

Faculty Senate Newsletter

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College of Liberal Arts

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From the President's Report

The April 11th Report of the President & Provost lasted over an hour and covered the following topics: Presidential debate updates, presented by Dr. Robert Sweeney; WSU Branding & Logo updates, presented by Dr. Steve Gabbard; a briefing from President Hopkins & Provost Sudkamp regarding the upcoming budget remediation challenge to reduce the base budget by 8%; and other campus and state legislature updates from

Provost Sudkamp.

Audio recordings of the President's and Provost's reports, PowerPoints, and other supporting budget documents are available on the Faculty Senate website. <http://bit.ly/1TRtltv>



From the President's Report

Branding Follow-up

Dr. Gabbard presented the latest and last iteration of the new logo at the April 11th faculty senate meeting. After a brief summary of the events and research which proceeded this meeting, Dr. Gabbard introduced the new logo by stating that whereas the changes recommended to the current logo will facilitate its rendering in multiple formats not foreseen in 1998 when it was introduced, it will not necessitate any changes to the current stationery or signage before depletion would have demanded the change. He then walked the group through the logo, describing each change and the reasoning behind it, concluding with toggling between the current and proposed logos to show the important but subtle differences.

Presidential Debate

The planning for the 2016 General Election Presidential Debate at Wright State University was discussed. Special attention was given to three (3) topics: student experience, traffic, and budget. Student Experience: more than a dozen new courses were highlighted; panel discussions offered by the College of Science and Mathematics; and the Student Government mock debates. Furthermore, it was suggested that students who are selected for volunteers or receive debate tickets receive a letter that they can share with their faculty explaining why they would like to miss class the evening of the 26th. Traffic: an initial plan for traffic flow for the campus the night of the debate was shared. Please keep in mind that this topic is reviewed frequently and improvements to the plan are sought. Budget: the budget presented to the Board of Trustees was for \$8 million. We are looking for ways to reduce that cost; however, President Hopkins stated that all monies spend on the debate will be raised external to the university.

Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee reviewed recommendations for [new faculty awards](#) proposed by Senator Sarah McGinley, that would more equitably recognize the contributions of Non-Tenure Eligible faculty, which are almost one-third of the full time faculty, but currently are eligible for only one outstanding faculty award, by rank, and could be nominated for the Community Engagement Award. Faculty Senate has forwarded this recommendation to the Administration.

The EC received a query from the Nutter Center as to whether to begin wanding and bag searching attendees at commencement ceremonies. This would lengthen the entrance time. No increased security issue tied to Commencement has prompted this. The Nutter Center does do security checks for concerts, tractor pulls, etc., but not so far for basketball. The EC sent question to Commencement Committee for discussion but have decided not to make changes for this spring's commencement.

The EC met jointly with the Faculty Budget Priority Committee and President Hopkins, Provost Sudkamp, and CFO Jeff Ulliman to learn about budget remediation-planning activities. The survey sent to all faculty was one outcome of the meeting. The Senate leadership and Committee know that faculty do not often have access to the budget information in order to do cost analysis, but believes faculty may have other insights as to the ways central administration can cut duplication and costs as well as different views from their deans and chairs as to what may be academically sustainable ways to address budget. Faculty responses will go first to the Faculty Budget Priority Committee and Executive Committee who will use them to develop a thorough and nuanced set of recommendations that put our core academic mission first.

International Program Oversight Committee

The International Program Oversight Committee (IPOC) presented a proposed faculty governance structure for international student service and programs consisting of a top-level International Education Advisory Committee and three subordinate committees, International Student Services Committee, International Program Collaboration Committee and the International Recruiting and Outreach Committee. The top-level committee will have oversight for issues affecting international education at Wright State including international programs, collaborations, student services, recruiting and admissions. The International Student Service Committee will focus on student services including policies and procedures related to international students. The International Program Collaboration Committee will review academic agreements, study abroad, ambassador student and scholar exchange programs. The International Recruiting and Outreach Committee will provide oversight for the overall university recruiting strategy.

As the number of high school graduates in the State of Ohio continues to decline, the pressure to find alternative sources of students will increase. The number of international student in US educational institutions is growing at an annual rate of 7.6% for undergraduate students and 9.8% for graduate students. Over the past five years the combined total of undergraduate and graduate international students in the incoming class at Wright State has grown from 179 to 607 students. In 2015 over 15% of new students entering Wright State are international. The majority of these students are coming from India, Saudi Arabia and China with a majority coming from India. A significant number of the international students are enrolled in CECS. The skewed distribution of students from a small number of countries and the limited distribution of international students across colleges is an area of concern. The IPOC recommended the need to develop a comprehensive recruiting strategy that provides a broader distribution of sources of international students who distribute more evenly across colleges.

The IPOC provided examples of breakdowns in academic policies and processes that impacted international students and programs. The committee noted that if Wright State plans to continue to grow our international student population, it is critical to develop a complete international student support structure that addresses recruiting, admission, academics, campus environment, career services and alumni relations.

