Academic Senate  
Eastern Washington University  
Minutes of October 8, 2012

Officers: S. Ligon, J. Smith, P. Chantrill, L. Reeves  
Ex Officio: R. Fuller, R. Arévalo, K. Chapman, A. Flinn  
Guests: B. Chaves, L. Connelly, D. Millet  

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by S. Ligon without quorum. Quorum reached at 3:07 p.m.  

2. Approval of Consent Agenda including Senate Minutes of May 14, 2012. Hearing no objection the minutes of May 14, 2012 were approved.  

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda. a. S. Ligon reported T. Flinn has been voted in as UFE president and will be unable to fulfill his remaining year as CFR representative. P. Chantrill has volunteered to fill the position but it will need to be voted on by the Senate today. J. Durfee made a motion to suspend the rules to make this unfinished business. W. Repovich seconded. Motion carried. Motion was approved unanimously.  

4. Committee of the Whole. a. Legislative Liaison Report. a. T. Flinn stated the legislature is not in session but he was delighted that the Chair of the House Higher Ed Committee, L. Seaquist, came to campus and met with administrators and faculty and demonstrated what a valuable legislator he is.  

b. Shared Governance. None.  

5. Administrative Report. President. a. Dr. Arévalo reported the Council of Presidents was looking over the summer for a new director for their office and they hired D. Shoemaker who used to be part of OFM and worked with Ways and Means, the development of state budgets and more recently Higher Ed budgets. He stated that is useful for us because he knows the legislators and the house. b. He should have definitive information this week about the appointment of two new Board of Trustee members and he will inform everyone once he has that information. K. Mikkelsen and I. Zozaya-Guist will both be stepping down after many years on the Board. c. As part of planning for next year the provost and deans have recommended to him that we do a number of searches for tenure track positions so he has approved 31 replacement tenure-track positions across the university plus 10 new positions for a total expenditure of around $2.1 million dollars. He stated some of this money comes from the additional revenue from increases in enrollment. Provost. a. R. Fuller reported he would like to remind everyone about an email that went out last week regarding two new hires in Academic Affairs. M. Ayers will serve as the Director of Community Engagement. She will go out to all the leadership groups in the colleges to discuss how we can increase our visibility and connections to the community by doing projects with both Undergraduate and Graduate students. He stated they are hoping to see greater momentum around that issue and will ultimately decide if we want to make application to become a service learning institution. The other new hire is B. Meredith who will serve as the Director of E Learning and Off Campus
Programs. He will be leading that unit to develop the new approach to the Virtual College. b. The grand opening of the new Learning Commons occurred on the 28th of September. He stated it has been totally transformed with its openness to the students and they have been able to double the number of PLUS groups they have. If you have classes that need assistance with peer learners contact the office of L. Washburn. c. Thank you to Dr. Alvin and her department for the total redesign of developmental Math courses over the summer. He stated they hired four additional faculty as lecturers that specialize in that area and there has been space repurposed in Monroe where they created two labs that support the developmental courses. They are looking forward to seeing how this new approach will work. B. Alvin stated the thanks should go to Academic Affairs for supporting J. Lane’s idea. d. An email was sent out last week regarding the availability of $400,000 in equipment and professional development funds. He stated the template has been sent to the deans and requests for that fund need to be in his office by November 5th. e. A team of folks from Eastern will be in Lacrosse, Wisconsin on Thursday and Friday presenting the INCUR proposal to host the 2015 or 2017 National Conference on Academic Research. He stated we are one of two finalists and we are vying to be the host for the 2015 conference.

6. Associated Students Report. a. K. Chapman reported they started off the year with a training week and a retreat where they discussed and planned their major goals. Some of their goals are to increase the effectiveness of on-campus advertising, outreach towards students through open forums, upgraded technology and campus mall events, to focus on the health and wellbeing of our students, to improve and increase the vision of our diverse population, to continue to partner with the Associated Students of Washington State University at the Riverpoint campus. She stated that for her she will continue to support the JFK Learning Commons project and to reach out to students to help them engage them to support that project as well.

7. Chair’s Report. S. Ligon reported: a. That based on our discussions last year to create hybrid committees they discovered that not only do they have to redo the constitution but the bylaws as well. The proposed changes will have to go to the Senate and then out to the entire faculty for a vote. He stated a faculty committee headed by P. Chanthill and co-chaired by T. Denton of FPAC will review the constitution and they hope to have most of the review done by the end of the month and something to Senate by the end of the term. b. There has been some frustration regarding policy review with policies opening for review and faculty feeling like they didn’t have a chance to participate or have a feeling of lack of involvement in the process. He stated that J. Smith and he have been working with T. Lutey who is in charge of the policy revision and they have been trying to come up with a procedure for the policy review. They have decided they will break the policies down into smaller sections and take them to Rules to review and then send sections to UAC, GAC and the Library as needed. After this process the policies will come to Senate for review and approval. c. He worked with the Student Success and Retention Committee to help shape a proposal for expanding this important committee. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

