Wright State Faculty Senate
MINUTES
September 10, 2018

Pascale Abadie ✓ Madhavi Kadakia ✓ Michelle Schultz
✓ David Bright ✓ Burhan Kawosa ✓ Bridgett Severt
✓ Susan Carrafiello ✓ Laura Luehrmann ✓ Sherrill Smith
✓ Glenn Cebulash ✓ Sarah McGinley ✓ Patrick Sonner
✓ Ava Chamberlain ✓ Mindy McNutt ✓ Dawn Wooley
✓ Allison Cowan ✓ Jim Menart ✓ Travis Doom
✓ Weifu Fang ✓ Yoko Miura ✓ Dan Krane
✓ Megan Faragher ✓ Ramzi Nahhas ✓ Cheryl Schrader
✓ Berkwood Farmer ✓ Marietta Orlowski ✓ Susan Edwards
✓ Sherry Farra ✓ Steven Pedler ✓ Jonathan Winkler
✓ John Gallagher ✓ Michael Raymer ✓
✓ Lance Greene ✓ Nicholas Reo ✓
✓ Lynn Hartzler ✓ Eric Rowley ✓

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written.

III. Report of the University President or Provost

President Schrader

A. Faculty Achievements (Slides 2 – 4)

President Schrader began her presentation by sharing the following four achievements by Wright State Faculty members:

1. $1.8 Million NIH Award (Kate Excoffon)

2. ELATE program graduate (Caroline Cao)
Preliminary Draft – Oral report summaries are currently under review.

3. Optimizing trauma centers (Pratik Parikh)
   http://webapp2.wright.edu/web1/dialogue/2018/08/trauma-care/

4. Studying New Zealand rivers (Yvonne Vadeboncoeur)

B. Budget Update (Slide 5)
   - Ended FY18 with a $10.1M surplus
     - First surplus since 2012
     - $4.1M above target of $6M, which will be returned to the reserves
   - Spent nearly $53M less in FY18 than in FY17
   - FY17 ended with a $24.6M deficit
   - Plan to spend $20M less in FY19 than in FY18 based on a 6.2% decline in enrollment
   - Need to adjust for shortfall in enrollment, increases in medical costs, additional recurring previously unbudgeted items
     - An additional $3M health benefit cost is expected in January. Such cost increases are expected yearly.
   - Reserves
     - Following management best practices, the University should have $70M - $140M in central reserves (the amount required to sustain the University for 3 – 6 months if all revenue streams were cut off)
     - The University will know more in October regarding its Senate Bill 6 score. At this time, it seems unlikely that the University will go on fiscal watch.
     - Everyone on campus needs to remain committed to fiscal responsibility in order to continue building reserves.

C. Growth Mindset Advisory Committee (Slide 6)

President Schrader expressed that the University cannot cut its way to prosperity and then shared information about the new Growth Mindset Advisory Committee. The Committee will meet weekly in order to provide President Schrader with an overarching report by December 31, 2018 with recommendations that could be adopted and diversify to grow Wright State’s revenue streams.

D. Upcoming Events (Slide 7)
   - Green and Gold Fridays - Show your Wright State pride
     Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to wear Wright State colors on Fridays.
   - Air Force 5K - 6 p.m., Friday, September 14
     http://www.usafmarathon.com/
Preliminary Draft – Oral report summaries are currently under review.

- Welcome Reception for Provost Edwards
  - Tuesday, September 18
  - 3 to 4:30 p.m., Student Union Atrium
- Homecoming Weekend 2018
  [http://www.wright.edu/event/homecoming](http://www.wright.edu/event/homecoming)
  - Friday, October 5 and Saturday, October 6

Q&A Summary
Senator Luehrmann raised concerns regarding any potential retrenchment process. She then asked about the rights and responsibilities of the Faculty through the Faculty Senate in any implemented retrenchment process, the Senate's role in the approval/deactivation of programs related to any proposed retrenchment process, and finally how the Senate should direct or restrain any retrenchment process. In other words, can the administration unilaterally force the cancelation of a program when it is clearly not the will of the Faculty through the Faculty Senate?

President Schrader responded that she has had the opportunity to have conversations with members of the Board of Trustees, AAUP-WSU, and other WSU Faculty. President Schrader expressed support for Faculty tenure and that she understands its role and importance, and that the Board members, while respectful of tenure, are looking at the issue from a business perspective by looking for a mechanism to be more flexible. President Schrader agreed that the Faculty, through the Faculty Senate, are the guardians of the curriculum and further expressed that the Faculty Senate has done a good job of deactivating programs when needed, and that she believes the Board is open to further discussions regarding implementation of the proposed policy.

