

Candidate/Goals Statement: Andrew Strombeck

My name is Drew Strombeck. I've been faculty at Wright State since 2007, and have held leadership positions at the departmental, college, and university level. I became interested in running for Faculty Senate President after coordinating an effort to gather and summarize feedback on the workload policy while serving on the Senate Executive Committee in 2024-2025.

As Faculty Senate President, I'd like to see Senate articulate a positive, future-oriented vision for Wright State—broadly speaking, one in which faculty, students, and the institution itself can flourish—and use such a vision to guide its advocacy. While the university is currently undergoing strategic planning, I think it's important for faculty to articulate our own ideas about the present and future of the institution.

With such a vision in place, I'd advocate for the Senate to push for greater oversight of Wright State's finances, and continued oversight of university policies. (I was cheered to see the administration accept faculty feedback on the workload policy, and I see the Senate doing more work along these lines.)

Given the attacks on higher education, I think it's crucial that the Senate continue to build issue-based coalitions with other campus stakeholders (the union, student government, staff, chairs, deans). While the Senate's interests don't coincide with every other group's interests, there are plenty of areas where we can work together to make Wright State a better place to learn and work.

As an example of the above, I think that Senate can work with other campus stakeholders on initiatives that could make everyone's time more efficient. My sense is that currently, procurement, curricular approval, and assessment are all characterized by bottlenecks that consume a lot of time that could be better spent on teaching, retention/recruitment, and research, and I think the Senate should gather data on time consumed and make proposals that, while aligning with institutional imperatives, streamline some of this work.

I'd also like to see the Senate continue working to reform the workload policy (which, while improved, still needs tightening, especially as regards service) and to advocate for strategic hires.

Finally, I think it's important that the Senate affirm the value of all disciplines—recent federal and state actions mean that no discipline can expect to be “safe,” and we will need to mutually support one another moving forward.