Academic Senate
Eastern Washington University
Minutes of April 8, 2013


Officers: S. Ligon, J. Smith, L. Reeves
Ex Officio: R. Arévalo, R. Fuller, M. Voves, S. Morgan-Foster, K. Chapman, T. Flinn
Guests: L. Connelly, T. Lutey, E. Morgan

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by S. Ligon.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda including Senate Minutes of March 11, 2013. Hearing no objection the minutes of March 11, 2013 were approved.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda. a. S. Ligon stated the Council/Committee Document Revisions Statement will be considered an Information Item rather than New Business. Hearing no objection this was approved.

4. Committee of the Whole. a. Legislative Liaison Report. The Legislative Liaison will be at the next meeting and will report at that time.

b. Shared Governance. None.

c. Council Mini-Report Questions or Comments. a. J. Smith reported the Faculty Values Committee is in the middle of the evaluation of the data from the evaluation of Senior Administrators and will have something to the Senate before the end of the quarter. She stated they received approximately 110 responses for the president and the responses went down from there.

5. Administrative Report. President. a. Dr. Arévalo reported that Dr. John Murphy, Dean of Architecture from the University of Texas, San Antonio, is here to shadow him for two days. He is part of a leadership development program the American Association of State Colleges and Universities sponsors. Provost. a. R. Fuller reported this later this week about 30 students along with several faculty will be going to the University of Wisconsin, Lacrosse to participate in the NCUR conference this year. He stated each year we tend to send more students than any other public institution in the State of Washington and he believes we will hold onto that record. In 2015 we will be the host for that conference here on the EWU Cheney campus. b. They have hired a project manager to begin working on that with us and he will be joining the team in Lacrosse to be able to do a diagnostic of what they do well and what they don’t do well so he can help design a program that will be the talk of NCUR for years to come. c. Later this week there will be details out on the three finalists for the Dean of Library search. The candidates will be here between now and the first week in May and they hope to bring that search to a positive conclusion by the end of the academic year.

Vice President for Business and Finance. a. M. Voves reported the Senate has passed a budget and it is not the worst budget but it is a no cuts budget. She stated there is a small cut but it does have some interesting language tied to tuition and tuition increases that they are working on. They are thinking as a group of institutions is about a 3-5% tuition increase. She stated the senate budget
recommends zero tuition increase but does not restrict it but if they go over zero they are subject to the financial aid restrictions that were enacted in SB1795 if they went over 11% so they are restricting us a bit further on tuition than they have in the past. She stated that is better than the previous senate recommendation which was a 3% tuition claw back and moving forward forever tuition would be fixed to the cost of living only. The house budget should be out on Wednesday and it anticipates significant increases in revenue to the state. She stated that anticipated revenue increase would be generated from taxes and when they tried to pass a beverage tax it didn’t work out well so it could be the senate bill is what we will end up with. They will get information out to the campus as soon as they can. b. She stated the University Budget Committee will be meeting tomorrow morning to discuss the campus budget. c. On the bright side Patterson Hall is getting close to completion and it is turning out beautiful. d. The new residence hall is ahead of schedule as well.

Vice President for Student Affairs. a. S. Morgan-Foster reported the 10th day numbers will be out on Friday and enrollments are looking strong. b. The financial aid packages will drop this week. c. They will be doing a search for a new Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Services if you know of anyone let them know. L. Briggs is retiring from the university on April 24th.

6. Associated Students Report. a. K. Chapman reported they worked hard on preparing and distributing finals survival kits both at the Cheney and Riverpoint campuses and it was a big success. They plan to continue this program. b. The election filing process began on Friday and will close next Friday. If you know of a student who would be interested in running for a position they may contact K. Chapman or come to the ASEWU office in PUB 301. c. Students who will be presenting proposals for the Student Research Symposium will need to have their proposals turned in by Friday. The symposium is scheduled on May 14th and 15th.