Senator McGinley asked President Schrader to reaffirm recent comments in support of the College of the Liberal Arts and its historic mission to provide a broad-based education in the humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Senator McGinley went on to request that President Schrader affirm that resources will be used to strengthen CoLA's programs rather than being redirected to other disciplines.

President Schrader unequivocally expressed her support for the College of Liberal Arts and that one of the strengths of Wright State is excellence across a wide-array of disciplines. In terms of resources, President Schrader expressed that she cannot necessarily say for any unit that the University would not move funds one way or the other; it depends on the health of the institution and its colleges. President Schrader expressed that she can commit to finding ways to leverage and invest in areas of excellence, including those in the Liberal Arts.

Senator Greene opened his remarks by citing Policy 1110.3.1: The university shall actively foster the advancement of learning in each of its academic disciplines and among them. The university shall encourage the search for truth in all its fields, being no less concerned with new discovery in the arts and the humanities than in the sciences. Senator Greene continued by stating that the University has lost 92 faculty members in the last two years, while at the same time the President has been silent while CBA negotiations have included retrenchment language that makes tenure meaningless. Senator Greene continued that Wright
State policy states it is the President’s executive responsibility, as well as the Faculty Senate’s, to maintain the academic freedom of the University. Senator Greene then asked why the Faculty should not support a resolution of no confidence in the President over the issues of retrenchment and faculty furloughs.

President Schrader replied that she does not agree with statements claiming she does not support tenure and academic freedom. In terms of silence during the negotiations, President Schrader indicated that the University has been careful to adhere to legal collective bargaining guidelines, one of which includes the restriction of publicly discussing positions still in the fact-finding phase. President Schrader continued by stating that she finds it her responsibility to have the opportunity to work with the Board of Trustees to facilitate an understanding of the importance of tenure and academic freedom and the excellent faculty at Wright State.

Regarding the strategic plan, Senator Carrafiello expressed that it seems like a plan for the distant future rather than the dire present. Senator Carrafiello then asked for key points of an AY2018-19 emergency plan to address the current issues of student enrollment, office staffing, and the contract with the Faculty.

President Schrader indicated that the fiscal sustainability plan is an area where the University has identified and begun implementing the ability to increase and diversify revenues as well as examine other operational efficiencies. The strategic plan will help identify where to invest new and freed-up funds. Regarding office staffing, President Schrader indicated that some past reductions might not have been strategic and there is an ongoing effort to make sure the University invests in the areas that have been cut too far. Regarding the faculty contract, President Schrader indicated that it is an issue that everyone wants to resolve and hopes that all parties can reach an agreement that would help prevent future financial troubles for the University.

Addressing both President Schrader and Provost Edwards, Senator Chamberlain indicated that the issues of the past few years have caused rifts and trepidation among the faculty, staff, and students, and then asked about the plan to heal the University beyond its financial issues.

President Schrader agreed with Senator Chamberlain and indicated that a focus on healing is one of her priorities for the year. President Schrader indicated that she is continuing to hold campus conversations and that Provost Edwards has experience and ideas to help with this issue. President Schrader asked for everyone’s help in being open and having the ability to talk across aisles, to understand and respect that other people have different perspectives, and trust that her commitment is to the health and wellbeing of the University and especially the people of the University. Provost Edwards added that the most important method to heal is continuous dialogue with faculty, staff, and students.

Senator Farmer expressed his belief that neither a strike nor vote of no confidence in the administration is in the best interest of the University. Senator Farmer then asked if the University has performed a cost-benefit study on effect on the University of a Faculty strike.
President Schrader agreed with Senator Farmer’s statement and expressed that some of the enrollment decline can be attributed to students being discouraged by the events of the past few years and the related media coverage. President Schrader indicated that she wants to do everything possible to come to agreement, and that the Board of Trustees is open-minded to what may come from a fact finder’s report and have not made a specific decision regarding accepting or rejecting until the report is reviewed. President Schrader encouraged all parties to have an open mind as the process continues.

Senator Farmer expressed further concerns related to faculty reductions and specialized accreditation beyond HLC accreditation. Senator Farmer indicated that AACS B, the accrediting body for Business related programs, has requirements for a minimum number of qualified faculty and researchers.

