



# Faculty Senate Courier

October 04, 2010

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## Message from Faculty President

### Fall Institute

The Fall Institute was held at Pere Marquette Lodge in Grafton, Illinois on October 1 and 2, 2010.



Professor Bill Buskist presented on the topic of “An Exploration of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning” (SoTL). He spoke on the idea of a “teaching festival,” where faculty would gather together to talk about their teaching.

He recommended several books:

[Scholarship Reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate](#) by Ernest L. Boyer

[Scholarship Revisited: Perspectives on the Scholarship of Teaching: New Directions for Teaching and Learning \(J-B TL Single Issue Teaching and Learning\)](#) by Carolin Kreber

[Scholarship Assessed: Evaluation of the Professoriate \(Special Report \(Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching\)\)](#) by Charles E. Glassick, Mary Taylor Huber, and Gene I. Maeroff

[Balancing Acts: The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Academic Careers](#) by Mary Taylor Huber

Dr. Buskist also recommended a website where journals that publish SoTL may be found:  
<http://www.kennesaw.edu/cetl/resources/journals.html>



### **General Education**

Keith Welsh moderated an hour session on general education reform. I would like to thank the faculty for the many positive comments about the need to find a compromising solution. It was music to my ears to hear that we may not be that far apart.

### **Evening Entertainment**

I wish to thank the following people for helping to make the fall institute a success: Carol Hoyt and John Chappell for leading some faculty on a hike throughout the nearby campgrounds; the senators and other faculty who made the party in the apartment starting about 8:30 pm possible.; Dan Hellinger and the Maple Jam Band who played many terrific songs from 7:30-10 pm. Several faculty danced to the wonderful music. Thanks for playing the song “Elvira.”

Thanks to all for attending and having a wonderful time!

### **Breakout Panels on SoTL**

Three breakout panels were held. Thanks to Victoria McMullen for the panel on “An Investigation on Course Requirements and Student Motivation to complete Required Readings”; Eric Goedereis and Heather Mitchell for the panel on “Thinking about Thinking: Using Cognitive Science for Effective Teaching”; and Laura Rein, Erik Palmore, Brad Wolaver, and Holly Hubenschmidt for the panel on “A Conversation About the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: Identifying and Sharing Our Teaching Practices.” The sessions were informative. Once again, thanks to all of you.

### **Special Thanks**

I wish to thank the following people for helping to make the fall institute a success: Keith Welsh and the Senators on the Fall Institute committee for their planning of a terrific institute; Jo Ann Herwig who made the arrangements at the Pere Marquette Lodge.

	 <p>Most college instructors consider assigned outside of class reading to be an integral part of the academic experience. Inadequate preparation for class activities and discussion can impede student learning to a considerable degree (Nilson, 1998).</p>		<p><b>Vicki McMullen, Department of Teacher Education</b></p>
			<p><b>Vicki McMullen, Department of Teacher Education</b></p>
	 <p><b>Webster UNIVERSITY</b></p> <p>THINKING ABOUT THINKING: USING COGNITIVE SCIENCE TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE TEACHING</p> <p>Eric A. Goedereis, Ph.D. and Heather H. Mitchell Behavioral and Social Sciences</p>		<p><b>Eric Goedereis and Heather Mitchell, Behavioral and Social Sciences</b></p>



**Eric  
Goedereis,  
Behavioral  
and Social  
Sciences**



**Heather  
Mitchell,  
Behavioral  
and Social  
Sciences**



**Erik Palmore,  
Faculty  
Development  
Center**



**Laura Rein,  
Faculty  
Development  
Center**



**Holly  
Hubenschmidt,  
Faculty  
Development  
Center**



**Brad Wolaver,  
Faculty  
Development  
Center**

### **BeneFlex Changes**

You may want to check this link out:

<http://www.beneflexhr.com/pdf/ImportantInformationBennyCard.pdf>

Some major changes will take effect on January 1, 2011, of which you can charge to your benny card. The website has the following directive: “FSA, HRA, or HSA funds can **no longer be used to purchase OTC medicine and drugs** unless a medicine or drug is prescribed.” I encourage you to plan accordingly.

**Cardinal Baseball:** At the beginning of the year, high hopes existed for the 2010 Cardinal baseball team. Unfortunately, they never materialized. I attended 71 of the 81 home games. I sort of like baseball.

### **Dates to include on your calendars:**

**Faculty Socials:** - Oct 8<sup>th</sup> and Nov 5<sup>th</sup> (3:30 pm - 5:30 pm) --- Alumni House, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
(Faculty Senate Offices)

**Spring Institute** – March 25, 2011 (3:00 pm – 6:00 pm) --- in Sunnen Lounge

**Faculty Assembly Meetings** --- 3:00-4:30 pm

Tuesday, Nov 9, 2010

Tuesday, Feb 8, 2011

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

(We usually hold one more assembly meeting to ratify the contract agreement. TBD.)

