

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Regular Meeting
November 1, 2005 – 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: Abbasabadi, Aiken, Bandstra, A., Bandstra, J., Berghoef, Borst, Carter, Cline, Conati, Griffin, Hanna, Heck, Hettiarachchy, Jewett, Klope, Kouider, Liszewski, Lewis, Lovsted, McLean, McMartin, Miller, Morton, Nagel, Papo, Potter, Purvis, Schmidt, Thomas, Tymes, Watson, Weemaes, Wheeler

Senators Absent: Cron, Key (excused), Thapa (excused)

Ex-Officio Members Present: President David Eisler

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Vice President Michael Harris

Guests: Jacqueline Hooper, David Nicol, Roberta Teahen, Leonard Johnson, Roxanne Cullen, Nancy Hogan, Jim VanTreese, Don Flickinger, Don Green

III. **Approval of the October 4, 2005 Minutes** – Motion by Senator Aiken, with support from Senator Conati, to approve the minutes with the following corrections: Senators Miller, Cline, Potter, and Thapa were absent from the meeting, but listed as present.

Senator Schmidt stated that on page 2 under New Business, BS in Psychology, General Education courses were used as directed electives and well as core classes.

Senator Jewett noted that in the 10/01/05 Open Forum he had made a request for feedback on several previous Senate motions. President Dakkuri advised Senator Jewett that this information would be given when the President of the Senate gave his report at this meeting. Senator Jewett also stated that his comments had been made during Open Forum and he would like them reflected in the minutes of that meeting.

Senator Klope stated that the comments that he made at the same Senate meeting were not attached to the minutes as he had requested. President Dakkuri advised Senator Klope that his comments were part of the permanent record of the minutes in the Academic Senate Office. All minutes can be accessed by calling the Senate Office and requesting a copy.

Motion carried.

IV. **Open Forum**

Senator Aiken asked if it was possible to accommodate Senator Klope's request for his comments to be attached to the minutes.

Senator Klope stated that he would like to have a copy of his comments sent to each Senator. (Note: These were sent to Senators on 11/3/05 as an e-mail attachment.)

V. **Reports**

President Dakkuri introduced Andrew Purvis, the interim representative from FSU-GR. Andrew is also the representative from FSU-GR on the University Curriculum Committee.

President Dakkuri stated that the policy on athletes can be found on the Academic Affairs website—date December 1, 2001, revised November, 2004, entitled "Excusing Students for University-Sponsored Functions. The Athletic Advisory Committee is not working on a Senate policy at this time.

In response to another question arising from the October meeting by Senator Jewett regarding the referral to Academic Affairs of a 2004 Student Life Committee proposal regarding Thanksgiving and Easter Breaks, Dr. Cullen will be reporting on this item later during this meeting.

Vice President Loesch reported that all Senate committees are fully staffed, with only two (2) vacancies, those being seats for Senators. All committees have chairs, all have met, and all are making progress. Two reports were given today.

Secretary Haneline had no report.

President Dakkuri asked for consent to adjust the agenda to accommodate the schedules of President Eisler and Senator Papo. There were no objections.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. **University Curriculum Committee** – Dr. Leonard Johnson distributed a report of the activities of the committee since the last meeting (Attachment A). He answered questions regarding the Humanities course renaming proposal and the affect on General Education. When the changes go into affect, the computer system will automatically change also. The only change is the course designator; the course content remains the same. A conversion sheet will be e-mailed to faculty.
- B. **Health Promotions and Substance Abuse Prevention Committee** – Dr. VanTreese reported that this committee been discussing how it can be effective. The committee has been working on a web page (Attachment C) in an effort to expand on the prevention part of their mission statement. Three groups will be addressed on the webpage: Info for Parents, Info for Students, and Info for Faculty. It is hoped that this information will be made available to parents and students who attend orientation sessions. Contact will be made with Debi Whitman of the Admissions Office to see if this is possible.
- C. **University Graduate and Professional Council** – Dr. Hogan reported that all graduate programs at Ferris are represented on the council and that they are establishing guidelines for graduate programs and getting a university-wide policy approved. She reported that they are now members of the Council of Graduate Schools. They are reviewing the rate of pay for graduate assistants and working hard to make graduate programs successful at Ferris.

VII. New Business

- A. **Procedure for Electing Member-at-Large – Senator Papo** opened discussion on the election of at-large committee members. The document distributed for discussion is Attachment B of these minutes and gives three options for electing at-large committee members. Senator Papo explained that at a later meeting, the Senate Executive Board would return with a motion to be voted on. **Vice President Loesch** explained that option number three is the “default,” or the traditional choice. Following a lengthy discussion, each Senator was given a ballot and asked to select in writing which option they prefer. This polling will be used by the Executive Committee to make a decision as to what to present at a later date.

A discussion ensued regarding the most appropriate way for the Senate to consider items without a motion on the floor, with several Senators participating. **President Dakkuri** explained that the Senate Executive Board had brought this item forward for consideration and closed discussion.

VIII. Announcements

President Eisler reported that the proposal for the IRC Building renovations had been approved by the Legislature on October 20, and that a funding bill is expected any day. On campus, five task forces have been established to review enrollment and retention. They will be reporting their findings on December 16th and 17th in open forum meetings. He advised Senators that fundraising thus far has been successful; with additional need-based scholarships being funded, as well as the Jim Crow Museum. Dr. Eisler reminded Senators that the Ferris Foundation Gala is on Friday, November 4, in Grand Rapids. He also commented that he had attended the Tommy Emmanuel concert presented by the Arts and Lectures Committee and that it was one of the best concerts he had seen in recent years. He urged Senators to attend the presentation on

Saturday, November 5, by the Duquesne University Tamburitzans in G. Mennen Williams Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Associate Vice President Cullen responded to a question asked during the first open forum of this meeting about changing the Campus Calendar for Thanksgiving and Easter Break. She reported that the calendar is a contractual issue and that it must be changed through the faculty union. **Senator Jewett** responded that he had brought this matter to the union and he was told that is not a contractual issue. He also reported that to his knowledge, this matter had not been brought to the faculty union in the past year and one half. Senator Jewett has been inquiring for two months regarding the status of his motion. **President Dakkuri** stated that he was not aware of a time limitation on the motion. **Dr. Cullen** expressed concern for the students traveling during the mentioned holidays. She stated that she would be happy to bring this concern up at a contract maintenance meeting in the very near future; **Senator Schmidt** responded that he would like that to happen. She told Senators that room renovation has gone well, and she is encouraging faculty members to visit the rooms and the new technology installed. She advised Senators that a university-wide email would be sent later today announcing the director of International Programs. She reminded Senators of the Study Abroad Info and Fair in the Dome Room, Rankin Center, on November 2, 2005.

Discussion followed regarding the sequence in which items were considered, with several Senators participating.

President Dakkuri had no comments at this time.

IX. Open Forum

Senator Aiken expressed a concern about advising in the Criminal Justice program. **Senator Lewis** explained that Dr. Frank Crowe is the advisor for all pre Criminal Justice students.

X. Adjournment – 11:45 a.m.

Douglas Haneline, Secretary

Adnan Dakkuri, President