

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 25, 2024

3:30-5:00 pm Woolsey Hall 110A

Attendance

Present: Ahmed, Allen, Barut, Billingham, Bowen, Bussard, Butler, Castro, Celestin, Chang, Cluff, Cooper, Dehner, Delacruz, Dowling, Dudley, Gilstrap, Hammond, Heilman, Hulett, Jamkartanian, Jarman, Kuhlman, Lynch, Marble-Flint, Markova, Moody, Moscoso, Muether, Musaji, Myose, Nicks, Pang, Parham, Pulaski, Rai, Ross, Salinas Monroy, Sherif, Sherwood, Small, Solomey, Sterrett, Tew, Thompson, Urick, Wallace, Williams.

Excused: Boynton, Figy, Price, Proctor, Storrer

Absent: Bradley, Bubp

Call to Order

- President Dowling called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.

Approval of the minutes

- The minutes for [February 26, 2024](#) were approved.

Informal Statements and Proposals

- Senator Hammond encouraged faculty members to attend the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Forum (URCAF) on the morning of Friday, April 12 in the RSC. Details for students' abstracts and call for judges are both in WSU Today.

President's Report

- Procedure update
 - In the interest of time, the presenters have been given time limits and will attempt to hold to those time boundaries. Some items are for information only and any comments can either be shared during As May Arise or as feedback to the presenter outside the meeting.
 - Senators are urged to attend the meetings in-person in Woolsey, and the General Faculty meeting will not have an online component – it will be in-person only.
- KBOR new VP for Academic Affairs
KBOR has named Rusty Monhollon as the new VP for Academic Affairs for KBOR. His biography is available [on the senate website](#).
- Faculty Evaluation Committees have been extended
Exec Committee has voted to extend the service for the Teaching Evaluation and Faculty Evaluation Alignment Task Forces for one additional year in order that they can complete their charges. Their chairs will give an update later in the meeting.
- General Faculty Meeting – April 29 at 3:30 pm in Woolsey
 - Save the date for the General Faculty Meeting in Woolsey.

Committee Reports

- Ombuds Nomination
 - Executive Committee voted to appoint Stephanie Nicks, Teaching Professor in the School of Nursing to serve as faculty Ombuds. During the discussion and vote, President Dowling and Senator Williams were excused from the meeting to decrease any perceived conflict of interest. Motion to approve Bowen (second Castro); approved unanimously.
 - Ombuds Barut's term of service was extended as well as the new Ombuds charter is being formalized and the goal is having only one new member at a time. Going forward it will be one in and one out.
- Rules Committee – Mat Muether
 - FYI: Policies [13.04 Tuition and Fees Refunds](#) and [13.05 Tuition and Fees Payment Plan](#) have been updated to ensure federal compliance, and [13.20 Out of State Travel](#) has been updated compliance with KBOR.
 - A slate of candidates was brought for vote to fill committees and senator vacancies. The slate was approved unanimously.
 - [NTT Promotion Senate Standing Committee](#), second read. Senator Neal made a motion to strike "student" from both the NTT and tenure T&P committees (second, Billingham). After discussion, Senator Nicks calls the question (second Williams). Vote on the motion, the amendment is approved. The main motion passes as amended by voice vote.
 - Update to WSU [Policy 4.29](#) to implement the Promotion Senate Standing Committee, second read. Passes by unanimous voice vote.
 - Policy [4.13 Chair Policy and Procedures](#), first read. After vigorous discussion, Senator Dehner motions to table the first read (second, Bowen). Senator Allen proposes a friendly amendment to split the policy -- advance the language on chair eligibility to a second read, but to table the first read for the electorate language. Dehner accepts. Motion to table the first read of the electorate portion of the proposal passes unanimously.
- Motion to extend the meeting to 5:30 pm.
Due to the time taken discussing policy 4.13, Senator Williams makes the motion (second Billingham). Motion passes.

Old Business

- [AIPC Policy Revision](#), second read – John Hammond
Senator Williams motions to remove the AIPC Policy Revision from the table (second, Muether) passes unanimously. After Hammond read a brief summative statement, Senator Thompson calls the question (second Williams). The revision passes by voice vote.
- [Teaching Evaluation Taskforce](#) Update – Brandy Jackson, Chair
Jackson shared an update to the CES course evaluation tool implementation, indicating new updates – now four students is the minimum to receive evaluations (now aligned with the SPTE standard) though if there are fewer than four students faculty will be

unable to see even text-only comments due to a limitation in the system. Jackson noted that this Spring, the School of Nursing is piloting individualized questions as a departmental targeted survey. Additionally, the committee is now reviewing evaluations of teaching that aren't based around student perception.

- [Faculty Evaluation Alignment Taskforce](#) Update – Rachel Crane, Chair
Crane shared that the committee is currently testing the system with a goal to have a pilot implementation of the faculty evaluation (now abbreviated FAAR) in Fall 2024. Training will be available at the May ARC.

New Business

- [WSU relationship with LMS Tech Companies](#) – Susan Sterrett, Senator
Sterrett raised concerns regarding Wichita State's learning management system provider, Anthology, and their unclear data protection and privacy policies. She noted that all other Regents Universities are using Canvas, provided by Instructure, a publicly traded and she argued more tightly regulated company. She noted particular concerns regarding statements by the CEO of Anthology regarding the integration of AI tools across Blackboard.
- [Response to WSU and LMS Tech Companies](#) – John Jones, Director of Media Resources Center
Jones noted he is not trying to defend any company but instead to share how the university works to stay safe with regard to its vendors. He noted the AI tools in Blackboard are such that our data is not used to train the models. He shared a brief history regarding why we remain with Blackboard. He shared information about the Data Management Committee that reviews every contract signed at an enterprise level. He noted the public use agreements are very invasive, but that that privacy license agreements that WSU has entered into protect our data. He encouraged the senate to charge the technology/accessibility committee to help give faculty a further integration into this process.

As May Arise

- Senator Billingham on time management
Billingham thanked President Dowling for prioritizing time in the meeting and encouraged the senate to continue exploring ways to stick to time boundaries.

Adjournment

- Dowling adjourned the meeting at 5:27 pm.

Minutes prepared by John Hammond

Next Senate Meeting: April 8, 2024