# **MINUTES/FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

## **July 29, 2010**

### **Attendance**

The Faculty Senate met on Thursday, July 29, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the Faculty House with Ralph Olliges, Faculty Senate President, presiding.

Present: John Aleshunas, Glen Bauer, Maxine Bauermeister, Mary Bevel, Dan Hellinger, Julie Palmer, Marty Smith, Eileen Solomon, Roy Tamashiro, Gwyneth Williams

### **Provost and Senior Vice President Dr. Julian Schuster**

The Senators introduced themselves to Dr. Schuster also naming the courses they teach and the campuses where they have taught.

Dr. Schuster mentioned that his wife is a professor at the University of Connecticut. Discussion followed:

Senator:

- Academic budgeting is opaque. Department operations have not had an increase in years. The budget was cut several years ago and has never been replaced.
- Faculty hiring needs to occur earlier.
- We need more transparency with the faculty growth plan.
- We need input into space allocations.
- There was a dysfunctional relationship with the administration. Transparency was absent for many years.
- We are not competitive with other colleges in the area regarding the doctoral programs.

Dr. Schuster:

- Promised to be transparent and have shared governance.
- Wanted vision of what our institution will be in 5 or 10 years.
- Stated that we need to have respect for each other and build through deeds as well as words.
- Confirmed that there will be reorganization concerning the academic budget. He will check on the budget cuts from a few years ago and assess needs for the long term plan.
- Encouraged individual school procedures will be adhered to concerning new faculty hires. It will be faculty driven, dean supported, in order to hire the best candidate. Full time faculty is shorthanded considering the size of the university. He urged the Senators to encourage their deans to see the need for new lines. The deans will not meet to make a decision. Criteria will be set up to evaluate the needs. Need to find the balance between full time and part time faculty. Senators were asked to think beyond their own schools/colleges for the greater need.
- Stated there is a lot of deferred maintenance. Not enough was invested in the structures.
- Agreed that classroom and meeting space is sparse.
- Requested that faculty approach him immediately regarding campus problems.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The following minutes were approved by voice vote:

- Faculty Senate – May 6
- Faculty Senate – May 24 (amended)
- Faculty Senate – June 10

### **Announcements**

Things are not moving as fast as the consultant wanted on the salary compensation issue. The Salary and Fringe Benefits Committee will have both the AAUP and the CUPA-HR data for comparison.

## **Committee Appointments**

The following committee appointments were approved by voice vote:

- Grad. Council – Phyllis Wilkinson replace Paula Witkowski for Fall 2010
- Senate – Carla Colletti replace Glen Bauer for Fall 2010
- CRF - Maxine Bauermeister replace Ted Green for 2010-2011
- Women’s Studies – Diane Cooper replace Maxine Bauermeister for 2010-2011
- General Studies – Paula Hanssen replace Britt-Marie Schiller for 2010-2011

## **General Education Schedule**

The General Education Proposal will be discussed at the September 14 Assembly meeting. If there is a consensus at the meeting it was suggested that a paper ballot be issued with a deadline of September 28.

The Senate will meet on September 16 and decide if there will be a paper ballot. An additional Assembly meeting may be held on September 21.

Ralph Olliges hopes that the faculty come to some agreement this fall on this matter. It was suggested that there be town hall meetings to further discuss this issue.

## **Inauguration Gift**

Attached is information from Forest ReLeaf of Missouri concerning a tree to be presented to Beth Stroble at her inauguration.

## **Department Modifications Language**

This topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **Old Business**

It was suggested that data is needed on students leaving school before graduation.

# MINUTES/FACULTY SENATE MEETING

## September 2, 2010

### Attendance

The Faculty Senate met on Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the Faculty House with Ralph Olliges, Faculty Senate President, presiding.

Present: Don Morse, Art Silverblatt, Kathy Corley, Dan Hellinger, Eileen Solomon, J.P. Palmer-Skyler, Marti Smith, Carla Colletti, John Orr, Jef Awada, Mary Bevel, Maxine Bauermeister, John Aleshunas, Gwyneth Williams, Roy Tamashiro, Keith Welsh, Ralph Olliges.

- 1) Minutes of the Previous Meeting (July 29, 2010) were approved with no abstentions.
- 2) Committee Appointments: Robin Jefferson-Higgins will replace Anne Geraghty-Rathert on the Women Studies Committee.
- 3) Plans are going forward for the gift of a native Missouri tree in honor Beth Stroble's Inauguration.
- 4) Faculty Compensation Committee. There has been no meeting since the summer. Once the report is completed, the Board will receive it at its September meeting. Then the Faculty Compensation Committee will see the report. The process remains on schedule.
- 5) Department Modifications. Proposed Handbook Language was amended and passed. As it is a handbook change, it now goes to the Administrative Council for approval.
- 6) Changes to portions of the Grievance Procedure relating to the timely responses of the respondent. Passed.
- 7) Faculty Mentoring Program Reported as very successful last year. Many faculty praised it. Art Silverblatt is willing to spearhead the program, but he is seeking people to assist him. Self-selection encouraged. It was noted that it would be useful and important for there to be additional presentations on the Boyer model. These will be coordinated with Erik Palmore in the FDC.

