

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Executive Committee

February 14, 2008 meeting
1:00-3:00 p.m. – Adelbert Hall Room 352

AGENDA

1. 1:00 Approval of Minutes of the January 18, 2008
Executive Committee meeting - attachment D. Matthiesen
2. 1:05 President's announcements B. Snyder
3. 1:10 Provost's announcements/updates J. Goldberg
4. 1:15 Chair's announcements D. Matthiesen
5. 1:20 Report on the University Undergraduate Faculty W. Deal
6. 1:35 Report from the Budget Committee K. Ledford
7. 1:45 Report from the Business Policies Taskforce G. Starkman
8. 2:00 Discussion of Priorities with Budget Impact –
Survey Results D. Matthiesen
9. 2:15 Approval of the agenda for the February 28, 2008
Faculty Senate meeting D. Matthiesen

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Executive Committee

Minutes of the February 14, 2008 meeting
Adelbert Hall, Room 352

Committee members in attendance:

Jay Alexander	Diana Morris
William Deal	Barbara Snyder
Jerold Goldberg	Glenn Starkman
Kathleen Kash	Susan Zull
David Matthiesen, Chair	

Committee members absent:

Dominique Durand	Bill Leatherberry
Julia Grant	Elizabeth Tracy

Others present:

Faye Gary, Co-Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on Women Faculty
Kenneth Ledford, Chair, Faculty Senate Budget Committee
Sana Loue, Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on Minority Faculty

Call to order and approval of minutes

David Matthiesen, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. There being no objections or corrections offered, the minutes of the January 18, 2008 Executive Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

President's announcements

President Snyder thanked committee members for their prompt response to the recent request for support of the Science Debate 2008 initiative. Professor Jay Alexander reiterated the importance of following formal procedures with regard to soliciting and obtaining Faculty Senate approval on issues such as this, and noted that in matters of public policy, the Faculty Senate is "the voice of the university."

The president informed the committee that Interim Provost Jerry Goldberg has agreed to remain in that position until a successor is named, at which time he will return to the deanship of the School of Dental Medicine. She thanked Professor Goldberg for his service, particularly with regard to the strategic planning effort currently underway. A search committee is being formed, which will consist of faculty, staff and students. If that committee requests the assistance of a professional search firm, one will be retained. The president intends to set an aggressive timeline.

President Snyder announced that she is considering hiring a Vice President for Diversity. This action would demonstrate commitment to a critical university issue that needs to be addressed, but may be somewhat controversial given the current budget deficit. Discussion ensued, and committee members expressed support for the initiative. The Vice President will be responsible for consolidating and coordinating the university's diversity efforts, and having an individual in place to help implement the developing strategic plan is a goal.

Provost's announcements

Interim Provost Jerry Goldberg announced that the schools' promotion and tenure committees are currently meeting and evaluating candidates. He thanked all those involved for the time and effort being put forth to ensure the integrity of this critical process.

The strategic planning effort is on schedule. "Town meetings" are currently taking place across campus, and first draft of the document will be distributed to focus groups for review in mid-March. Professor Matthiesen asked that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee receive the first draft as soon as it becomes available. Professor Goldberg made special mention of Mr. Richard Baznik, whose experience at and historical perspectives of the university have contributed significantly to this strategic planning initiative.

Chair's announcement

Professor Matthiesen reminded committee members that he will be participating in the Board of Trustees meeting on February 22-23.

Update on the University Undergraduate Faculty (UUF)

Professor William Deal, Faculty Senate representative to the UUF, reported that the UUF has devoted significant time this academic year to self-reflection but has not articulated proposed changes in its structure, function or mission. He reported very little "buy-in" among the faculty as a whole, but resistance from the UUF Executive Committee to disband the organization. Discussion ensued regarding the history of the UUF; it was noted that the UUF bylaws are in conflict with the Constitution as set forth in the Faculty Handbook. The UUF leadership is to deliver a report to the provost in April.

Report from the Budget Committee

Professor Kenneth Ledford, Chair of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee, reported that the committee met on February 6 to review preliminary figures of the second quarter close. In general, the trajectory of overhead cost recovery at the School of Medicine is improving. However, the university faces a \$1,920,000 shortfall in financial aid. Professor Ledford explained the reason for this, and added that the university is at risk of exposure due to its "need blind" practice of awarding aid as the general economic environment continues to worsen. This shortfall will be covered by UGEN.

Professor Ledford informed the Executive Committee that a proposal to approve the planning segment of a capital campaign will be presented to the Board of Trustees at its February 22-23 meeting; the target goal for the campaign has not yet been announced. He also informed the committee that the Budget Committee will meet jointly with the Senate's Committee on

Information Resources in early March to discuss a possible change in the default assignment of new students from the current electronic mail system to “gmail.”

In response to a question about the anticipated PricewaterhouseCoopers report, President Snyder stated that the university has not yet received the final report. When the report is submitted and shared with the dean of the medical school, it will be shared with the Faculty Senate Budget Committee.

Report from the Business Policies Taskforce

Professor Glenn Starkman, Senate chair-elect, reported that this taskforce has met twice to review the university’s business policies. At the Board of Trustees’ request, President Snyder appointed this taskforce to review those business policies that have an impact on faculty. The taskforce will provide assessment of these policies to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and other Senate committees as appropriate, and report to the Board of Trustees’ Audit Committee in June. Professor Starkman will facilitate this effort.

In fall 2008, educational programs will be available on campus to raise awareness of these policies. A website will be developed to provide detailed information and a list of contacts to address questions and concerns.

Results of faculty survey on priorities with budget impact

Professor Matthiesen reported that 85% of eligible faculty voted in the recent survey to determine priorities having budget impact. According to this vote, the top priority is for an on-campus childcare center; this was followed closely by an increase in faculty compensation. Other priorities had a “sprinkling” of support. President Snyder will schedule meetings with the chairs of the appropriate Faculty Senate standing committees prior to the February 28 Senate meeting to discuss the best ways to deal with these priorities and the allocation of funds to support them. Because of the long range planning required to completely address these important issues and the current fiscal constraints, the Executive Committee agreed that interim goals need to be developed toward development and completion of these multi-phase projects.

Approval of the February 28, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting agenda

With slight modification to the draft presented, the agenda for the February 28, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Susan J. Zull
Secretary of the University Faculty

