

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE  
Regular Meeting, 13 October 2015, 4:00 p.m.  
Capitol Rooms -University Union

ACTION MINUTES



category, and basically anything that is taken from that department can fit within Multicultural, but that was not really the intent of these courses. She explained that the intent of WS 270 and 280 was to teach the courses from a particular perspective and include literature, the arts, and creative activities so that the emphasis will be on the humanistic expressions, not necessarily on the multicultural aspects of the courses. Senator Boynton asked if the courses could be included in both categories, but Dr. Shouse responded that they cannot.

GEN ED INCLUSION APPROVED FOR BOTH COURSES

C. Senate Nominating Committee  
(Virginia Boynton, Chair)

SENATE COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES :

Council for International Education

Yong Tang, Broadcasting/Journalism	replacing	Doug Huff	2015-16	FA&C
Jana Marikova, Mathematics	replacing	Yong Tang	2015-17	A&S

Senator Boynton related that the Senate Recording Secretary noticed that the Department of Journalism's move to the College of Fine Arts and Communication created an imbalance in representation on the Council for International Education (CIE). Journalism professor Yong Tang was originally elected to represent Arts and Sciences, but the reorganization meant that there were three representatives from Fine Arts and Communication on CIE and one from Arts and Sciences instead of two apiece. Doug Huff, Music, volunteered to step down from CIE in order to solve the imbalance. Dr. Tang has been nominated to fill Dr. Huff's position, and Jana Marikova, Mathematics, was nominated to fill Dr. Tang's former seat, bringing the balance back to two representatives from each college. There were no further nominations, and the candidates were declared elected.

IV. Old Business

A. Ad Hoc Foreign Language/Global Issues Committee  
(Jill Myers, Chair)

1. Final Report

Chairperson Pynes related that the ad hoc committee report was tabled at the last Faculty Senate meeting, during which senators heard from the chair, CAGAS, CIE, and the ad hoc committee. Senator Westerholts observed that it seems there are a lot of questions about the foreign language/global issues (FLGI) requirement in general. She recalled that one suggestion raised at the previous meeting was to create a new ad hoc committee to reinvestigate the purpose of an FLGI requirement, whether the University should continue to have this graduation requirement, and if the global issues (GI) courses are meeting the objectives. Chairperson Pynes stated that the current ad hoc committee report suggests changes to the requirement, specifically reducing the foreign language requirement from 3 semesters to 1 semester. He recalled that CAGAS suggested creating a separate committee to examine the viability of FLGI, but stressed that now the Senate is examining only the changes proposed to the FL side of FLGI. He added that if the ad hoc committee report is accepted and approved by the President, the existing FLGI policy will change.

Motion: To reject the report (McNabb/Boynton)

Senator Cabed Timmons, who served on the ad hoc committee, believes senators seem to have missed the point of what has been discussed in the ad hoc committee for the past year and a half. She stated the ad hoc committee was not considering whether the University needs a foreign language versus a global issues requirement but how to make the FLGI

requirement fair for students who under the current requirement have to decide whether to take three semesters of a foreign language versus one semester of global issues. related that the ad hoc committee talked about many things, but proficiency skill is one thing that is not currently being considered. Senator Caberton stressed that the ad hoc committee has been working very hard. She observed that some senators were not present one to two years ago when the ad hoc committee was created, but she believes that senators need to approve the report and move on in order make the decision for students; then, if the Senate wants to create another committee to discuss whether FLGI needs to be changed or other things related to the requirement, that can be undertaken later.

Senator McNabb expressed her thanks to the ad hoc committee for their work on formulating the report. She explained the source of her objection stems from the fact that there are three conflicting points of view presented in the same document: CAGAS does not agree with CIE, which does not wholeheartedly agree with the ad hoc committee. Senator McNabb does not see how this policy can be successful when it does not have a broad consensus of the parties that are involved in graduation requirements and in international education, as well as the ad hoc committee. Senator McNabb observed that the report was clearly a thoughtful proposal, but it does not appear to have broad support from the constituents, which she thinks all need to be on the same page.

Senator Myers, who chaired the ad hoc committee, admitted that the committee did have considerable difficulty in the sense that it was impossible to achieve consensus at all, which she said explains why the report was presented with conflicting viewpoints. Senator Myers stated that the ad hoc committee understands and agrees with the fairness issue but could not agree on the basic purpose of FLGI. She explained this in the final report.

these courses anyway, and the department does have the other single GI course option. Since there are many ways to meet the graduation requirement, Senator Boynton does not think FLGI puts an undue burden on students.

Senator Myers related that the ad hoc committee talked *ad nauseum* about the fact that many existing foreign language classes could also be reclassified to GI classes. She stated that if one is not talking about actually having the ability to speak the language as a goal but of understanding culture, most of the foreign language classes could easily be designated GI, so there would be more than one class in the department that is eligible for GI credit.

Senator Carncross asked if the broader discussions about the FLGI requirement will cease to occur if the ad hoc committee's proposal is adopted today. Chairperson Pynes responded that whether the report is accepted or rejected, FLGI will continue to be discussed. Senator DeVolder stated that his only concern is that Faculty Senate continue to talk about FLGI, senators from the College of Business and Technology *would* to bring this to the table. Senator DeVolder expressed concern about how Faculty Senate leaves the FLGI requirement before sending it to another ad hoc committee for examination; he would prefer that the Senate not make changes to the current policy that

that if changes are going to be made to the requirement in the future anyway, asking faculty in this department to continue to wait seems unnecessary, particularly if a subsequent change to the requirement will likely be made sometime in the future. He urged senators to make the change now by approving the proposal. Chairperson Pynes remarked that he is unconvinced by the presupposition that another ad hoc committee would necessarily propose further changes to FLGI.

Chairperson Pynes explained to senators that a “yes” vote would indicate that they are voting to reject the proposal and keep the FLGI requirement as it currently stands, while a “no” vote will mean that senators accept the ad hoc committee report and its proposed changes to FLGI.



he brought the issue to Faculty Senate to, first, determine if there is a problem at WIU and, if so, what can be done to address it.

Senator Hironimus~~W~~end~~t~~ stated that there is a law~~ex~~istence to address intimidation that says a person is intimidated when they are exposed to hatred, contempt, or ridicule, but that is



