

**Members Present:** C. Castillo-Garsow, G. Hustrulid, S. Shaffer, K. Evans, P. Lam, J. Rosenzweig, D. Ayers, B. Biswas, C. Hazelbaker, D. Garraway, L. Reeves

**University Officials:** J. Curtis, T. Jones, J. Anderson, A. Swenson

1. The meeting was called to order by C. Castillo-Garsow at 3:04 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes of May 6, 2024. *Hearing no objections, the minutes are approved with one abstention.***

**3. Chair's Report.** a. C. Castillo-Garsow reported there are a lot of big complex things going on. One of the things he worked on over the summer was the idea of infrastructure for initiatives which is something that is getting a lot of support from the President and the Provost. The idea is as new initiatives are created there should be funding for staffing, release time, course redesign, student employees to work on the project, etc. Some of the initiatives were mentioned by the Provost at the Welcome Back Breakfast regarding new funds and grants for course redesign. b. There is a new Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and her name is Gwen Cash-James. She is interested in building a larger and more sustainable Teaching and Learning Center for faculty that includes regular faculty development curriculum, mentorship model, etc. She is interested in making sure these type of initiatives in faculty development are funded. They are looking at the University of Montana based system called Playbooks where every administrative initiative comes with the idea of, here are the goals, here are the resources available, here are the deliverables required if you use the resources, these are the reports that will be required, etc. c. Some things that will affect the various committees; there is the investigation for the new budget model for the university as a whole but also for Academic Affairs. One of the big things they will need to decide, it will be a partially performance-based budgeting model, and they need to decide what are the performance measures going to be, and what are the incentives going to be. One of the things that is being discussed right now is they need to come up with good ideas and incentives to promote interdepartmental cooperation. They want to make sure that departments are working together rather than competing for students. Building cooperation into that budget model and if you think of any ideas or see any opportunities to cooperate or to incentivize cooperation at the budgetary level, please let him know. d. The big initiatives that the president will be interested in that may affect some of the FO committees include: **1)** a Decarbonization Taskforce that will include students, faculty, and staff which is one of the major items from the Strategic Plan; **2)** a data informed strategies for the wellbeing of the faculty and staff; **3)** targeted DEI recruitment which has already started with the search advocates; and **4)** the big ones are DWF rates, course funds for course redesign, a big drive for open educational resources in helping faculty develop and use open educational resources, and for Gen Ed taking another look at developing Quantitative Reasoning courses and encouraging faculty to develop and turn in Quantitative Reasoning courses. e. There is a Task Evaluation Task Force that has just been formed. The university and Academic Affairs will be taking a look at courses evaluations, how they are used, how they may be reformed. That taskforce includes G. Cash-James as the administrative representative, K. Edquist as the union representative, and F. Lynch as our FO representative. f. With regard to CPAC, there is a lot of pressure to change BAE's to BA's. There are some incentives there to look at the Foreign

Language requirement for BA's and whether there should be an exception for BA's that lead to a Teaching Endorsement or other ways it could be met or if we want to keep it. That will eventually be business for UAC to consider. At some point the Education Department and/or the various cross campus educational partners will be putting a proposal together in terms of what they would like. **g.** There has been discussion about revisiting the issue around whether to stay on quarters or move the quarter system to the semester system. **h.** The Faculty Values Committee, the president didn't sign off on revising the committee, so it isn't official currently. The president was not happy with the committee being able to unilaterally determine the schedule for the evaluation of upper administrators. She would like to schedule to be codified in policy. Their options are to add language into the policy that the FVC would confer with the president regarding evaluations or have the FVC talk about how they want to hold evaluations and add that to the policy language. It was pointed out that the committee has been on the same schedule for evaluations, which is to evaluate deans/associate/assistant deans one year and the upper administration the following year. This only became skewed because of COVID when we halted the evaluations temporarily. **i.** Student Accommodations is now handling all accommodations. There is a new federal mandate that if a student is pregnant that student needs to be referred to Student Accommodations to see if any accommodations are needed.

**4. ASEWU Update. J. Curtis reported:** **a.** he is the new representative this year. Right now they are hiring superior court justices and a Director of Elections. The applications will close on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Any student who has attended Eastern Washington University for at least one quarter is eligible to apply. If you have any students who you feel would be a good fit, please encourage them to apply. They are looking for increased diversity who will represent ASEWU. **b.** They are implementing a new carpooling system for students to go to the westside of the state on quarter breaks, Thanksgiving, and Christmas break. They have flyers up in the residence halls and the PUB with information regarding that system. If you have any students who are looking for a way to get home, please have them go to the ASEWU office in 303 PUB. **c.** They are looking for innovative ways to increase student at-large participation on committees. If you have any students that are looking for ways to get involved on committees that need a student's voice, please have them reach out. **d.** Their meetings are open on Tuesday's from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. They really love it when students or faculty come into their meetings to listen or to share what is going on, if they have questions of them, etc. He is really excited to with the committee this year. **e.** K. Evans stated she is interested to hear from the students what they feel about the idea of EWU being a Polytechnic Institution. J. Curtis stated he did talk with C. Castillo-Garsow about that and will be bringing that to the ASEWU meeting tomorrow. After that meeting, he will have a better idea of how they will want to poll the students regarding that marketing change. D. Garraway asked if there is a communication platform where students can anonymously send questions or concerns to the FO? J. Curtis stated they do have a platform in place where students can reach out to the ASEWU leadership team and then they can bring concerns forward to the FO. He doesn't know of any platform where the students can reach out directly to the FO. He would be happy to look into avenues to increase transparency and communication between the Faculty Organization and the students. That is one of the main reasons he wanted to serve in the position as the Academic Affairs Representative. Currently he isn't aware of an easily accessible route for communication, but he would be happy to work on that.

