Academic Senate

Eastern Washington University
Minutes of January 27, 2025

Senators Present: B. Shaw, S. Finnie, M. Garcia, B. Idsardi, B. Grinder, B. Lundgren, B. Houser, J. Klein, G. Sinekopova, E. Rodriguez-Marek, L. Bilich, C. Manikoth, M. Holmgren, A. Van Wig, T. Haskins, K. Decker, M. Binney, J. Ellsworth, C. Ogden, C. Pritchard for E. Dascher, L. Cebula, S. Milton, D. Garraway, A. Oster, J. Durfee, K. Garrison, N. Jackson, H. Hillman, R. Allan, L. Anidi, E. Pence, K. Lopez, P. Gerber
Officers: C. Castillo-Garsow, G. Hustrulid, S. Shaffer, K. Evans
University Officials: J. Anderson, S. McMahan, M. Voves, L. Jarnagin, K. Davis, J. Curtis, S. Ligon, M. Conlin, B. Richey, L. Matos

1. Call to Order. a. ***Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m. in Executive Session.***

2. ***Executive Session ended at 3:45 p.m. Regular session began at 3:48 p.m.***

3. ***Regular session began at 3:48 p.m.***

4. **Chair's Report and Welcome.** ***C. Castillo-Garsow's full report can be viewed at:*** https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dw0lOFH2_o7xY4jSebJCiSiAFJm7zWNs/view?usp=sharing

5. **Approval of Consent Agenda including Minutes of January 13, 2025.** ***Hearing no objections, the minutes are approved.***

6. **ASEWU. J. Curtis reported: a.** on Friday, January 17th, ASEWU partnered with the EWU Police to hold self-defense training. There were 14 students in the training class that learned some basic self-defense. **b.** They have a "I Have a Dream" installation in honor of MLK, Jr. outside their office and that will be up through the end of the week. It is a bunch of students that shared their dreams. **c.** The Academic Committee will be meeting next week to discuss advising, major declaration implications, etc. **d.** He has a meeting with G. Cash-James to get on the same page, so they are communicating the same information across all plains. **e.** Their next Senate meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, January 28th from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. in PUB 207 if anyone wants to join them.

7. **UFE Report. M. Conlin reported:** since the UFE's last report to the Faculty Organization on January 10, 2025 the United Faculty of Eastern (UFE) has: • represented 2 faculty members (1 in CPP and 1 in CAHSS) in workload disputes; • represented 1 faculty member (in CPP) under investigation for alleged violations of EWU policy and/or Constructive Action Meetings, etc.; • served as a support for 1 faculty member filing a complaints alleging violations of EWU policies; • answered questions about the interpretation or implementation of the CBA and MOUs asked by 3 faculty members (1 in CAHSS, 1 in CSTEM, 1 in CHSPH); • helped 2 faculty (2 in CAHSS) bring workplace concerns to their dean, HR, the Provost, and/or the FO; and • been in active negotiations with management at Joint Labor-Management Committee (JLMC) working on several important matters concerning: faculty compensation, faculty working conditions, and faculty professional development funds which we will bring to the FO's attention when they're completed. Please note: • the UFE has unveiled a new website https://ufeonline.org/; • the UFE and

EWU will be negotiating a new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) in Winter 2025 and Spring 2025, so the UFE Bargaining Team is holding two bargaining forums for all EWU faculty (on zoom): one on Thursday January 30 3.00 - 4.00 and the other on Wednesday February 5 3.00-4.00 to determine the EWU faculty's bargaining priorities. • the UFE will soon send out a survey to faculty to determine the EWU faculty's bargaining priorities.