- 8) On the rumored merger of Academic Advising with Career Services, the following was reported: Ralph and Keith met with Paul Carney and Ted Hoef to discuss this. The idea emerged from an AAC&U institute last year. Such a reorganization should help freshmen be more engaged partners in the advising process. It is in part a response to College Student Inventory data which reveal that the top three desires of entering freshmen are:
- a) Help deciding on an academic program (despite the fact that 85% of all freshmen enter as declared majors.
  - b) Help with learning the advantages and disadvantages of various occupations.
  - c) Help understanding the job market for various occupations.

The utility of this plan is being explored in a Task Force co-chaired by Ted Hoef (Dean of Students) and Bob Chamberlin (LGCFA). Other faculty members include Carol Hoyt (Education), Mary Preuss (Arts and Sciences), Peter Maher (GHWSBT), and Linda Williams (Communications).

- 9) GCPTF Task Force proposal. Wide concern was expressed that the process is moving too fast and that faculty will not have had ample time to digest and respond to the proposal. Equally wide concern was expressed that the proposal had as yet not been forthcoming. It was decided that the Faculty Assembly meetings on the 14th and 21st of September would operate as Committees of the Whole and that no vote would be taken at that time. It was further agreed that the final balloting would be by paper ballot, and that a majority larger than 51% would be necessary for passage, though no determination on the actual size was made. While there is some concern that the some liberal education program be approved this fall in order to take advantage of the budgeting process, there was equal concern expressed that there be no rush to a decision.

Meeting adjourned.

# **MINUTES/FACULTY ASSEMBLY MEETING**

## **September 14, 2010**

Senate President Ralph Olliges reminded the assembly of the parameters of today's discussion, which is intended to be a committee of the whole with discussion only. A vote on the General Education proposal will be scheduled by the Senate for a later date.

Keith Welsh presented a brief history of the Webster University general education program, focusing on the last 25 years, with special focus on the recent efforts toward general education reform.

Larry Baden introduced the Global Citizenship Task Force. John Watson spoke in general terms about how the task force has come to this day. Robin Assner presented specifics of the proposed Global Citizenship program; a printed version of the proposal was provided to faculty. Kate Parsons explained the relationship of the initial Great Thinkers Seminar and the keystone Global Keystone Seminar. Vicki McMullen shared her experience as the skeptic on the task force with specific regard for the high-credit-hour majors. Stephanie Schroeder addressed assessment.

Task Force Question Time began at 3.45 p.m. Herewith, a synopsis:

Up to three foreign language courses would count to satisfy various elements of the new program.

HLC concerns about multiple coding of courses are addressed by focusing on outcomes assessment, rather than on general categories of courses.

To a difficult question about courses and enrollment-driving for departments came a detailed answer regarding interdisciplinary courses, and a disclaimer that the task force did not consciously consider ramifications of recommendations, if adopted, on current enrollment in courses.

High-credit-hour majors (75 required hours and above, including double majors) would be allowed to fulfill an as yet unspecified number of skill requirements within the major. Double majors are considered high-credit-hour students.

Student Choice category would allow students to take any two other courses coded as a general education course, even if those courses share a prefix with other courses used to satisfy other categories. In other words, Student Choice allows for double-dipping in the same prefix.

The task force is expecting 30 or more sections of keystone courses to be offered during any particular academic year. Keystone courses would best be offered during junior year and not earlier.

Resource questions will be considered next week.

The task force has considered methodology in the keystone courses.

Keith Welsh discussed further steps before next week's meeting.

# A Reminder of Faculty Senate Membership 2010-2011

*These are your representatives:*

President of the Faculty Senate:	Ralph Olliges (Multidisciplinary Studies)
Vice-President of the Faculty Senate:	Keith Welsh (Religious Studies)
At-large Faculty Senators:	Dan Hellinger (HIPR) J.P. Palmer (Management) Art Silverblatt (Communication & Journalism) Marty Smith (Math & Computer Science) Roy Tamashiro (Multidisciplinary Studies) Gwyneth Williams (HIPR)
College of Arts & Sciences:	Don Morse (Philosophy) Keith Welsh (Religious Studies)
Leigh Gerding College of Fine Arts:	Jef Awada (Theatre) Carla Colletti replaces Glen Bauer (Music) for Fall 2010
George Herbert Walker School of Business and Technology:	John Aleshunas (Math & Computer Science) John Orr (Management)
School of Communications:	Kathy Corley (Electronic & Photographic Media) Eileen Solomon (Communication & Journalism)
School of Education:	Maxine Bauermeister (Teacher Education) Mary Bevel (Multidisciplinary Studies)

**AY 2010-2011**