**5. Brief Reports.** **a. Academic Programs Assessment Committee.** *T. Jones reported:* they have had a lot of changes in their membership with J. Waldo becoming the faculty co-chair; they are working to get the GAC and UAC representatives in place. They will be meeting tomorrow.

**b. General Education Committee.** *J. Rosenzweig reported:* they had their first meeting last week. He and E. Pence have stepped up to be the co-chairs. H. Veeder, J. Rosenzweig, E. Pence, and D. Van Meter will meet tomorrow to discuss what they should be working this year. C. Castillo-Garsow stated things GEC could be looking at include Student Success and Retention is a big push right now and Gen Ed and First Year Experience are a big component of that. Looking at that from the point of view of things like expanded support for students and Student Services, funds for course redesign, etc. and Gen Ed might some valuable insight about the director of those initiatives for how some of those resources may be used.

**c. Global Programs Academic Committee.** *B. Biswas reported:* they had their first meeting last week and they are working with the Global Studies people. They have a couple of scholarships that are coming up for study abroad programs. One conversation she would like to bring forward to Rules as they are looking at different study abroad proposals that are coming from GPAC initiatives, they have their handbook for faculty who are interested in study abroad but they also want to encourage faculty who are proposing these programs to look at identifying these courses as part of the general education requirement in either Diversity or Global Studies so that it has additional incentives for students who are interested in study abroad. Not only should these students have these incredible experiences, but they also want them to count toward their general education requirements, i.e. Diversity and Global Studies.

**d. Program Review Committee.** *C. Hazelbaker reported:* PRC met last week for the first time since June. We are working over the next week to finalize our recommendations for the 20 programs that were sent our way from Provost based on the SRA follow-up recommendations. At our next PRC meeting on October 17, we hope to vote on the recommendations and write the report that will then go to the Provost, UAC, and GAC for their review/action before moving to Rules/Senate.

**6. Unfinished Business.** *a. Traditionally, there is no unfinished business at the beginning of the academic year.*

**7. Council Elections/Selections/Confirmations.** *CPAC* – John Davies, Communication Studies; *Research & Scholarship Committee* – Kelly Evans, Libraries; Daryl Traylor, PHHA; Jiawen Wang, Education; Courtney Jensen, Public Administration; Ann Van Wig, Education; *Rules* – LaVona Reeves, English & Philosophy; Dale Garraway, Mathematics; *Honors Advisory Board* – David Syphers, Physics; Kassahun Kebede, Sociology & Criminal Justice; *Academic Committee for Innovation and Technology*; Eldonna Shaw-Davis, Business; Chris Cain, Computer Science & Electrical Eng; Teena Carnegie, English & Philosophy; *Faculty Values Committee* – Kelly Evans, Libraries; *Academic Appeals Board* – Danielle Sitzman, Psychology; Parker Shaw, Modern Languages and Literatures; and *Course Evaluation Task Force* - Frank Lynch, Mathematics. These will go to Senate for approval at the 10/14/24 meeting.

**8. Information Items.** **a. NWCCU Visit.** T. Jones gave the following report: 1) NWCCU, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Our institution accrediting body. 2) An ad hoc visit is to address specific concerns communicated by the Commission to the institution. The

institution is responsible for addressing Recommendation 1, 3, and 4 of its NWCCU Fall 2022 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness (EIE) Peer-Evaluation Report in its Fall 2024 Ad Hoc Self-Evaluation Report with a visit. 3) Recommendation 1: Fall 2022 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Demonstrate a continuous process to assess institutional effectiveness relative to the institution's priorities. This includes a system by which data is collected, reviewed, used to inform decision making, and utilized for allocating resources across the entire institution in a cohesive manner. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1;1.B.2;1.B.3; 2.E.2). Items for ad hoc: SRA, Program Review, Strategic Planning, Redesigned Resource Allocation Model and Budgetary Framework, Institutional Assessment Committee, Nuventive Assessment Management System, Institutional Learning Outcomes, Identity and Marketing Group. Recommendation 3: Fall 2022 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Make publicly available select disaggregated indicators of student achievement that are clearly and systematically integrated into the assessment of institutional effectiveness. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.3). Items for ad hoc: Public facing dashboards on the IE webpage, implementations of an assessment cycles for administrative units. Recommendation 4: Fall 2022 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness – Review the diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in academic units, Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Student Affairs with a goal to reduce redundancy and increase support designed to close equity gaps. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.4). Items for ad hoc: DEI consultant 4) What's Next: Mid-cycle review Spring 2026 for Recommendation 2 and 5. Year 6 Standard 2- Policies, Regulations, and Financial review Spring 2028. Year 7- Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Spring 2029. Recommendation 2: Fall 2022 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Make further progress in its system of assessment institution-wide to evaluate the quality of learning in its programs and improve instructional programs by ensuring a clear path through all the assessment processes and closing the loop by using assessment results as input into resource allocation processes. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.5) Recommendation 5: Fall 2022 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - In its catalog provide information verifying required course sequences, and projected timelines to completion based on normal student progress and frequency of course offerings. (2020 Standard(s) 2.G.2).

**9. New Business. a. Removal of Library Affairs Committee – hasn't met in years.** This committee has been in hiatus for many years and should be removed from the committees the Faculty Organization has in place. K. Evans stated she agrees but feel there should be something in place that the Libraries can put together. This will be unfinished business at the next meeting.

**10. Agenda Items for October 14, 2024 Senate Meeting. a. IRB Update (H. Hillman)**

**11. Good of the Order. *None.***

**12. Adjournment at 3:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on Monday, October 28, 2024.**