7. Chair’s Report. S. Ligon reported: a. P. Tanaka who is the chair of the Board of Trustees will be attending the April 22nd Senate meeting to report on what the Board of Trustees is and what they do for the university. He stated he feels the Board of Trustees will benefit from having interaction with more faculty members. b. There will be a mixer held with faculty members and the Board of Trustee members on the evening of May 15th. He will have more details at the next meeting. c. J. Thomson stated she heard the Board of Trustees was going to vote to go to a semester system at the May 1st meeting. S. Ligon stated the next BOT meeting is scheduled on May 16th and the issue of Q2S was put back on the table by Academic Affairs but the Board isn’t ready to vote to implement Q2S. R. Fuller stated the BOT was presented with a report that was prepared several years ago as well as the cost analysis report prepared by M. Voves and himself. The president has been asked to come to the next meeting to discuss whether the community colleges are on board, etc. and he is to make a recommendation at that time. He stated load will have to be determined before the final decision can be made. J. Thomson stated it isn’t just a workload issue but also the cost of conversion, getting the community colleges on board, how it will impact who we get as students here, etc. R. Fuller stated the community colleges stated they will follow our lead so if we convert they will convert. B. Zinke stated that when they established the Student Success and Retention Committee that part of that was related to discussing what can be done now to increase the success and retention of students to preclude a need to change to a semester system so we shouldn’t discount what has been done in that committee. d. The Student Success and Retention Committee has constituted and charged a Gen Ed Review and Reform (GERR) subcommittee on Friday. He stated the charge and committee structure will be sent out to all Senators. S. Ligon and J. Smith have begun to meet with chairs and directors to talk about Gen Ed review and reform and how they see the process
They have a goal of creating a statement of philosophy and having it approved by the Senate no later than December of this year. He stated they want to talk with all departments beginning in September and ask them what they feel needs to be done for the Gen Ed revision to be done effectively. K. Decker and P. O’Connell will be invited to the Academic Senate to discuss the Gen Ed review process and timeline. J. Smith stated she would like to encourage faculty to start discussing this within their departments because the faculty need to be involved in this discussion for it to work. S. Ligon stated this is a great opportunity for faculty and they are looking forward to the engagement with faculty. e. There is a lot of stuff that will be coming out of the Student Success and Retention Committee regarding the First Year Experience as well.

8. UFE Report. a. T. Flinn reported regarding the Q2S the administration and the Board of Trustees decide whether or not to go to semesters, what that would look like, what the workload will be as subject to arduous negotiation between the UFE and the administration. He stated they are engaged in bargaining right now and are bargaining to create the next CBA that will run from 2013-2016. He stated that although he isn’t at liberty to give out information regarding the bargaining process he would like to know any concerns or ideas faculty may have.

10. Information Items. a. ADA Document. L. Reeves stated a new ADA document was distributed recently and she would like to encourage all faculty to read it. She stated it does have some fairly substantial changes in the document.

b. Council/Committee Document Revisions Statement from GAC/UAC. S. Ligon reported this issue came to Rules last week and was based on some frustration coming out of several councils. He stated the councils would like to gently remind the Senators that according to Academic Policy 303-21: “The Senate shall normally make no substantive changes in the recommendations presented from the councils and the committees. Rather, the Senate shall return the recommendations with questions to consider further and some guidance for further action.” He stated they are saying when documents come to Senate they want to have substantive feedback and not copy editing. If they get copy editing they feel like the work they have done is being dismissed and is a waste of time.


12. New Business. a. Faculty Org’s Constitutional Changes. A. Scholz and FPAC have done multiple changes to the constitution which will come to the next meeting to be discussed. A. Scholz stated one of the major changes is creating language to differentiate between regular Faculty Org committees and hybrid committees. S. Ligon stated Senators need to review the constitution and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting. This will be unfinished business at the next meeting.

b. Legislative Liaison Representation Nominations. S. Ligon stated it is time to recruit a new Legislative Liaison Representative and P. Chantrill stated she is willing to throw her hat in the ring. T. Flinn stated he knows of another person who is willing to run for that position. S. Ligon stated he will need the names of nominees no later than Monday, April 22nd. There are two forms that will be sent to the Senators prior to the next meeting. One has a date of March 1 for nominations
and the other is the document that was approved by the Academic Senate on November 14, 2011 without a date. S. Ligon would like to discuss whether the date should be in the document or left out. *This will be unfinished business at the next meeting.*

13. **Good of the order.** a. S. Ligon stated this week is Get Lit week and there are all kinds of events going on in Spokane. At 9:00 p.m. at the Spokane Woman’s Club there will be a pie and Whiskey reading by S. Ligon.

14. The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on April 22, 2013.