



## **Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006**

Provost Joe Rallo welcomed everyone to the Quad Cities' campus. It's kind of a "Goldilocks Day" being neither too hot nor too cold—but just perfect. In terms of agenda items, the tenure recommendation before the Board followed the approved tenure process. At Western it is probably the most inclusive that I've seen on six campuses. It is very open and transparent. There are a variety of levels of review, and the process meets University requirements as well as departmental criteria. You will see different ranks on the list we have submitted to you for review because we have a number of new chairs and deans who have come in with tenure from other institutions. He responded to questions from trustees.

In response to a question from Trustee Cook about who comes in with tenure, Provost Rallo said it is normal if you have earned tenure at your previous institution to submit your documents to the department for review. We have an expedited process that we put in place, a shortened review process, for heads of departments who come in



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would be other new residence halls on campus. The first new residence hall was built and that building has been called “New Hall” for lack of a better name.

Students and others have asked about naming this new residence hall. I’ve worked with Inter-Hall Council, the student governance group in the residence halls, and asked them to come forward with suggestions for names they felt would represent our campus and its history.

They submitted a recommendation of three names and those were submitted to the campus Naming Committee. The Committee approved using the name of Caroline Grote for our new residence hall.

The first Grote Hall was located east of Sherman Ha

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- Weekly assembly was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the main building (Sherman Hall)
- Every student had an assigned seat and roll was taken

### **The Hall**

- The “Woman’s Building” completed 1913 (Monroe Hall)
- Officially named Monroe Hall, in honor of former President James Monroe
- Female students began moving in on December 8, 1913
- Prior to that, that area of the campus lawn was used by several Presidents for golfing and other activities—the green was destroyed when Monroe Hall was built in 1947 – Monroe Hall renamed after former Dean of Women, Caroline Grote
- 2 years later, a new wing was added, providing 38 dual-occupancy rooms—the new wing was dedicated in April 1950
- Closed in December 1972 (addition closed in Spring 1973)
  - Decline in overall enrollment
  - Very tight budget
  - Fire safety concerns

Students attempted to gather signatures on a petition to protest the decision to close Grote Hall and presented President Bernhard with alternatives for saving money and even held demonstrations with signs posted on the building saying, “Let it Be!”

- In 1991 Grote Hall was finally demolished after sitting empty for 18 years

The Inter-Hall Council students and I feel it is an appropriate and fitting name for our newest residence hall to represent what was a significant part of our history in terms of Grote Hall which was the first residence hall on campus. We can in this way help maintain the history of Western Illinois University. There are certainly a lot of alumni who lived in Grote Hall who will see this as a fitting way to remember Caroline Grote and her great contributions to the University.

The members of the Academic and Student Services Committee agreed to support passage when presented to the full Board for action.

### **Report on Academic Curricular and Administrative Changes**

Provost Rallo stated that the Board requires annually that we provide a summary of the changes that have been approved over the past year. These changes have been consistent with our academic planning process, have gone through the appropriate shared governance and administrative approval, and move us toward the goal of being as responsive as possible to students as well as to faculty needs.

### **Annual Listing of Academic Program Changes**

Again, this is the same basic requirement in terms of an annual informational report on the changes made to academic programs over the last year. This is an annual requirement of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. It ties the various codes that identify our programs and it captures what we are doing. There were no questions regarding the report.

### **Affirmative Action Annual Update**



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In addition we have instituted mandatory sexual harassment training this past year. We are happy to report that we have had 2,400 employees complete the test—629 faculty, 1,146 civil service, and 634 students and student employees, including graduate students.

We have seen a decrease in the number of sexual harassment complaints filed this year—18 formal complaints filed this year compared to 24 filed last year. This is good news.

One other initiative that has just begun with regards to web accessibility is that the IBHE has instituted a protocol where institutions are now required to ensure that their web sites are fully accessible and everything links from the front page. We have a coordinating committee working

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The stop loss is another thing that we want to look at closely. Is there a point within our program that the stop loss can actually be discontinued? We want to give this a three year time frame before we make that decision. We now have two years claims experience and we have not utilized it. We are hoping that continues and we can bring that recommendation to you in the future.

Mr. Stevenson explained the stop loss coverage to trustees. The stop loss coverage is protection insurance that is purchased to guard against catastrophic claims. The protection is set at \$150,000. The plan has the responsibility for the first \$150,000 and after that the insurance company takes over. When we look at the mix of your population and some of the benefits that you enjoy given that they may have other insurance, etc. it is not likely that you are going to get a lot of stop loss claims. We felt it was prudent in the first three or four years to make sure we were covered so that in case we did have a few large claims it would not hurt the plan. The contract period for the stop loss is August 1 through July 31.