President Schrader indicated that she is very interested with working with all programs with such specialized accreditation issues. The College of Engineering and Computer Science and Raj Soin College of Business engineering and computing programs recently received the maximum length of time for accreditation, additional Social Work programs are currently going through specialized accreditation.

Senator Pedler expressed an opinion that some of the measures put forward by the Board are inimical to conceptions of higher education, and then asked President Schrader, as a career academic professional, what she has been doing over the course of the past year to bring the perspectives of her background to the Board members who are more business oriented.

President Schrader indicated she has had the opportunity to speak with Board members in groups and individually about important issues such as retrenchment, furloughs, and workload. The Board is looking for ways to have some flexibility to avoid ever being in such a financial situation again. The spectrum of opinions on the Board are wide-ranging, and they are open to new ideas to achieve resolution on those issues.
**Provost Edwards**

**A. Opening Remarks**

Provost Edwards began her remarks by expressing that it is her utmost pleasure to serve the faculty and students of Wright State. She has been pleased to see the passion and forthrightness of the campus community.

**B. Enrollment**

- As of day 7, the total student headcount was 15,139 students
  - 9% reduction from 2017
  - Gross instructional tuition and fees reduction of $6.2M
  - Final figures won’t be known until the 14th instructional day
- The University chose to back out students who have not made any tuition payment by August 20th
  - 559 students had their registrations canceled at that time
  - Over 320 of those students had their registration reinstated by the first day of classes
  - In previous academic years this process was done after the Day 14 census date, which lead to inflated enrollment figures which eventually lead to artificially low retention rates
- Dr. Paul Carney, a highly experienced strategic enrollment specialist, has been hired to oversee the management of enrollment practices. Provost Edwards has charged Dr. Carney with the following:
  - Increase the number of students enrolling in Spring 2019 by working with our community college partners, scouting potential transfer students, and assisting with their articulation needs.
  - Review the practices and policies of enrollment management to lead to the creation of a solid comprehensive enrollment plan and remove any unnecessary administrative barriers to students.
  - Expand the recruitment area beyond the past historic recruitment area.
- Wright State is using a common application this year.
  - The number of applications at most institutions increases due to using a common application.
  - A streamlined transfer student application is also being investigated at this time.
- The University is also looking at financial aid and scholarship optimization.
  - It is important that students receive their financial aid and scholarship packages prior to the acceptance date. This has not traditionally happened at Wright State.
- Provost Edwards encouraged everyone present along with the campus community to engage in a campaign to shine light on the areas of excellence at Wright State so
we can continue to provide the quality educational experience those in the region and State of Ohio expect and deserve.

C. Other Updates

- College Deans were notified last Tuesday that the administration will be releasing allocation of refunds based upon the requests that have been submitted. The Deans will work with the departmental chairs to distribute those funds.
- The spending limits on credit cards have been doubled.
- Faculty with grant or contract funds that require any increase in spending limit should contact Ann Greer (x3105).

Q&A

Senator Smith asked about the current policy on faculty travel using professional development funds.

Walt Branson indicated that current year funds are available to use but carryforward funds are still restricted. Provost Edwards indicated that faculty should contact Bill Rickert if they have such funds they need to use.

Senator Wooley, citing empty leased buildings and the athletics budget, raised concerns over the priorities of the University, and then asked if the Provost has any leadership initiatives to improve the overall moral on campus beyond campus conversations and discussions.

Provost Edwards indicated that it is about changing the mindset of the campus and encouraged everyone to start thinking about ‘what is it that we can do that is going to make a difference’. President Schrader added that the University has continued to do tremendous things, and that we cannot lose focus on the areas of excellence that brought us each to Wright State. A big part of the strategic planning process is let us create the future where every one of us has the opportunity to help the University in many important ways. President Schrader encouraged those present to share ideas to help with mending rifts and moving forward.

Senator Farra raised concerns regarding the elimination of the wellness program and access to gym facilities during the current times of rising insurance costs.

President Schrader agreed that the cutting of those programs seems shortsighted and that future conversations are planned regarding this issue. President Schrader added that 50% of emergency room visits billed to WSU insurance were for the common cold, so there is an educational opportunity that can help everyone better use their benefits and help curb rising costs.

Senator Cebulash raised concerns regarding the long-term viability of Wright State as a 4-year institution due to structural changes posed by programs such as College Credit Plus, Guaranteed Transfer Pathways, and the entrance of community colleges entry into the 4-year program arena.
Provost Edwards agreed with the concerns but that legislative action can be hard to influence. State institutions and faculty need to communicate better to legislators, voters, and general populace regarding the value of higher education. Provost Edwards indicated that she would be happy to discuss ideas with anyone on how to address this issue.

