

**Ferris State University  
Academic Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, September 5, 2006 – 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 William Papo

*Officers Absent:* None

*Senators Present:* Abbasabadi, Bandstra, A., Bandstra, J., Beistle, Berghoef, Borst, Carter, Cline, Cron, Dakkuri, Danley, Drake, Haneline, Hanna, Hettiarachchy, Jewett, Karafa, Klatt, Klope, Kouider, Liszewski, McMartin, Nagel, Nelson, Potter, Purvis, Sanderson, Schmidt, Sun, Thomas, Tymes, Van De Mark, Watson, Weemaes

*Senators Absent:* Hancock (excused), Kavanaugh (excused), Taylor

*Ex-Officio Members Present:* President David Eisler, VPAA Michael Harris

*Ex-Officio Members Absent:* None

*Guests:* Leonard Johnson, David Nicol, Robert von der Osten, Pat Klarecki, Tom Oldfield

**III. Approval of the April 25, 2006 Minutes** – Motion by **Senator Thapa**, with support from **Senator Thomas**, to approve the April 25, 2006 minutes. **Senator Jewett** expressed a concern regarding Senate minutes being more inclusive, specifically regarding the discussion surrounding location of the annual Academic Senate Retreat. The April 25, 2006 minutes will be revised to reflect the discussion. Motion carried.

**President Griffin** explained to **Senator Jewett** that several other locations were contacted as possible sites for the Retreat. Due to technical issues (no phone access, no internet access) and to the lack of conference rooms at other locations, as well as other on campus meetings occurring on that day, it was decided by the Executive Committee to have the Retreat on Big Rapids campus.

**IV. Open Forum – No Comments**

**V. Reports**

**President Griffin** reminded Senators of the Board of Control meeting on Friday, October 13, 2006. There will be a ground breaking ceremony for the IRC building. He urged Senators to attend the ceremony and the meeting. Other Board meeting dates are: November 10, 2006; February 17, 2007; and March 23, 2007. All meeting are posted on the Board web page.

**President Griffin** reported that the Academic Senate Secretary will be meeting with the University Archivist Melinda McMartin on Friday, Sept. 8 to discuss about FIR, a university digital repository available for Senate minutes, resolutions, etc. **Senator Dakkuri** volunteered to assist with this project.

**President Griffin** reminded Senators that William Strauss, co-founder of the Capital Steps will be speak at Williams Auditorium on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006, 7:00 pm as a part of the American Democracy/Political Engagement Project at Ferris.

**President Griffin** reported that General Education reports will be posted on the Senate webpage.

**Vice President Thapa** reported that Senate Committee forms have been distributed to all faculty and must be returned by September 8 to CSS 208A. **VP Thapa** also requested that speakers at Senate meetings arrive at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time.

**Secretary Papo** had no report.

**VI. Committee Reports**

- A. **University Curriculum Committee – UCC Chair Leonard Johnson** informed Senators of the items acted upon during the summer. See Attachment A of these minutes for a complete report. The first meeting of the University Curriculum Committee will be Thursday, September 07, 2006 at 11:30 a.m.
- B. **Ad Hoc Online Committee – Chuck Drake**, committee chair, informed Senators that the report distributed in Senate packets was the summary of recommendations by the committee which met numerous times during the summer. Members of the committee are: Kimn Carlton-Smith, Mike Feutz, Greg Gogolin, Randy Vance, and Greg Wellman. The report is Attachment B of these minutes.
- C. **Institutional Strategic Planning Council Proposal – Robert von der Osten**, Committee Chair, explained that the committee was charged with developing a detailed mission statement, policies and procedures based on a resolution approved by the Academic Senate on March 14, 2006. The committee members include Clare Cook, Hal Palmer, and Mike Ryan, with Bill Papo representing the Senate Executive Committee. He reviewed the content of the proposed document (Attachment C) and engaged in a lengthy discussion with Senators and guests regarding committee membership and previous committee function (University Planning Committee).

## VII. New Business

- A. **On-Line Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations – Motion by Senator Drake, with support from Senator Tymes**, to accept the On-Line Ad Hoc Committee report. Following a lengthy discussion involving delivery method of programs on-line, the difference between on-line and face-to-face contact hours and Higher Learning Commission responses to our application and their rules and suggestions, **Senator Carter** commented that this ad hoc recommendation is about quality. **Motion carried.**
- B. **Institutional Strategic Planning Council Proposal - Motion by Senator Thapa, with support from Senator McMartin** to accept the proposal.
- C. **Senate Resolution 2006:01 (Attachment D) – Motion by Senator Thapa, with support from Senator Nagel, to support** the proposed resolution. Following a lengthy discussion, **Senator Cron** called the question. **Senator Dakkuri** requested a count, 22-8, question carried. Main motion failed.

## VIII. Announcements

**FSU President Eisler** advised Senators of the 1:30 p.m. groundbreaking ceremony at the IRC building site on Friday, October 13, 2006. Board of Trustees will be attending the groundbreaking ceremony and visiting remodeled classrooms.

Based on early analysis, we have the most students (12,578) ever. This number does not represent dual enrollment figures, as public schools started classes today. ACT scores averaged 21.3, up .4, the largest increase we have seen at our institution. Transfer student numbers are up; those students now make up 43% of the new students at Ferris. For those students who applied but did not attend, contact will be made to ascertain the reason. The same will be done for students who did not return. The loss of student credit hours is due in part to FTIACS and to having more transfer students. Housing and dining budgets are fine. More students are choosing to live alone in residence hall rooms.

**Michael Harris, Vice President for Academic Affairs** had no report.

**Senate President Griffin** reminded Senators of the opportunity to meet Board of Trustee members and to attend the ground breaking ceremony at the IRC building on Friday, October 13, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. The Senate Executive committee will be writing motions for the reports heard today and include them in the October 3 Senate meeting packet.

## IX. Open Forum

**Senator Hanna** requested the current status of General Education committees, their members and chairs of each committee to be reported at a later date.

**Senator Haneline, Chair, APR Council**, reported that the council is meeting. He also stated the APR studies will not be posted on-line due to the amount of personal information contained in them. Copies are available at FLITE for review.

**Senator Cron** reminded Senators to attend the performance of Josh Blue, winner of Last Comic Standing, in Wink Arena on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2006.

**Senator Thomas** informed the Senate that the College of Education and Human Services has been awarded a significant grant from the State of Michigan for Career and Technical Education (previously at MSU). If you are in a technical field and would like information distributed, please contact Senator Thomas, Dr. Kitty Manley or Dr. Michael Ennis at the Flint campus for assistance.

**X. Adjournment – 11:24 a.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Papo, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Griffin, President