Ms. Sartore stated that, in the case of the



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Vice President Johnson said that they are recommending again this year no additional cost to students for health insurance coverage. We feel like we can go another year without raising rates—the third year in a row we have offered the program at the same price. That was one of the reasons we got into the self-insurance coverage, to control the cost of health care coverage for our students and provide an outstanding program. We feel like we have met our goal. He thanked HCH for their great partnership and all the work they have done. We are asking them to do some additional work about other possibilities related to health care for students.

Trustee Houston said that ultimately it is the University that carries the liability. I personally am not real anxious to expand what we are providing. We are providing our current program as a service. There is a liability that goes along with having this plan and as we talk in terms of expanding to dental or anything else, you are adding to that liability and I think we need to have discussions as to whether this is something we would want to explore or not.

Vice President Johnson said that he is asking permission to move forward to at least explore it and then bring information forward. We can always say no. I am concerned about the liability as well. We need to make certain that if we add a

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As you know, we have been working on this for well over a year. We have the feasibility study coming back next month and will meet with our partners, Carl Sandburg College, Spoon River College, Graham Hospital and McDonough District Hospital, to move forward and make a recommendation to the faculty to start the curriculum process for a nursing program. We think it is going to be very exciting and the type of thing that is a great out reach to the community and region.

Last, I am distributing to you the calendar that has been approved by the President. This is an informational item for the Board. Nothing has changed but the dates for the next two years.

Trustee Cook said that in terms of the nursing program, it is not just the finances that are involved, it also takes approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. How optimistic are you that they will approve the program?

Provost Rallo said that we started last December when we made the recommendation to the President. I talked to IBHE at that time and they know we are in the process of doing this. The consultants out of Graham Hospital are completing the feasibility study that is required by the various accrediting agencies. We are very optimistic. In spite of what is coming out of the Governor's Office, this has been a program that has been talked about for 20 or more years. There is a huge need, it fits in well with our mission and allows us to keep students who come to campus for the pre-nursing program who then transfer away. We have already received three phone calls just in the last couple of days—one from the Rushville School Superintendent asking when his daughter can enroll. We have to be conservative because we do not have the authority to grant the degree yet, but we are very optimistic.

Trustee Cook stated this would include both students who start at Western for the first two years as well as transfer students from the community colleges involved. Is that correct?

Provost Rallo stated, yes, this is a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and we are looking at students from Carl Sandburg and Spoon River to name two. Students would do two and a half years there and transfer to us for two years. Graham Hospital currently has a three-year program, so those students would do three years at Graham and come to us for a year. The students who come to us for the pre-nursing would simply stay with us for four years.

Trustee Cook said that he can remember this thing going on for over 20 years. First the need was discussed and discussed and then for various reasons IBHE would still not approve the program at Western. I am hoping it goes through.

Trustee Epperly stated that there has been a lot of previous Board discussion about the issue of the Lincoln's Birthday holiday we now celebrate or changing our holiday to President's Day. I would like to see this discussed by the Board down the road. The calendar is already set for this year, but I was not privy to any of these discussions as was the case for most of the newer Board members. It is my understanding that the faculty has expressed this desire as well as the student body in both the Quad Cities and Macomb. I would like to see us discuss the possibility in some detail.

Trustee Cook said that it could not be implemented until three years because this calendar is already set.

### **General Comments by Vice Presidents (Continued)**

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Provost Rallo said the Board of Trustees *Regulations* specifically state the holidays and Lincoln's Birthday is one of the stated holidays. It would require a

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staff on a plan for a pandemic—that seems to be the big issue right now. We are developing a plan to deal with issues should we have a pandemic on campus.

Also, I want to thank Pat Sartore for a wonderful career as Director of Beu Health Center. She has done a marvelous job and will be greatly missed. Thanks to her for her great leadership in terms of the self-insurance program and in terms of providing improved health care services to our students on campus. She is going to be greatly missed.

This has been a great year for athletics. This is the first year that athletics has been in the division of Student Services. We won four conference championships: Men's Soccer, Women's Basketball, Men's Golf and Men's Tennis. That is the most since the 1995-96 season. Tim VanAlstine and others in athletics have done an outstanding job. We have three coach of the year awards—Volleyball, Men's Golf and Men's Tennis. Ten of our 15 sports have finished within the three top positions in the conference. We have had more of our teams in post season play