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Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, October 19, 2009

Senate Executive Committee

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**Senate Executive Committee
Minutes of
Monday, October 19, 2009**

- 1) The committee considered the request for a faculty representative to a group who are looking to provide recommendations on ways that WSU can react to events requiring assistance or charitable help within the community. A faculty volunteer was nominated and agreed to participate on the committee.
- 2) The committee considered a request from the chair of the Student Petitions Committee regarding faculty input on giving student tuition refunds when they withdraw from class due to extraordinary circumstances. While Executive Committee supported expediting and streamlining the process for student refunds, they felt that granting refunds is an administrative issue.
- 3) A request was received by Provost Angle from Dean Greg Bernhardt for a CEHS department name change. The change would entail renaming the Department of Educational Leadership to the Department of Leadership. In accordance with the Faculty Senate Academic Unit Name Change Policy, Executive Committee directed Pam Zambenini to solicit opinions directly from faculty in the affected department. Executive Committee will react based on the responses received. The Executive Committee members will get feedback from their constituencies. The deadline for responses is Friday, October 30.
- 4) The committee discussed a process for receiving nominations when there are opportunities for faculty awards and recognition.
- 5) Potential areas of interest for a standing committee on policies and procedures was discussed. This will be shared with the Quadrennial Review Committee.
- 6) An issue of academic concern was referred to the Executive Committee from AAUP regarding independent study courses being listed as a regular course number with an enrollment of one (1) student. Based on discussion, this appears to be a widespread problem in the colleges. The scope of the problem relates to faculty compensation, student transcript accuracy, and the oversight of academic programs by the faculty. A joint committee with the Graduate School, the Provost's office, and Faculty Senate will be created to consider the issues.
- 7) Due to the high probability that additional Senate meetings will be needed to accommodate curricular issues as they relate to the semester transition, the committee's input was sought regarding meeting dates so that appropriate rooms could be reserved. The committee felt that late winter and spring quarters would most likely require additional meetings. The appropriate rooms were reserved.
- 8) Executive Committee approved the agenda for the November 2, 2009 Faculty Senate Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.