

Friday, May 2, 2014

Faculty President Report
Wright State University Board of Trustees meeting

Dear members of the Wright State University Board of Trustees,

Changes made to the Faculty Constitution at the start of this academic year that realigned the long-standing Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee have resulted in a particularly productive year for the Wright State Faculty Senate. Significant accomplishments include: approval of a Project-based information technology governance structure, initiation of a review of international programs, adjustment of the University's capital funding priorities, approval of 13 new academic programs, approval of a variety of policies (pertaining to such varied matters as academic standing, admission standards, multiple degrees, quadrennial review of WSU core and university-wide graduation requirements), and the development of a process of evaluation of the cost and benefits associated with utilization of the University Woods.

At its March 17, 2014 meeting the Wright State Faculty Senate passed a resolution that an arbitrary increase of faculty workloads proposed in HB 472 be removed. The WSU resolution became the basis of an Ohio Faculty Council resolution and the Ohio House removed the portion of the bill before passing it on for consideration by the Ohio Senate.

The Wright State Faculty Senate played an important role in the drafting of an Ohio Faculty Council white paper regarding "Quality and Value of Higher Education in Ohio" in response to a request from Governor Kasich for recommendations on that topic.

The April 21, 2014 meeting of the Wright State Faculty Senate included a presentation from a "Tobacco Policy Taskforce." The taskforce, which was formed in part due to recommendations from the Faculty Senate at its April 15, 2013 meeting, proposed that Wright State develop policies that would make the University tobacco-free over the course of the next several years. The Senate anticipates reviewing drafts of the policies in the fall of 2014 and is interested in an explanation of the rationale behind a transition to a "tobacco-free" environment rather than a "smoke-free" environment.

On a personal note, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Wright State University's Faculty President for the past three years. A privilege in that it has truly changed my perspective – it has been a transformational experience that other faculty should have a chance to enjoy. An honor in that Wright State faculty are truly world-class – I'm very proud to have had an opportunity to speak on their behalf. Wright State faculty enjoy a relationship with the Wright State administration like no other in the state of Ohio and that works very much to the

benefit of our students. I very much appreciate President Hopkins' support and sponsorship as I embark upon what has been promised to be another transformational experience as a Fellow of the American Council on Education in the 2014-2015 academic year.

Dr. Matt Rizki, chair of Computer Science, will take on the role of Faculty President at the start of the 2014-2015 academic year. Dr. Carol Loranger, chair of English, will take on the role of Faculty Vice President at the same time.

Sincerely,

Dan E. Krane,
Wright State University Faculty President