Academic Senate
Eastern Washington University
Minutes of November 26, 2012

Senators Present: S. Shervais, D. Almeida, D. Turbeville, G. DuMonthier, N. Burgis, L. Cleveland,
E. Kissling, R. William Clark, L. Bilich, M. Moore, S. Goff, J. Durfee, R. Toor, G. Kenney, E.
Graves, W. Repovich, R. Ruotsalainen, D. Vander Linden, R. Sain, D. Munson for J. Anderson, M.
Clute, B. Zinke
Officers: S. Ligon, J. Smith, P. Chantrill, L. Reeves
Ex Officio: R. Fuller, M. Voves, S. Morgan-Foster, K. Chapman, A. Flinn
Guests: L. Connelly, L. Briggs, T. Lutey

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by S. Ligon.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda including Senate Minutes of October 22, 2012. Hearing no objection the minutes of October 22, 2012 were approved.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda. None.

4. Committee of the Whole. a. Legislative Liaison Report. P. Chantrill stated this Friday she will be meeting with one Council of Faculty Representatives member to go over their agenda for the year. She will be meeting with J. Smith to discuss the Legislative Committee and other things that need to be resolved prior to her going to Olympia. She mentioned she is also looking for her replacement for next year. If you are interested please let her know.

   b. Shared Governance. a. J. Durfee asked if this item needs to be on the agenda at each meeting. S. Ligon stated that item is a holdover from the Q2S discussion and if the Senate feels it doesn’t need to be there any longer it can be removed. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

5. Administrative Report. Provost. a. R. Fuller reported at the last Senate meeting he mentioned a team from Eastern had gone to Lacrosse, Wisconsin to make a presentation around the NCUR bid to host the 2015 conference. He stated he is happy to announce we have been chosen to hold the conference in April 2015 which is a great honor. The conference will be another way to showcase the academic work that we do and add to our visibility. b. He just released to the deans the results of the equipment fund requests. He stated $400,000 was made available from the president for faculty members to purchase equipment and they had approximately $1.5 million in requests. A group worked with Dr. Fuller to divide the funding and they actually added money to the fund to make it $455,000 in total funding that will be allocated. He stated that while some people may be disappointed but he hopes that people will see it as a step in the right direction toward funding some dramatic needs across all the units including the Library and the four colleges. c. He is having hearings with all his direct reports in Academic Affairs around their biennial budget requests that relate to program needs and faculty positions and will have those completed by December 15th.

   Vice President for Business and Finance. a. M. Voves reported the $400,000 was made available because the university had over the course of the past few years set aside some savings to anticipate budget reductions and they were careful enough through everyone’s stewardship of finances in the departments to not have to use that money for budget reductions so it could be released to the campus and be used for this kind of opportunity. She stated she would like to thank everyone for helping to generate and save money around the campus to allow them to do this kind of activity. b. After the last Senate meeting she received a request from a Senator regarding questions about the fiscal cliff and how it would affect our payroll taxes. She stated there are some great websites that
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can do a great job of explaining that such as CNN.com, etc. She stated if there are not some
specific actions taken in congress we will have a relatively substantial increase in payroll taxes
which will become effective January 1, 2013 and there will be an increase in the overall taxes so it
will affect everyone’s paycheck.  Vice President for Student Services.  a. S. Morgan-Foster
stated this is the time of year that Dr. Arévalo and her start to think about invitations to
commencement speakers.  If you know of someone you would like to speak and who would be a
wonderful speaker let her know and they will do their best to try to pursue those leads. She stated it
does take sometimes over a year to cultivate a commencement speaker partially because they don’t
pay people to speak.  b. They will be making some changes this year with the summer and fall
orientations.  The new Dean of Students is working on it and will be contacting the departments.

6. Associated Students Report.  a. K. Chapman reported she has been working with C. Ormsby
regarding the Learning Commons suggestions she has received from students. She stated they will
be purchasing 12 new tables. b. She has received the end of the quarter Library hours starting today
through December 14th. The hours are: Monday – Thursday until midnight; Friday open until six
p.m. and Saturday noon – five.  c. The next council meeting is scheduled on Wednesday at
Riverpoint.

7. Chair’s Report.  S. Ligon reported:  a. The Student Success and Retention Committee had
their first meeting on November 9th and they began work on their short and long term goals. They
will meet again on November 30th to finalize those goals. He stated the goal is to have the
committee report to the Academic Senate frequently on what they are doing.  b. He met with M.
Voves and T. Habegger to discuss faculty travel and other faculty spending issues. He stated he
was stunned to learn it was illegal to use departmental dollars to buy refreshments for a reception
for a visiting writer and students due to state law. He met with T. Habegger to discuss the “donut”
issue and is rethinking how we can purchase refreshments for social functions for our students. He
stated he will work on this issue and will report back to a later Senate meeting. He asked Senators
if they have any problems with the Travel office or know of a colleague that has a problem please
let him know.  W. Repovich stated the faculty pay dues to the Faculty Organization and she
assumes the money can be spent without following the state restrictions so couldn’t the Faculty
Organization be asked to pay for refreshments for student functions. B. Zinke stated the foundation
can be approached to pay for refreshments if recruiting is involved.  M. Voves stated that
foundation funds can be used to purchase any type of refreshments.  c. FPAC is continuing their
review and revision of the Faculty Organization constitution and bylaws. In addition they are
continuing the review of their charge and membership.

8. UFE Report.  a. A. Flinn reported he has had to field a number of faculty complaints with
regard to faculty development funds especially with regard to the Travel office but M. Voves and
T. Habegger were able to help out.  b. The UFE promised awhile back a survey to faculty in
preparation of bargaining and he is hoping that within the next week or so it will be sent out.  c. They
are in discussion with the administration right now on apparent disparities in salary
between newly hired lecturers and those lecturers that have been getting new contracts every few
years for some time. They are talking about it and when they have more information they will
inform the Senate members.

10. **Information Items.** a. **Enrollment Update.** S. Morgan-Foster and L. Briggs gave a presentation regarding our changing student population which was presented to the Board of Trustees. The report shows that Eastern is becoming more selective about who we accept, our population is becoming more diverse, the average SAT is higher, the percent of first generation student enrolled is higher, etc.

11. **Unfinished Business.** a. **Academic Policy Discussion: 301-21 Chapters 1-6.** S. Ligon reported there were small items changed that will make the policy clearer. He stated that under Section 5-3 Students the language states there are student members on all councils and committees however that isn’t the case. They would like to add the language: “The Senate may create new councils and committees without student representation, if necessary, to meet committee and council goals.” He stated there are councils and committees that deal with issues that it would be inappropriate to have student members but there will still be student members on the majority of Faculty Organization councils and committees. *This will be unfinished business at the next meeting.*

12. **New Business.** a. **Academic Policy Discussion: 820-100-040 Provisions of High School Audit Agreements; 330-060-200 Fellows & Teaching Assistants.** *This will come to the next meeting as unfinished business.*

13. **Good of the order.** a. W. Repovich stated the Senate doesn’t have any idea of what is happening on the councils and committees and it would be good to get information. J. Smith stated they have been talking about putting more information on the Faculty Organization website and to make handouts and other information distributed at Senate meetings available to everyone. S. Ligon stated he would like to have information from each council and committee added to the Senate agenda for future meetings.

14. The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on December 10, 2012.