8. Legislative Liaison. S. Ligon reported: The December Revenue Report, (which is not a forecast but merely the monthly snapshot of revenue) indicates that major General Fund-State (GF-S) revenue collections for the December 11, 2024 - January 10, 2025 collection period came in $47.4 million (2.0%) lower than forecasted in November. Cumulatively, tracked collections for the last two months are $77.7 million (1.3%) lower than forecasted. * **Bills of Interest**. It's early in the session, but there's been a lot of activity in both chambers, with the following bills of particular interest to our sector: * HB 1035, **Creating policies and resources to address secondary traumatic stress in the higher education workforce**. This bill would require the regional universities to: publish on their website links to resources, self-assessments, and best practices for faculty, staff, and trustees to prevent and address secondary traumatic stress in the workforce; develop or revise, and periodically update, a Model Policy and Procedure to prevent and address secondary traumatic stress in the workforce; adopt policies and procedures related to secondary traumatic stress that incorporate specified elements. * HB 1136, **Providing student navigational supports to increase postsecondary enrollment**. This bill, along with companion Senate bill SB 5164: establishes a navigational support program with outreach and enrollment specialists for high school seniors at every educational service district; establishes a financial aid training program for high school teachers, and others, to be trained on how to support students in filling out financial aid forms; requires the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board to offer continuing education credits to in-service educators on the topic of financial aid. * HB 1143, **Concerning Washington college grant award amounts**. This bill, along with companion Senate bill SB 5205, requires that the maximum Washington College Grant award increase by a tuition growth factor for institutions that: (1) have signed an affidavit attesting to certain nondiscrimination policies; and (2) are not subject to a prefunding settlement or final court order for discriminatory employment practices in violation of the Washington Law Against Discrimination. **If enacted, this bill would increase Washington College Grant awards to students enrolled at private institutions.**

9. **Administrative: President. a.** it has been a busy week with the provost search starting today. She would appreciate everyone attending the open forums and providing feedback on the website: https://inside.ewu.edu/provostsearch/ **b.** We are going through some very difficult times, and we need to come together in unity and support. **c.** Don't forget the New Year's Welcome Back Celebration with a retro theme, (50's through 90's) that will be held on January 29th from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the PUB's Nysether Community Room. **d.** We are coming together as a campus and the leadership team is trying to develop solutions or at least contact points in case our students have concerns regarding DEI, immigration, etc. In her administrative report she has listed the contact points; A. Scharosch (ascharosch@ewu.edu), or the JLR Multicultural Center

who will act as the triage for anyone who has questions or concerns. There should be a message going out campuswide by the end of the week to inform everyone what they should and should not do. M. Garcia asked if there are plans in place in case immigration agents show up. C. Castillo-Castillo stated they would need to have a vote to allow someone to address Senate. **D. Lindekugel moved to suspend the rules to allow A. Scharosch to speak. J. Ellsworth seconded. Motion carried.** A. Scharosch stated if you recall in 2019 the Washington Legislature passed a law called "Keep Washington Working Act" that says we are not allowed to use university resources or facilities to assist with any type of immigration enforcement. That means no one on campus should be helping or to obstruct which would be a violation. Our officers have internal policies, and they are in compliance with the "Keep Washington Working Act" which states that our officers will not assist or provide any information to ICE if they were to show up on campus. From the university perspective, they have pulled together a couple of plans. One of the first things was to minimize the information Eastern may have about who is undocumented. It would be difficult to share a number because they have not been tracking that and that is very intentional on our part so that if someone were to provide us with a subpoena or a search warrant, we wouldn't have that information to provide them. There is no central hub to check if someone is undocumented. Those are steps they took ahead of time. The other recommendation, coming from the Attorney General's Office, is to have one person on campus that is designated to ensure that ICE is lawfully here. If they show up, they should be directed to her office in 211 TAW. If they do show up with an administrative subpoena, under FERPA they are allowed to say they are required under federal law to give notice to that student in order for them to know in order to try to quash the subpoena. They will give the student 10 days' notice that we have received a subpoena and that they are looking for their records. If there is a court ordered search warrant, and the court has informed us we can't tell the student they are unable to inform the student however she has never seen a subpoena like that before. The positive thing is it does give people time. The one exception is ICE does come to campus to DEI once a year for a normal check-in, and she usually attends as well. **Provost. a.** J. Anderson stated in terms of the proposed 3% that came from Governor Ferguson, one of the things they are looking to do is to model and plan in terms of what that could look like. Not sure if that will happen or not because they don't know if that will come to fruition or not. They don't want to wait until June when the budget passes and there is a 3% reduction, and they would have to figure out what to do at that point. Down at the bottom of his report there is information for students and hopefully it is useful to pass along. **Vice President for Budget and Financing. a**. J. Ellsworth asked if there will be open forums for the new budget model. M. Voves stated they should be in about a month. N. Jackson asked if she knows anything about the next phase of the Martin/Williamson remodel. M. Voves stated there are three sources of money in the capital budget, i.e. state bond sale, building fees assessed to each student, and the newest source which is the Climate Commitment Act. Williamson is in the state bond fund and that is looking secure right now. **Vice President for Student Affairs. a.** L. Jarnagin reported in this time of ambiguity, they have been asked if the programs or initiatives that are planned for this year will not be taught because of the political climate. The answer to that is no, they will continue with the plans they have in place. They have a Director of the JLR Multicultural Center, J. Hoffschneider, who is the contact for the students. She would like to encourage you to direct your students him and the center so they can engage with them. **Sr. Director for Diversity, Equity, and**

Inclusion. K. Davis reported they have been fielding a lot of inquiries and she would like to mention that it is important for EWU to be a calming place for our students. We need to be objective and inclusive of all people and we need to ensure that everyone, even though we don't know what will happen, that they will do everything they can to support faculty, staff, and students.