Select Committee for Research Initiatives

Dr. Brian Boyd and Dr. Doug Petkie shared a brief summary of the report from the Select Committee on Research Initiatives at WSU. They shared that the committee met with the Vice President for Research (VPR), Dr. Fyffe, five times from the end of January through early March. During the last two meetings, Mr. Dennis Andersh, Executive Director of Wright State Research Institute (WSRI) and CEO of Wright State Applied Research Corporation (WSARC), attended and participated as well. The discussions led down many paths that related to WSRI, WSARC, and other entities reporting to Dr. Fyffe. Both Dr. Fyffe and Mr. Andersh were cooperative and as forthcoming as possible about the questions raised by the committee. Additional details will be forthcoming upon the completion of an Affiliation Agreement between WSU and WSARC.

Drs. Boyd and Petkie shared that the committee identified a set of eight recommendations regarding research initiatives at WSU. During their presentation to the Senate, they highlighted two of the recommendations: (1)

A recommendation for a 360° review of the office of the VP for Research and relevant WSU affiliated organizations, such as the Wright State Applied Research Corporation (WSARC); and (2) a recommendation regarding the role of the Research Council, to be examined during the upcoming Quadrennial Review.

Old Business

Masters of Science in Organizational Studies

The faculty senate approved a new program for a Master of Science in Organizational Studies.

Degree Program Approvals

The Faculty Senate approved a new major in [Biochemistry & Molecular Biology](#), as well as approving new minors in [Chemistry](#), [Communications Studies](#), [Health Communication](#), [Medical Humanities and Health Studies](#), and [Disability Studies](#). The Faculty Senate also approved a new [Certificate Program in Security Analytics](#). Finally, the Faculty Senate approved a new certificate program in [Graphic Communication](#) for Wright State Lake Campus.

School of Medicine Department Name Change

The Faculty Senate approved a proposal from the Boonshoft School of Medicine to change the name of department "Community Health" to "Population and Public Health Sciences." The Boonshoft School of Medicine believes this name better embodies the current scope of the education, research, and services of the department.

Approval of Spring 2016 Graduates

The graduate list for the Spring 2016 commencement was moved to old business and approved by the Faculty Senate. The list of graduates is available for review in 138 Fawcett and includes

Undergraduate-Main Campus: 1,238
Undergraduate-Lake Campus: 85
Graduate-Main Campus: 725
PhD-Main Campus: 34

2016-17 Faculty Senate Meeting Schedule

The senators for the 2016-17 academic year approved the senate meeting schedule is as follows:

September 12, 2016
October 10, 2016
November 14, 2016
December 12, 2016
January 23, 2016
February 20, 2016
March 20, 2016
April 17, 2016

Meetings will commence at 2:25.

Committee Reports

Information Technology Committee

The Faculty Senate IT Committee looked into the technology needs for future classroom. Based on the newly installed model classrooms, feedback was provided to CTL. In order to replace the aging IVDL equipment, CaTS installed a new Cisco system with several cameras with the ability to track speaker as well as focus on members in the audience when asking questions. A model classroom was outfitted with that equipment. While not all features are fully available yet it looks like a promising replacement for the IVDL equipment and could provide additional usage opportunities beyond that. CaTS will invite faculty for open houses to solicit feedback on this new equipment. Further, CaTS is planning to introduce a new system for addressing the issue with phishing emails that are increasingly occurring. This system, TAP, works similar to the SPAM filter in that it detects phishing attempts automatically and sanitizes the URL so that after clicking on the URL instead of the phishing attempt the user is redirected to a site containing a warning. CaTS tested this system internally for a while and there were no false positives reported. CaTS will enable this system for all campus users. If there are false positives occurring please report those to CaTS so these can be white listed. Finally, CaTS will make Office 2016 available for on campus use. They are also upgrading some labs with a virtual set-up, which only requires thin clients on the front end with virtual machines running at the back end. This facilitates easier maintenance and the possibility to roll out new software on those virtual machines more frequently without interruption.

Commencement Committee

This spring, the Commencement Committee released a survey to students, faculty, and staff regarding opinions and suggestions for improving the Commencement Ceremony. The quantitative data has been analyzed and summarized so the committee can get a better idea of expectations of the community with respect to Commencement. We are providing this information to begin the discussion about how Commencement could be made better.

Please review these results over the summer, and contact Eric Rowley directly (eric.rowley@wright.edu) if you have thoughts or comments. The Commencement Committee will present more information to the Faculty Senate early Fall 2016.

Building and Grounds

Dr. Jim Mernart, chair of the Building and Grounds committee, spoke briefly on the progress of the campus-remodeling project. He said that the bulk of the remodeling will be done over this summer. It is the hopes of the committee that this remodel will not cause too many problems for faculty and staff. He also announced that as of now, the remodel is on budget.

Faculty Line

The [faculty senate election results](#) have been finalized. The 2016-17 senate roster can be found at <https://www.wright.edu/faculty-senate/about/2016-17-officers-and-members>

Upcoming Events:

Commencement: April 30, 2016
Freshman Move-in Date: August 25, 2016
Fall Semester Begins: August 29, 2016

Faculty Senate meeting dates, agendas, and minutes: www.wright.edu/administration/senate.

By Faculty Senate Interns: Arica Rohn and Jonathan Dillon

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