

Faculty Senate Newsletter

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Faculty Senate Meeting Highlights

The November 14, 2016 meeting covered a variety of topics including the Votes of Confidence Procedures, UAPC Terminology, the LEAP Enroll-

ment Policy, and various curriculum changes. To learn more about the issues discussed, please read below.



From the President's Report

Dr. Hopkins informed the Senate that Thursday, November 17th is the Great American Smokeout, an annual event held by the American Cancer Society to encourage Americans to stop smoking. On Thursday, the University will announce its plans to become a tobacco-free campus effective July 1, 2017. Wright State will be the ninth public university in Ohio to go tobacco-free. Smoking cessation programs for students & employees will be made available during Spring Semester.

In response to a question from the floor, Dr. Hopkins clarified that the policy will also prohibit smoking in personal vehicles and electronic cigarettes.

Given concerns regarding the outcome of the U.S. Presidential Election, Dr. Hopkins reiterated an earlier public statement that "Wright State will continue to be inclusive and strive to become the best university FOR the world. We value our diverse community, family." Dr. Hopkins thanked Vice President for Student Affairs Gary Dickstein for aggressively addressing related instances of student misconduct.

Dr. Hopkins announced that he received a question regarding the role of the Faculty with regards to investigating and making recommendations to the administration. Dr. Hopkins reaffirmed that he supports Faculty investigations and recommendation as an integral part of a shared governance structure. Furthermore, Article I Section 1 of the Faculty Constitution delineates the Powers and Duties of the University Faculty including the right to "Investigate, discuss, and make recommendations to any appropriate body within the university regarding any matter of interest to the university" (Article I Section 1.F.2)

In response to a question asking to what extent the University will protect Faculty from legal action in the course of pursuing investigations, Dr. Hopkins stated that the pursuit of investigations is welcomed, encouraged, and will be protected. However, everyone has a responsibility to act within legal statutes during the course of investigations, and legal protections cannot be extended to those who go beyond that line.

From the Provost's Report

Statewide Initiatives

Dr. Sudkamp informed the Senate of two upcoming initiatives from the State of Ohio. The Guided Pathways Initiative requires the Chancellor to develop a process by Dec 1, 2018 to allow for statewide guaranteed pathways from a 2-year associate degree to a 4-year degree program in an equivalent field. The State's vision of the initiative is one where every student with an Associate's Degree should be able to earn a Bachelor's Degree in 120 total credit hours. The State has chosen the areas of business and social/behavioral sciences to begin the process; faculty representing those areas from WSU and other institutions will be asked to participate in the process.

The State of Ohio has also submitted a list a duplicative programs of study in the Western Region of Ohio, which includes Wright State and Central State. The University must submit a report detailing the process, data, and rationale for maintaining duplicative programs, or express what action is planned to address the duplicative program (such as collaboration with institutional partners or elimination of the program). The Provost Office will be reaching out to Deans and Department Chairs that have identified programs in their units.

Director of International Education Search

Dr. Sudkamp stated that the search of a new director for International Education is well underway, and that he believes there is an outstanding group of applicants. It is the intention of the search committee to begin conducting on campus interviews in January 2017.

University Compliance

Dr. Sudkamp announced that Kelli Tittle, J.D. has been appointed the new Director of Compliance, a new position that was required by the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Tittle's first major tasks will be conducting a review of all affiliated entities and a review of all University Compliance functions.

Dr. Sudkamp also announced the formation of the University Data Governance Com-

mittee, chaired by CIO Craig Woolley. The committee will be charged with ensuring that information provided to outside agencies is correct and complies with regulations set by State, Federal, and accrediting bodies.

Executive Committee Report

EC Report to Faculty Senate

New Senator

Faculty President Loranger introduced Dr. David Bright as the new Faculty Senate representative for the Raj Soin College of Business, replacing Dr. James Hamister.

