Meeting convened at 3:36 p.m.


Guests present: Alexander, Bechard, Cruz, Diot, Gates, Kukk, Lanier, Philbrick, Spiridon, Steinmetz, Steward, Tom, Wright

I. Minutes

March, 2013 minutes were approved (Stephenson/Immohr; 20/0/3) 16/0/5) with modifications:

- Correct spelling of Dr. Whittemore
- Correct spelling of Helen Bechard

II. Announcements

A. WCSU Online Policy – Dr. Jane Gates discussed the policy and fielded questions.

Dr. Patrick Ryan has suggested the following modifications to the wording:

1. Modify Section I.C.:

   Current: Online Course: Defined as one in which all regularly scheduled classroom time is delivered online via the university’s web-based course management system.

   Modified: Online Course: Defined as one in which course content is delivered online via the university course management website system, whether synchronously or asynchronously.

2. Modify Section 2.C:

   Current: The faculty member must complete the Online Education at WestConn course offering form.
Modified: **For new online offerings**, the faculty member must complete the Online Education at WestConn course offering form.

Motion:
Accept revised online motion with Senate corrections (Murray/Skar).
Because this is a policy matter, it will come back to Senate after governance.

B. Update on FY14 Budget – Paul Reis reported on the current budget; WCSU has submitted the balanced FY14 plan. Planned revenues and expenses are $114.7 million; the largest portion of FY14 revenue consists of tuition and fees (48.6%), based on the assumption of flat enrollment and Regent’s approved tuition increase of 5.25%. Approximately 35.6% of revenue is coming from state appropriations. $14.7 million revenue (12.9%) is projected to come from food and housing. The largest meal plans were reduced in price by 2.5% vs. FY13, to help make on-campus residency more attractive and affordable, but room charges increase by 3.0% to cover increased costs. WCSU has been able to establish a one year housing contract with students.

The largest category of expenses is labor (67.5%), which funds 591 positions for the year (faculty lines 215; non-faculty lines 376). The position number does not include several new positions that will start in late FY14 due to the opening of the new Visual and Performing Arts Center. These positions are fully funded in FY14 by an addition to WCSU’s state appropriation, but in future years, when the positions would be in place for the full year, the State would not fund them fully. Funds have been pulled from the adjunct budget. Student labor has been held at the same level, and UA expenses have been reduced. The budget for OE will continue to be analyzed – information will be required for items which exceed $25,000.

The current budget may be reworked due to uncertainty in state appropriations.

C. Transfer Credit Policy – Dr. Jess House presented a summary of the statement and spoke regarding the transfer credit policy. The policy is a general policy change that is consistent with remaining CSUs. A modification was suggested that the 9 credit hours in the minor must be taken at WCSU. Dr. House indicated that the wording could be modified.

D. Nominations & Election for WCSU Representatives to the FAC Beginning January 1st 2014 - Senator O’Brien updated Senate on the nominations and election process. The current FAC has requested that all elections for representatives for whose terms begin in January, 2014 be held by May, 2013. Notifications were received by two faculty members, leaving one candidate, Dr. Patricia O’Neill. She will be appointed by acclamation.

E. May Senate Meeting – President Koza reminded Senators that the meetings in May will consist of two separate Senate meetings:
a. Upcoming Senators for 2013-2014 academic year (election of officers for academic year 2013-2014)

b. Current Senators (last Senate meeting for academic year 2012-2013).

III. Unfinished Business

A. CSU Professors letter to the BOR - Dr. Tom Philbrick asked Senators to place the proposed motion on the floor:

Motion for a closed ballot (Murray/Fraser; 10/11/5). The motion failed.

Some discussion ensued.

Proposed Motion (Buccini, Fraser; 22/0/5):

The WCSU Senate endorses the letter that the CSU Professors submitted to the BOR on 7 March 2013 that reflects the importance of the scholarly work of faculty (research, scholarship, and creative endeavor) to the mission of ConnSCU – in particular the four CSU universities.

The motion was accepted.

B. Center for Compassion, Creativity and Innovation Bylaws – President Koza asked Senators to keep discussion focused on the revised by-laws. Dr. Chris Kukk distributed the proposed by-laws and discussed modifications made since the last meeting. Senators discussed these modifications.

Motion to accept revised by-laws as presented (Skar/Fraser; 0/22/2). Motion failed.