Senator Rowley, citing discussions from the AY2017-18 Senate meetings, reminded those present that the University needs a common direction of communication with respect to the media, students, and prospective students.

President Schrader acknowledged the challenge of having meetings and discussions in a public forum, and indicated that she has been encouraging people to remember that their words carry weight. President Schrader indicated that the administration will continue to work on communication, and have everyone from the Board down understand how what we do can influence perception.

Senator Farra raised a question about the progress of the Academic Realignment Implementation Committee.

Provost Edwards indicated that she has been reading the first report from the Academic Realignment Committee, and is interested in reconvening the Realignment Committee once she has all of the relevant information.

IV. Report of the Senate Executive Committee

A. 2018-19 Faculty Senate Roster
   https://www.wright.edu/faculty-senate/about/2018-19-officers-and-members

B. 2018-19 Faculty Senate Committee Rosters

C. Faculty Credentialing
   
   Policy
   https://policy.wright.edu/policy/2035-faculty-credentials
   
   Process Documents

D. Ad hoc General Counsel Review Committee Report
E. Undergraduate Student Success Committee – Textbook Affordability

F. Academic Reorganization Update
   1. Statements from impacted units

G. Other Summer Activity Updates

V. Old Business
   A. Undergraduate Academic Policy (UAPC)

      A motion was made, seconded, and approved to send all Old Business items from UAPC back to committee for further review.

      1. Admissions – Items V.A.1.a & b are part of an ongoing project to parse Policy 3110 – Undergraduate Admissions into multiple policies with updates as needed.
         i. Policy 3170 – Second Undergraduate Degree (UAPC)
         ii. Policy 3140 – Readmission (UAPC)

            New Proposed Language
            The committee chair has submitted updated language for Senate consideration. (Requires motion to substitute.)
B. Curriculum – New Program (UCC)
   1. Theatre Design and Technology

      A motion was made and seconded to approve this item. The motion carried without dissent.

C. Commencement Participation Policy (#3685)

Current Amended Language for consideration

Original Submission

New Proposed Language (Executive Committee)
The committee chair has submitted updated language for Senate consideration.
(Requires motion to substitute.) (Recommend subsidiary motion to postpone final vote to October)


A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adopt the substitute language provided by the Executive Committee. A subsequent motion was made, seconded, and approved to lay this item on the table until the October Senate meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Undergraduate Curriculum

1. Dance Minor (New)
   A motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider this item as Old Business at the October 2018 Senate meeting.
2. Political Science, BA (New Concentration)
   A motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider this item as Old Business at the October 2018 Senate meeting.

B. Graduate Curriculum

   Faculty President Doom noted that financial impact statements for these items were not included in the packet. Graduate School Dean Barry Milligan indicated that the Graduate School would submit the statements in time for Senators to review prior to the October 2018 Senate meeting.

   1. Certificate in Aerospace Medicine (New)
      A motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider this item as Old Business at the October 2018 Senate meeting.

   2. Marketing Analytics and Insights, MS (New Program)
      A motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider this item as Old Business at the October 2018 Senate meeting.

   3. MS in Interdisciplinary Applied Sciences and Mathematics (New Program)
      A motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider this item as Old Business at the October 2018 Senate meeting.

C. Undergraduate Academic Policy (UAPC)

   1. Ohio Transfer Module Policy (#3230)
      https://policy.wright.edu/policy/3230-ohio-transfer-module-otm

      UAPC recommends replacing current policy language with the following:

      “Wright State University complies with the ODHE Ohio Transfer Module policy.”

      A motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider this item as Old Business at the October 2018 Senate meeting.
2. Policy merger: Academic Standing (#3350) and Academic Probation (#3360)
   i. New policy name: Academic Standing, Probation, and Dismissal (#3350)
   ii. Remove policy 3360

   A motion was made, seconded, and approved to return this item to UAPC for further review.

VII. Written Committee Reports and Attendance

   A. Oral Report(s)
      1. Carl Brun – ODHE Initiatives

   B. Undergraduate Student Petitions Committee – Summer 2018 Report

VIII. Council Reports

   A. Graduate Council – April 2018

IX. Announcements

X. Adjourn

   Next scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting:
   October 8, 2018
   2:30 p.m.
   E156 Student Union