

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Regular Meeting
March 4, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.
West Campus Community Center**

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

II. Attendance

Officers Present: President Richard Griffin, Vice-President Khagendra Thapa, Secretary Lucy Ngoh
Senators Present: Abbasabadi, Alspach, Beistle, Carter, Cron, Drake, Goosen, Hancock, Hanna, D., Hanna, H., Hansen, Jewett, Jorsch, Kavanaugh, Klatt, Kouider, Liszewski, Isler, Nagel, Nelson, Purvis, Sanderson, Sun, Van de Mark, Watson, Weemaes

Senators Absent: Berghoef (excused), Cline (excused), Danley, Ding (excused), Hardman, McLean, Morcom, Potter, Papo (excused)

Ex-Officio Members Present: President David Eisler, Joe Viviano, FSU Student Govt. President Interim VPAA Tom Oldfield

Ex-Officio Members Absent: None

Guests: Ellen Haneline, Michelle Johnston, Don Flickinger, Leonard Johnson, Dan Burcham, Kristin Salomonson, Mike Cairns, Frank Crowe, Kevin Babcock, Theresa Raglin

III. Approval of the minutes of February 5, 2008 – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Sanderson, moved to approve the minutes as written. Senator Sun had several corrections: Senator Potter is listed as absent and present (he was present in February), insert comma after Berghoef in Section VIIA, 3rd line. Also, on page 2, no apostrophe in RSOs in line one of paragraph four. Motion carried.

IV. Open Forum – President Griffin reported that **Senator Thapa** received the Ralph Moore Berry Education Award from the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors on February 21, 2008. He was presented the award at the annual conference for his contributions and leadership in the FSU Surveying/Engineering department.

V. Reports

President Griffin reported that Senator Alspach will be talking to Senators about some minor changes in the Senate election procedures and election dates due to a minor accident last week.

Senator Thapa had no report.

Secretary Ngoh had no report at this time.

Senate Election Chair Alspach reported that the deadline for filing Senate nomination forms has been moved to March 10, with the list of nominees to be distributed by March 13. She thanked the volunteers in each college for assisting her. She encouraged Senators to talk to colleagues about serving on the Academic Senate.

Senator Cron, Chair of the ISPC, distributed to Senators a questionnaire for completion during the meeting from the Institutional Strategic Planning Council. The council is soliciting some assistance from stakeholders regarding goals for the University. That questionnaire is Attachment A of these minutes.

Dr. Dan Burcham and Dr. Kristin Salomonson provided Senators with a brief update on Admission Standards and Graduation Rates (Attachment B). Dr. Burcham has requested the Board to delay the final ratcheting of GPA and ACT until Fall 2009.

VI. Committee Reports

UCC Chair Leonard Johnson updated the Senate on proposals reviewed since the last meeting. His report is Attachment C of these minutes. One proposal will be voted on later in the meeting.

Senator Sun reported that data from Emeriti would be available at the April Senate meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Military Science Minor Program Review – Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Carter, moved to accept the APRC's recommendation to continue the ROTC program. Dean Johnston, Director Crowe, and Major Babcock were present to respond to comments and concerns. Following a brief discussion, motion carried one nay.

B. BS Degree Dental Hygiene – Motion by Senator Haneline, with support from Senator Thapa, to approve the new on-line degree. Dean Haneline was present to respond to concerns and questions. She explained that this program is for AAS Degree people who want to complete their Bachelor's degree and is fully on-line. There is no clinical component as that portion of the degree was completed in the AAS degree. The degree will not be available on-campus until the American Dental Association allows it. Motion carried.

VIII. Announcements

President Eisler congratulated the College of Allied Health on the approval of their Bachelor's degree in Dental Hygiene. He commended Dr. Griffin and those involved with the American Democracy Project and PEP, reporting that events are routinely well attended by students. He is very pleased with the way the students are getting involved outside of class. He attended the closing event for the Festival of the Arts and reported about the kinetic sculpture that will have a permanent home in downtown Big Rapids. President Eisler informed Senators that Ferris is a member of the Campus Compact, and they have a new magazine out. Nicole Bullock, a FSU student, is featured in an article in the magazine. Dr. Eisler reported that we continue to work on emergency management; new blue light poles and more electronic message boards will be available. He said there may be more drills and training and that the university is working to find a way to involve everyone. He also testified in the state Senate about MSPERS. He said that 10.5% of what is received from the state for funding goes back to the state for MPSERS. Also, that no one has been added to MSPERS since 1996 and the cost of the university's contribution for MPSERS employees is 32% of their salary. Furthermore, that figure is higher than those for all other groups on campus. Dr. Eisler reported that 5 candidates will be brought to campus for interviews in the VPAA search, probably before the end of March. He recently had a working session with the Board of Trustees, where the recently accepted Vision and Mission statements were shared. Both documents will be submitted for approval at the March 21, 2008 meeting of the Board of Trustees, along with the University-wide Diversity Plan.

Interim Vice President Oldfield reported that this past Saturday was Dawg Days and the Spaghetti Bridge Competition. He reported that the College of Business accreditation team is on campus. On April 11 and 12 the College of Technology will be hosting an Energy Conference. VP Flickinger reminded Senators of the Equity Conference hosted by FSU at the end of March and first of April and urged Senators to attend what fits with their schedules. He reported that a new weight record was achieved during the Spaghetti Bridge contest of 114.8 pounds. Registration will begin on March 24 at 6 a.m. IT staff will be arriving early for work on that day and at the end of Spring Break, emergency fixes will be applied to Ferris Connect.

President Griffin thanked the Senate for their year of hard work.

Vice President Thapa reported that seven students recently participated in a national annual conference presented by the Michigan Society of Surveyors. Our students use the same course book that MIT uses and their class is a graduate class.

IX. Open Forum

Senator Hanna asked the Senate to take advantage of a rare opportunity to recognize a colleague, Professor Bruce Dilg. The Michigan Art Works project was a very significant event, and Professor Dilg was the primary initiator for these events. He restored tradition that has been absent from our campus for a very long time and the project served as a bridge from our campus to the city of Big Rapids.

Senator Hanna, with support from Senator Thapa, moved that the Senate formally recognize **Professor Bruce Dilg** at the April meeting for his contributions. Motion carried.

Senator Sun Senator Sun commented that one reason for the 6 a.m. start time for the registration is due to capacity. There is some concern that if it began later it may create a bottleneck. However, new equipment that is hoped will triple the present capacity, should arrive before student register for spring 2009 courses. Further discussion on the registration start time is anticipated.

Senator Watson reported that 2 students presented at the National Association of Forensic Science Conference in Washington, D.C. Their research was well received and he thanked the University for its support.

Senator Drake commented that College of Business faculty member John Vermeer is the person that oversees the Spaghetti Bridge competition. He also asked if there could be a campus map that is available on the web site that is black and white. The colored map is very nice, but is difficult to read.

X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 11:25 a.m.

Lucy Ngoh, Secretary

Richard Griffin, President