

FacultyLine

Office of the University Faculty, 138 Fawcett Hall (937) 775-2039
Faculty Line #215, March 5, 2012

This afternoon's Faculty Senate meeting will feature a mix of important old and new business. Old business will include a continuation of the discussion of 13 resolutions and two policy changes proposed by an ad hoc committee that evaluated ways that we can make it more likely for our students to succeed. An important item of new business will be the discussions associated with another proposed workload agreement for non-bargaining unit faculty (e.g. instructors, lecturers and senior lecturers) from the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Student Success – In October of last year the Faculty Senate Executive Committee created an ad hoc committee to review a report from the Provost's Office titled Access, Progress, Success: Recommendations for Increasing Retention and Graduation in the Semester Transition (that report can be found in its entirety at:

<http://www.wright.edu/administration/senate/senage/documents/AccessProgressSuccessReport.pdf>. That ad hoc committee has worked diligently through the winter break and start of the winter quarter to produce a report of its own which can be found at:

http://www.wright.edu/administration/senate/senage/documents/2012ReportOfTheAdHocCommitteeOnStudentSuccess-1_002.pdf. Included in that report are recommendations for 13 resolutions and two policy changes which touch on things ranging from the composition of a University College Advisory Board, changes to the design of a freshman seminar experience, and means by which incoming students are placed in remedial classes. Some of these proposed changes have the potential to change the nature of Wright State in fundamental ways and all of them need to be carefully considered.

The more that faculty engage in these considerations, the better. Associate Provost Tom Sudkamp and I have visited most of the University's quarterly college faculty meetings to increase faculty awareness of these proposed changes. Faculty should also contact the Senators from their college (you can find the list of current Senators at:

<http://www.wright.edu/administration/senate/senators/> and let them know of any other ideas about how we can better serve our students.

Non-BUF Workload Agreement – A number of non-bargaining unit faculty expressed concerns about a proposed workload agreement that came up as new business at the February Faculty Senate. At today's Senate meeting the Faculty Affairs Committee will bring forward a substantially modified workload

agreement

(<http://www.wright.edu/administration/senate/senage/documents/SenAgnMar12Complete2.pdf>) for discussion as part of new business. Key features of the proposed agreement are college-specific workloads for non-BUFs, the reduction of workloads for those with substantial service involvement, and an appeals process by which non-BUFs can make a case for different workloads. The intent of the proposed policy is to retain the current combined workload during the conversion to semesters and to take into consideration that it is more difficult to prepare and to teach some courses than others.

In order for any such agreement to go into effect it must be approved both by the Faculty Senate and the Provost. Chairs and deans are already making workload assignments for our first fall on semesters. But it is still possible for a non-BUF workload agreement to be in effect for our first spring term on semesters next year.

Associate Provost Henry Limouze participated in two very well attended open forums on a non-BUF workload agreement that were held after the February Senate meeting. If you have suggestions or concerns about this latest proposed workload agreement for non-BUFs please feel free to share them with me, a member of the Faculty Affairs Committee: Cheryl Conley, COSM, Chair; Canfield, Annette, CONH; Diane Huelskamp, LAKE; Greta Knigga, CEHS; Joan Lumpkin, RSCOB; Sarah McGinley, COLA; Vanessa Starkey, CECS or with your college's representatives to the Faculty Senate.

Final Exam Scheduling Error – March 12 was mistakenly identified as a final exam day in free printed calendars that have been provided by the University. Monday, March 12 is actually the final day of classes for the winter quarter due to our starting on Tuesday, January 2 this year. Calendars posted on the Registrar's web page are correct as is the final exam schedule available at: <http://www.wright.edu/registrar/classinformation/examschedules/winter12.html>

Faculty Governance – Friday of last week marked the end of the nomination period for the Faculty Senate. Electronic balloting will begin in the next few days for those positions on the Faculty Senate.

Nominations for Faculty President-Elect for 2013-14 will continue to be accepted until 5 PM on Monday, April 16. A memo from the Provost establishes that the President of the Faculty shall have a teaching-load reduction of approximately two-thirds during the Fall and Spring Semesters of his or her term of office, or the equivalent. In colleges where the standard teaching load is five classes, normally the President of the Faculty will teach one class per semester and will in addition have his or her other teaching-related activities reduced, as far as possible. These include activities like advising, supervision

of internships and theses, participation in laboratory instruction, involvement in department assessment of teaching, and so on. In colleges where the standard teaching load is four classes, the President of the Faculty will teach one class during the year with no reduction of his or her other teaching-related activities. The President-Elect of the Faculty shall have a one-course reduction in his or her full-time teaching load for the Spring Semester of his or her term of office.

Please look for your Faculty Senators and especially those who represent you on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to provide updates on the activities of the Faculty Senate at your College's faculty meetings. Faculty governance will work best if we have a good flow of information both to and from faculty and the Senate. As always, also feel free to send any comments, suggestions or concerns about our efforts to "transform the lives of our students and the communities we serve" to your senators, the Faculty Office (Pam.Zambenini@wright.edu; 775-2039) or directly to me (Dan.Krane@wright.edu; 775-2257).

Today's Faculty Senate meeting will be at 2:15 PM in E156 of the Student Union. All are very welcome to attend. An agenda for the meeting can be found at: <http://www.wright.edu/administration/senate/senage/documents/Fac12SenateBinder.pdf>

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable end to our last winter quarter at Wright State!

Dan Krane

Faculty President