

university

# SENATE

April 15, 2009  
SC 201, Midtown Campus

Meeting convened at 3:35 p.m.

**Members present (alphabetical):**

**Guests present:**

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## **I. MINUTES**

A. March Minutes to be considered in May

## **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. WestConn Research Day reminder
- B. Student Opinion Survey Comments reminder
- C. Annual Reports from Subcommittees Due reminder
- D. New Senators should plan to attend May meeting to vote on officers for '09-'10
- E. Senators interested in being senate officers should contact current officers. Offices include:
  - President, Vice President, Secretary, Archivist, Parliamentarian

## **III. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Motion to consider Academic Leave By-Law changes (Maskel, Schlicht)
  - Motion to postpone (Schlicht, Ecchevaria; 22-1-1)
- B. Academic Leave Sabbatic Leave Application change (Schlicht, Murray; postponed without objection)

## **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Motion to consider Media Services and Library Policy Committee Bylaws change (Schlicht, Ganchev) will be voted on at next meeting
- B. Motion to consider Promotion and Tenure Committee Bylaws change (Schlicht, Ganchev) will be voted on at next meeting
- C. Motion to accept Promotion and Tenure Committee Annual Report (Schlicht, Maskel; 21-0-2)
- D. Conflict of Interest Concerns
  - Motion made for Senate President to direct Senate subcommittees to address the issue of the appearance of conflict of interest by adding specific language into their bylaws (Barrett, Schlicht; 24-0-0)
- E. Motion brought to floor: Resolved that:  
Whereas, the report attempts to impose specific questions which will not work for all departments.

Whereas, the report essentially removes the prerogative of individual departments to design and implement their own Student Opinion Surveys under the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Whereas, since 1991, WCSU has successfully identified and implemented the 7 essential elements of Student Opinion Surveys (page 238 of Faculty Handbook).

Therefore, the WCSU Senate recommends the adoption of the 7 elements described in the WCSU faculty handbook (quality of teaching, course content, clear criteria for grading, grading fairness, accessibility of the instructor outside of classroom, clarity in the presentation of the subject matter, frequency of class cancellations) throughout the CSU System. Support for this recommendation will follow. (Barrett, Schlicht; 21-1-0)

- Previous Question (Scrimgeour, McDaniel; 21-0-1)

**Meeting Adjourned 5:00 p.m. (Scrimgeour, Munz; unanimous)**

#### SENATE RESOLUTIONS

April 15, 2009

S1-09-03-04. THE SENATE SHALL POSTPONE ACTION ON R-09-03-04 UNTIL ITS MAY 2009 MEETING. Passed (22-1-1) See below for R-09-03-04

S1-09-03-05. THE SENATE SHALL POSTPONE ACTION ON R-09-03-05 UNTIL ITS MAY 2009 MEETING. Passed without objection. See below for R-09-03-05

R-09-04-01. THE SENATE SHALL APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISION TO THE MEDIA SERVICES AND LIBRARY POLICY COMMITTEE BYLAWS. Postponed until May 2009 meeting per Senate Bylaws.

R-09-04-02. THE SENATE SHALL APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISION TO THE PROMOTION AND TENURE COMMITTEE BYLAWS. Postponed until May 2009 meeting per Senate Bylaws.

R-09-04-03. THE SENATE SHALL ACCEPT THE 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PROMOTION AND TENURE COMMITTEE. Passed (21-0-2).

R-09-04-04. THE SENATE DIRECTS THE SENATE PRESIDENT TO REQUEST THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES TO UPDATE THEIR BYLAWS TO ADDRESS THE AWARDS THEY DISTRIBUTE AND HOW THEY AVOID CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WHEN ASSIGNING OR RECOMMENDING SUCH AWARDS. Passed (24,0,0).

Academic Leave Committee  
 Faculty Development and Recognition Committee  
 Promotion and Tenure Committee  
 Research and Development Committee  
 CUCAS and Graduate Council

R-09-04-05. RESOLVED THAT:

WHEREAS, THE REPORT ATTEMPTS TO IMPOSE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS WHICH WILL NOT WORK FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS.

WHEREAS, THE REPORT ESSENTIALLY REMOVES THE PREROGATIVE OF INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS TO DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT THEIR OWN STUDENT OPINION SURVEYS UNDER THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, SINCE 1991, WCSU HAS SUCCESSFULLY IDENTIFIED AND IMPLEMENTED THE 7 ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF STUDENT OPINION SURVEYS (PAGE 238 OF FACULTY HANDBOOK).

THEREFORE, THE WCSU SENATE RECOMMENDS THE ADOPTION OF THE 7 ELEMENTS DESCRIBED IN THE WCSU FACULTY HANDBOOK (QUALITY OF TEACHING, COURSE CONTENT, CLEAR CRITERIA FOR GRADING, GRADING FAIRNESS, ACCESSIBILITY OF THE INSTRUCTOR OUTSIDE OF CLASSROOM, CLARITY IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE SUBJECT MATTER, FREQUENCY OF CLASS CANCELLATIONS) THROUGHOUT THE CSU SYSTEM. SUPPORT FOR THIS RECOMMENDATION WILL FOLLOW. Passed (21-0-1)

SENATE RESOLUTIONS R-09-03-04 and R-09-04-05

R-09-03-04. THE SENATE SHALL APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISION TO THE ACADEMIC LEAVE COMMITTEE BYLAWS. Postponed until April 2009 meeting per Senate Bylaws.

R-09-03-05. THE SENATE SHALL APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISION TO THE SABBATIC LEAVE APPLICATION. Postponed until April 2009 meeting per Senate Bylaws.