Motion to revise according to modifications:

- Article IV
  2. The Governing Board shall consist of eleven (11) voting members:
     a. The Director
     b. A representative from the Ancell School of Business, elected from among interested faculty in the Ancell School of Business
     c. A representative from the School of Arts and Sciences, elected from among interested faculty in the School of Arts and Sciences
     d. A representative from the School of Professional Studies, elected from among interested faculty in the School of Professional Studies
     e. A representative from the School of Visual and Performing Arts, elected from among interested faculty in the School of Visual and Performing Arts
f. Two (2) students: 1 appointed by the Provost and one elected by SGA.
g. Two (2) representatives from the community appointed by the Provost.
h. One member from SUOAF.

Motion to suspend the rules (O’Neill/Fraser; 18/3/5). Motion passed.

Motion for a closed vote (Murray/Moser; 2/17/7). Motion failed.

The main motion was accepted (Skar/Hayes; 18/3/5).

IV. New Business

A. One Year Extension for ‘Streamline the Curriculum Adoption Policies & Procedures’ — March CUCAS Meeting Motion & Resolution — Dr. Anthony Markert discussed the issue.

At the March CUCAS Meeting there was a motion:
To approve the proposal to extend the 2012-2013 changes in the faculty handbook that were adopted as a one-year trial by the Senate on May 9, 2012 to streamline the curriculum adoption policies and procedures (Goble, Flanagan, 8/0/0).

Dr. Maskel asked for Senators to support the following resolution:

That the changes adopted as a one-year trial by the University Senate on May 9, 2012 to streamline the curriculum adoption policies and procedures be extended through academic year 2013-2014, and that during Fall, 2013, the chairs of all curriculum committees, plus a representative from the Office of the Registrar, meet to agree on changes to these policies and procedures.

Motion to suspend the rules (House/Trapani; 14/1/0).

The motion was accepted (Moser/Skar; 20/0/1).

B. Research & Development Committee Award Summary — Dr. Tom Philbrick described the allocation of reassigned time for the Research and Development Committee and presented related data. Some schools receive more credits proportionally than other schools. Dr. Philbrick discussed possible reasons why this might be the case, and Senators contributed their ideas.

C. WCSU Smoking Policy — Michael Littlefield, Senior Undergraduate Student, Health Promotion and Exercise Sciences Department discussed proposed changes to the campus smoking policy. He asked for support for the effort. Senators suggested the group involve
more stakeholders (e.g., Working Conditions Committee). Concerns about enforcement were raised.

Motion (Murray/ Fraser; 19/0/1). Motion passed. The Faculty Senate supports the idea of the resolution and would like to see the Working Conditions Committee work with the students to investigate the smoking policy on campus.

D. Other – Proposal to Modify Admission Requirements EdD in Instructional Leadership Requirements.

Senator Heilbronner presented a proposal to change the admissions requirements for the EdD in Instructional Leadership Program as follows:

- Increase the GPA from 3.0 to 3.67
- Eliminate the need for taking the GRE or MAT for those with GAPs of 3.67 or greater and modify the requirements for those with GPAs between 3.33-3.66.
- Allow students with 2-3 years of teaching experience to enter the program.

Motion to suspend the rules (Murray/Boriss; 19/0/1).

Motion to accept modifications as presented. The motion passed (O’Neill/Moser; 20/0/0).

V. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

April 2013 Senate Resolutions

R-13-4-1. The WCSU Senate endorses the letter that the CSU Professors submitted to the BOR on 7 March 2013 that reflects the importance of the scholarly work of faculty (research, scholarship, and creative endeavor) to the mission of ConnSCU – in particular the four CSU universities. (Buccini, Fraser; 22/0/5)

R-13-4-2. The WCSU Senate accepts the Center for Compassion, Creativity and Innovation bylaws with Senate revisions. (Skar/Hayes; 18/3/5)

R-13-4-3. The WCSU Senate supports the March 2013 CUCAS resolution for ‘Streamline the Curriculum Adoption Policies & Procedures’, which reads:

That the changes adopted as a one-year trial by the University Senate on May 9, 2012 to streamline the curriculum adoption policies and procedures be extended through academic year 2013-2014, and that during Fall, 2013, the chairs of all curriculum committees, plus a representative from the Office of the Registrar, meet to agree on changes to these policies and procedures. (Moser/Skar; 20/0/1)
R-13-4-4. The WCSU Senate supports the idea of the resolution [on proposed changes to the current WCSU Smoking Policy as presented by the HPX senior undergraduate students] and would like to see the Working Conditions Committee work with the students to investigate the smoking policy on campus. (Murray/Fraser; 19/0/1)

R-13-4-5. The WCSU Senate accepts the proposal to modify admission requirements for the EdD in Instructional Leadership requirements. (O’Neill/Moser; 20/0/0)