10. **Council Elections/Selections/Confirmations – Faculty Values Committee** – T. Haskins, Education and D. Syphers, Physics; and **Student Success and Retention Committee -** M. Dobbins, Mathematics. **Hearing no objections, these are approved.**

11. **Information Item. BioTech in PRD.** L. Matos read the following report: In reviewing the BioTech program the following recommendations were made: taskforce made a recommendation to streamline; the provost recommended discontinue; the Undergraduate Affairs Council recommended transform, and the Program Review Committee recommended implement plan changes. Those changes are going through the CPAC process as we speak. They are asking to review again in 2029-30 AY.

12. **Unfinished Business. PRD Discussion and Vote**. K. Decker stated he would like to move to endorse the following statement:

The EWU Academic Senate responds to those departments and programs who favored us with presentations and information items on their program in the SRA process. The Senate is particularly motivated by (a) problems with the quality of data used to make decisions as well as (b) the failure to link the data given to clear justifications and (c) the Program Reduction & Discontinuance Committee's statement that *"what still appears to be missing is a clear rationale for the Program Discontinuance process. The programs considered for discontinuation during the current process were moved to the PRD process because the programs could not reach agreement with their given dean, with what appears to be no established recommendation criteria."*

Senate approves the following recommendations as a slate and reminds the administration that there is an established program review timetable for each program, a policy that should be used to establish an appropriate "probationary review" period. We see it as critically important that the university president acknowledge that cutting academic programs is likely to make it more difficult for EWU to provide diverse disciplinary offerings, ultimately leading to a diminution of the university's reputation and quality.

In addition, the Senate reproves the administration's disregard for many of the decisions of the SRA academic task force, which were based on hundreds of hours of data analysis and cost the university tens of thousands of dollars.

CPP Programs

1. BAE in English Education: **"Revise/transform"** as per PRC and UAC recommendations
2. BA in Educational Studies: **"Discontinue"** as per all recommendations
3. BA in Early Childhood Education & Special Education: **"Transform"** as per PRC and UAC
4. BAE in Early Childhood Education & Special Education—PK-3: **"Revise/Transform"** as per PRC and UAC recommendations
5. BAE in Elementary Education: **"Revise/Transform"** as per PRC and UAC recommendations
6. BAE in Literacy, Reading and Writing—Elementary: **"Revise/Transform"** as per PRC and UAC recommendations
7. BAE in Literacy, Reading and Writing—Secondary: **"Revise/Transform"** as per PRC and UAC recommendations
8. BAE in Dual Endorsement Program in Special Education/Elem. Education: **"Revise/Transform"** as per PRC and UAC recommendations
9. MEd in Career and Technical Education: **"Maintain and revise"** as per PRC and GAC recommendations
10. MEd in Career and Technical Education—Admin Cert: **"Maintain and revise"** as per PRC and GAC recommendations
11. MEd in Library Media: **"Maintain and revise"** and per PRC and GAC recommendations.

CAHSS Programs

12. BA in TCOMM: **"Streamline"** as per PRC & UAC recommendations
13. Minor in French: **"Discontinue"** as per all recommendations
14. Minor in German: **"Discontinue"** as per all recommendations

CSTEM Programs

15. BA in Physics: **"Discontinue"** as per ATF and provost recommendations (not considered by UAC)
16. BAE in Physics—Secondary: **"Discontinue"** as per all recommendations
17. BS in Physics: **"Maintain"** as per PRC recommendations (not considered by UAC)
18. Minor in Physics: **"Maintain"** as per UAC recommendations
19. Minor in Physics—Secondary **"Transform"** as per UAC and PRC recommendations
20. BS in Biotechnology: "Transform" and review as per UAC and PRC recommendations

N. Jackson seconded. Motion passes.

13. New Business. None.

14. Good of the Order. a. B. Houser stated as we leave today, it won't be pitch dark.

15. Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled on February 10, 2025.