Tobacco-Free Policy

The Executive Committee met with Shari Mickey-Boggs, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at Wright State, for a briefing on upcoming plans to implement a campus-wide Tobacco-Free Policy by July 2017. Mickey-Boggs also provided comparisons to similar policies of other IUC schools. The Executive Committee believed the initiative to be a Wright Way policy; approval from the Faculty Senate was therefore deemed unnecessary for the initiative to go forward.

Office of Disability Services

The Executive Committee met with Tom Webb, director of the Office of Disability Services, who briefed the Committee on the numerous assistance services available to students and faculty, and on a reduction of extended service hours that began in the summer of 2016 as a result of recent budget remediation efforts, with the exception of finals week, during which extended service hours will be temporarily reinstated. Alternative solutions were discussed, such as offering exams to disabled students via Pilot. The EC will pursue the matter further.

International Education Advisory Committee

Committee chair Sen. Rizki presented the MOU between Wright State and Manipal University regarding an Academic Program of Study, which the IEAC had reviewed. The Executive Committee recommended that the program be forwarded to the UCC for final review.

Distance Education

The UAPC has approved significant changes made to this policy after Senate review; they plan to reach out to the Graduate Council for further feedback before requesting re-examination and eventual approval of the policy by the Senate.

Faculty Workload Policy

The Executive Committee has tasked the Quadrennial Review Committee to review Faculty Handbook policies regarding non-BUFs; the committee believes these policies, last reviewed in 1994, to be unacceptably outdated.

Affiliated Entities

Compliance Officer Kelli Tittle and Provost Sudkamp are assembling a team to conduct a review of affiliated entities, and request two faculty members to work on this team. To assist in the appointment of these faculty members, the Executive Committee requested that Provost Sudkamp provide a list of affiliated entities and an indication of the scope of the review.

Business Cards

The Executive Committee is responding to faculty concerns about the redesign of WSU business cards, in order to ensure that faculty have the option to incorporate links to professional information, rather than social media directories. The committee is working to identify a minimum number of areas from which faculty may draw this professional information, for example the website of one's department or college, or professional or research webpages.

Old Business

UAPC Distance Education Terminology

New terminology to describe varieties of distance course offerings was unanimously approved. UAPC co-chair Dr. Geoff Owen presented details of the new language, which can be found at https://www.wright.edu/sites/www.wright.edu/files/uploads/2016/Nov/meeting/UAPC_Online_Course_Terminology_forSenate_11-8-2016-Final.pdf.

Vote of Confidence/No Confidence Procedure

Senator Milligan motioned to amend Procedure A to raise the of percent of required signatures for a petition for departments and colleges, and to tie the number of petition signatures for a vote on a university level administrator to the number needed to call a general meeting of the Faculty. This motion was followed by a lively discussion in regards to the appropriate number/ percentage of faculty needed to trigger a vote in departments and Colleges. Additionally, Senator Luehrmann stated that the Senate should avoid governing by investigations, and that the vote of no confidence should be reserved for severe cases. Following a desire expressed by Senator Wooley to have information about relative unit size, Senator Carrafiello motioned to return the document to the Executive Committee for further review and inclusion of appropriate data. The motion was followed by several seconds and a unanimous vote in favor.

LEAP Enrollment Policy

A policy permitting the LEAP Intensive English Program to accept enrollment from individuals holding F-2 visas was approved by a unanimous vote. The policy in its entirety can be viewed at https://www.wright.edu/sites/www.wright.edu/files/uploads/2016/Oct/meeting/LEAP_F2_Enrollment_Policy_May_31.pdf

Curricular Items

The Faculty Senate unanimously voted to pass all curriculum changes, which included the creation of a Marketing Entrepreneurship BSB program, the program name change of Mass Communication BA to Media Studies BA, and deactivation of the Nursing BEACON BSN program.

New Business

Curricular Items

The following items were approved to appear as Old Business on the December Senate agenda: deactivation of the BS Biology Education program, the BS Life Science Education program, and the URS Public and Social Service Transportation Certificate.

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