8. UFE Report. a. A. Flinn reported the UFE and the provost’s office are working on the language of an MOU that will afford the movement of the additional, one-time only professional development funds that will be added to the faculty’s allotment of professional development account. They hope to have this locked down by November 1st. b. This year they resume bargaining to reopen the contract so for the entire year the UFE wants to raise awareness of areas of the CBA they would like to keep or areas they would like to change. The UFE will be sending out a
survey for comments and suggestions. He stated they would like the membership to come newly
and fully apprised of Western Washington Universities bargaining agreement. They will be sending
out alerts regarding our agreement and Western’s for members to compare and be aware of. c. The
president of the four state unions will be coming to the first UFE general membership meeting on
November 15, 2012 and will be talking about how Western negotiations went, how they came to
their particular contract and everyone is welcome to come. d. There has been grumbling about
annualizing faculty salaries and it has been vague of how we could do that if we wanted to. He has
had informal discussions with M. Voves and they will be talking about that possibility.

9. Council Elections/Selections/Confirmations. V. Pascal, Management to Graduate Affairs
Council. Confirmation was unanimous.

b. S. Ligon stated there is a need for council members especially for the Course and Program
Approval Committee. He stated that CPAC can’t bring forward any course or program proposals
for review and approval unless they get members from each college.

10. Information Items. a. Q2S Update. R. Fuller reported the report represents the work of the
Q2S cost committee. He stated the task was to identify the cost to convert if the decision was made
to convert to semesters. If they were to convert it would be a multi-year process and a large portion
of that would be faculty time and the cost of conversion is mostly for their time to convert their
curriculum during the summer. M. Heady asked if we are still in the stage of deciding if we are
going to convert. R. Fuller stated the president charged the committee to find out information but
the decision hasn’t been made yet. He stated the next question is do we do it. Dr. Arévalo stated
they came to the conclusion the issue that needed to be raised and they needed to have a tentative
idea of how it would develop is the issue of faculty workload. He stated that now that the
preliminary study is done we have to look at workload. W. Repovich stated there are rumors that
we are not the only college that would be transformed. She stated it is rumored the community
colleges are looking at converting as well so would the state pay for the conversion if they
converted with us. Dr. Arévalo stated his thought is that it would be individual institutions that
would pay for a conversions and not the state. He stated he did have a meeting with the Community
Colleges of Spokane and they lead him to believe that if we convert they would as well. R. Fuller
stated the provosts group shared the information we collected and there are active conversations at
the other institutions but he can’t tell you where they are in the discussion. M. Binney asked if this
issue was coming from the state legislature. Dr. Arévalo stated it is coming from Eastern and not he
state legislature.

b. Veteran’s Resource Center. D. Millet reported the Veteran’s Resource Center opened in July
and he has been trying to get information to the colleges by attending chair’s meetings. He stated the
center is available to student veterans as well as to faculty to be able to get information that will help
their students. They would like to educate the campus community in different ways and they are
calling the initiative, “Get Your Six”. He stated they have received some funding through Empire
Health Foundation and around Veteran’s Day they will hold a two hour workshop in the JFK
Auditorium on November 1st from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. entitled, “Guiding Faculty on their Journey
towards Veteran Cultural Competency”. They have two guest speakers from the VA in Olympia that
will talk about what we can do to help our student veterans and what they can do to help us do on this
campus.


12. New Business. a. Student Success and Retention. S. Ligon reported the document that was
sent to the Senate for a hybrid Student Success and Retention Committee is similar to the ASAC
membership. He stated they met with members of the Student Success and Retention Committee
and how to make this more successful. They feel with the proposed committee structure they can
be more effective with members from each college, administration and students. He stated they
envision it as a one year charge because the constitution and bylaws don’t allow for a hybrid
committee. They would like to have the Senate approve this committee structure for one year until
the change to the bylaws and constitution can be achieved. This will be unfinished business at the
next meeting.

13. Good of the order. a. J. Smith stated she would like to point out some interesting
opportunities for students. On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for the next 5 weeks at 4:00 p.m.
she will be holding PLUS workshops on the GRE. Students sign up through Academic Success and
it is free. b. Election time is coming again and the Associated Press is looking for 210 students for
the election center that is held on the Eastern campus. Students will be paid $12 an hour and will
have to take calls from people and enter data on the AP site. If you know of a student who is
interested have them contact S. Blewett. c. J. Otto stated the ASAC will be holding a forum on
October 24th from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. in PUB 267. He stated it is for any faculty member who
has any questions about technology at Eastern.

14. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on October 22, 2012.