is much improved.

President Dakkuri advised Senators that VPAA's response to Academic Program Review Recommendations would be distributed as soon as it is received.

Jon Gaskell introduced himself as the recently elected president of Ferris Student Government.

X. Adjournment – 11:25 a.m.

Douglas Haneline, Secretary

Adnan Dakkuri, President