



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

UNCLASSIFIED
PROFESSIONAL SENATE

**Unclassified Senate Fall General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 14, 2013**

I. Welcome

- Gina Crabtree, UPS President, convened the fall meeting at 3:30 pm.
- Introduction of 2013/2014 senators.
- Feedback on policies relating to Unclassified Professional employees have been provided to Ted Ayres.
- Reminder that Stuff the Bus deadline is tomorrow, November 15, 2013.
- Reminder handouts are available for Nomination for UP Presidents award.
- Thanks to Media Resources for technical support.

II. Dr. John Bardo, President

- Announced that the EEO has been hired, Francisco Gonzalez, and will begin January 6, 2014. Mr. Gonzalez is an attorney and will be joining the Kansas Bar as part of his conditions of employment. The emphasis will be on training and intervention before problems occur. He will report directly to the president and be housed at the Human Resources office.
- Applications for admission are up 26% for spring, 19% for summer and 27.2% for fall 2014.
- When the new dorm opens in the fall, Wheatshocker will close permanently and Brennan will be used as a swing space.
- He is working on financing for a new Engineering building to begin construction in fall 2014 and open fall 2016. One wing will be dedicated to a technology park for private enterprise. The building is 140,000 square feet and will be 6 or 7 stories high. Building two will go up before building one in order to save the golf course for as long as possible.
- Legislative tour went well and the Regents are supportive.
- In order to support adult learners, offices are staying open until 7:00 pm Monday through Thursday. We will start a series of ads in the spring which will be geared toward adult learners.

III. Dr. Tony Vizzini, Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Academic Affairs is focusing on quality and excellence. WSU will be the first university in Kansas to have an Honors College. The program will be included in the dorm to create a learning and living community. The faculty is discussing adding an Honors Baccalaureate.
- We have received permission to “dabble” in online course delivery. We are already producing 28,000 student credits online, which equals 2,800 FTE students. The Office of Online Education will open in spring or fall 2014 to step up services to those students.

IV. Dr. Wade Robinson, Vice President for Campus Life and University Relations

- The north half of the RSC is complete. The construction is on budget and on time.
- CLUR has done some restructuring and has been working with the Pappas Group and, Royal & Co. They are focused on recruiting and repackaging scholarships.
- Christine Schneikart-Luebbe has been named Dean of Students and has been relocated to 303 Grace Wilkie Hall. She will eventually move to the RSC and be housed with Student Involvement, Multicultural Affairs and the Student Government Association.

- The new dorm is busy and on schedule to open August 6, 2014. There are 784 beds and a 400 person dining room. There are lounges, kitchens and laundry rooms on each floor. Housing rates have been announced and are generating a lot of discussion, but we are still lower than the Midwest average.
- The Trio program has been challenged on a federal funding level.
- University Relations has developed an acceptance letter that is generating a lot of interest.

V. Andy Schlapp, Executive Director for Government Relations

- Explanation of the political process. Most Kansans want smaller government, lower taxes and men and women of conviction to lead without compromise. This last year 50 of 165 elected officials served their first term, meaning that we have many inexperienced legislators now serving.
- WSU is critical to job creation and creating the human capital for high tech jobs. We believe these things deserve more funding. We also desire less oversight of how we spend our funding.
- Kansas has a \$6 billion budget; \$4 billion can't be touched because it is allocated to K-12 and KanCare, \$1.2 billion is general government where many of the cuts come from. The balance of the funding is higher education. The difference between higher education and everyone else is that we have other revenue sources.
- We need to grow the university, sell value to families and keep students in Kansas with public/private partnerships.

VI. Question & Answers, Dr. John Bardo

- Classified staff person asked about the changes being proposed for civil service employees. The president responded by urging the person to talk to leaders of classified senate.
- *What is the name of the new dorm?* Name has been proposed but can't be released until approved by the KS Board of Regents.
- *Who will be the point person assigned to the new tech park?* John Tomblin and Tony Vizinni are leading.
- *What is the timeline for the one-stop?* We have identified a possible site that has "stuff" on it that needs to be removed. Will start with minimum space in the fall. We also hope to have an enhanced blackboard fall 2014.
- *When will we have a parking garage?* The cost of a parking garage is \$20,000 per stall. A 600 bay garage will cost between \$12-15 million. We are stepping back a bit on that idea and may even build flat lots on the golf course site.
- *Where will the new residence hall students park?* Dr. Bardo doesn't want freshmen to have their cars handy in order to keep them here and use services available on campus. Some schools require freshmen to park a minimum of one mile from campus.
- *What is the future vision for satellite campuses?* We will work more toward an adult learner model to generate west and south side interest. Will integrate technology to simulcast between sites. We are also interested in expanding to the Hutchinson and Newton areas.
- Dr. Bardo commented that when the legislature begins its session, there will be a lot of conversation, some of which you won't like. Unless you hear something from Dr. Bardo or Andy Schlapp, try not to worry.

VII. Gina Crabtree thanked everyone for coming and invited everyone to attend senate meetings on the third Tuesday of every month in 200 Lindquist Hall from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

VIII. Adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Submitted by Ellen Abbey