

Faculty Senate (2024 – 2025) Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, April 14, 2025

3:30-5:00 pm Hubbard Hall 211

Attendance

Present: Amos, Asmatulu, Billingham, Bowen, Bussard, Butler, Celestin, Chang, Cooper, Cossell, Delacruz, Dowling, Dudley, Foster, Gilstrap, Hulett, Jamkartanian, Jarman, Kirby, Kuhlman, Li, Loibl, Lynch, Ma, Marble-Flint, Markova, Moscoso, Muether, Myose, Nelson, Nicks, Ott, Price, Rai, Rani, Ray, Ross, Sherif, Sherwood, Showstack, Small, Sterrett, Stone, Tew, Thompson N., Thompson, V., Williams.

Excused: Boynton, Figy, Markova, Pang, Proctor.

Absent: Gregory, Moody, Sun, Zhu.

Call to Order

- President Muether at 3:33 – [Meeting Slide Deck](#)

Approval of Minutes

- [March 10, 2025](#) – passed unanimously as submitted

Informal Statements

- Senator Price – upcoming event 4/17/25 at 4p in HH 211 – Teach-In: discussion on higher ed in the current political climate. Role of policy and its impact on higher ed and status updates. From AAUP and Coalition for Action in Higher Ed.

President's Report

- WSU Tech Joint Meeting Follow-Up
 - Plan to review our MOU to see if terms need to be updated; tentative plan is to update the expectation to the leadership teams from both schools meet annually vs all faculty meet every year. Working towards a more efficient use of everyone's time and needs.
 - Senator Sterritt questions if we should look at a different time instead of changing the meeting format/attendees. President Muether clarified that many of WUS Tech senators attended but were on Teams.
- Senate Records to University Special Archive
 - FS documents from inception to 2017 have been kept in binders. Library Services has requested to move the physical copies to the climate-controlled vault. FS Exec supported. Will move forward with this initiative.
- Update on Senate Meeting in RSC
 - The room is not available for 6 meetings next year.
 - Cost is \$250/meeting.
 - Final FS meeting for this AY will still be in the RSC.
 - Working to find a room that better supports remote participation. More information to follow
- URCAF Abstract Submission Link Is Live
 - Submissions due this Friday, 4/18.

- Contact Dr. Semih Tartaroglu at semih.tartaroglu@wichita.edu with any questions.
- Committee Reports
 - President Muether –senate committees will report out over next couple of FS meetings
 - Rules Committee Report – President-Elect Stone
 - Overview of rationale for the restructures – see slide deck, #9.
 - Presented [summary of proposals](#) – the goal is for committees to be more active and reduce workload of Exec. See also slide deck #10.
 - [Faculty Support Committee, add University Libraries Charge, 1st Read](#) – Brief review of proposal charge. See also slide deck #13.
 - [Student Success Committee, new committee, 1st Read](#) - Brief overview of proposal – structure, charges, etc. See also slide deck #11-12.
 - Questions/comments from various senators regarding anticipated new workload, the need for faculty to be engaged with Library Services, potential impact of these changes on the university goal for R1 status, and ensuring faculty are aware of service opportunities.
 - Discussion on whether library “charges” should be added to more university committees. No consensus, but Rules Committee will continue to review and bring forward any recommendations.
 - President-Elect Stone shares that the goal is to have a senator on every committee to help bridge the gap between committee work and senate.
 - President Muether thanks Rules Committee for their work to streamline university committees.
 - Planning and Budget Committee Report – President Muether
 - [Change to Composition and Charge, 1st Read](#) - Brief review of the proposed changes.
 - Very challenging for FS President to stand up Planning and Budget Committee in fall semester, so recommending chair now be Past-President.
 - Questions/comments from senators include concern regarding removing the mill levy charge, clarification regarding Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) as related to Planning and Budget Committee, and clarification to correct a membership error.
 - President Muether clarified that Planning and Budget Committee members are invited to BAC meetings.
 - Executive Committee Report – President Muether
 - Nomination for Ombudsperson, Dr. Nils Hakansson confirmed unanimously. President Muether will notify. See also slide deck #16.
 - General Education Committee Report – Dr. Brittany Lockard
 - Reviewed [annual report](#).
 - Requested colleagues reach out non-active member
 - Recommend Academic Affairs include gen ed requirements in the syllabus template
 - Questions/comments from senators include rationale for not approving one gen ed course request, clarification on CHP issue of native students not receiving gen ed credit for some classes that transfer students do get credit for, and clarification on diversity attribute in a nursing course.
 - Clarifications from Lockard

- The course denied for gen ed attribute was a graduate level course that the committee did not feel met the spirit of the KBOR gen ed framework.
- Performance classes (e.g. drawing, band, or drama) can be a Gen Ed course as long as the Gen Ed learner outcomes are met.
- Discrepancy between transfer and native students: First-level foreign language courses count as Gen Ed under KBOR if they fall under Bucket 6 at transferring institutions. However, these courses do not carry a Gen Ed attribute at WSU and don't count for native students. Yet, a native WSU student could take the course here, transfer it to Butler (where it counts as Bucket 6), and then reverse transfer it back to WSU as a Gen Ed course.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- [Market Based Compensation Update](#) – Vicki Whisenhant, Executive Director of human Resources
 - Questions/comments from senators included clarification on who our market is; non-terminal degree as highest degree in field; strategies being considered to increase funds available to reach MBC goals; clarification on Project Bridge; exit surveys to target specific issues; and when/how will prioritized departments be notified.
 - Whisenhant shared that salaries are compared with the same department/role at similar institutions (based on size, expenditures, etc.; if a profession's terminal degree is below a PhD, the non-PhD degree is considered terminal for MBC calculations; Project Bridge presented a variety of recommendations that are being evaluated for feasibility – the revenue stream ideas will take time to develop and implement; HR implemented volunteer exit interviews a year ago and are also introducing culture checks that can be requested by a leader or someone in the department; and work is on-going to determine which departments will be prioritized, unsure when/how that may be communicated and is likely a “need to know” basis.
- [4.22 Tenure, Promotion, Professor Incentive Review and Post-Tenure Review Calendar Revision](#) – President Muether
 - Brief review of the proposed date changes to align with policy [4.24 Review for Tenure or Promotion: Procedures](#)
 - Unanimously approved; President Muether will notify General Counsel

As May Arise

- None

Adjourn

- Next meeting is April 28, 2025, at 3:30pm in Hubbard Hall 211.
- President Muether adjourned the meeting at 4:48.

Minutes prepared by Rhonda Williams