From the Provost’s Report:
Fall Semester enrollment update:
• Undergraduate enrollment has increased 7%.
• Graduate enrollment has increased 4.8%.
• Direct from high school admits increased 3.2%.
• Total new undergraduate students increased 4.1%.
• International Graduate students increased 16.8%.

Dr. Steve Berberich, Associate Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs will chair the 360 degree review of services to international students across campus. Policies, procedures, and support structures to assist these students will be reviewed in all areas across campus. An external group will be assembled to conduct a comprehensive review upon the completion of the internal 360 review. With the upcoming retirement of Dr. Stephen Foster, a search for leadership for the University Center for International Education will begin in November, 2015.

The Classroom Modernization prototype classrooms are now fully operational in 150 Russ and 135 Oelman; please take a moment to look at these classrooms and provide feedback. The university plans to update 112 Oelman and 101 Fawcett during the winter break and through spring semester.

The 5% Budget Bill Challenge for fall is an initiative to identify a way in which students will have the opportunity to achieve a five percent savings in the cost of attendance. Wright State proposed to offer the following means to provide discounts to these students and will submit their report to the Board of Trustees for review and then to the Chancellor’s Office in October, 2015.

• Offer a summer discount program to students who complete 24 credit hours during fall and spring semester.
• Ensure all programs have 120 credit hour maximum.
• Require course textbooks to be listed at the beginning of registration, which will allow students to find a more economical means of purchasing books.
• Offer College Credit Plus courses, which will allow high school students within a 50-mile radius to earn six credit hours while in high school.

In addition to the student savings of the Budget Bill Challenge, the Board of Trustees will review courses and programs with low enrollments and report to the Chancellor’s Office. The development of an implementation strategy to incorporate work experience into curriculum must be developed, reviewed by the Board of Trustees and submitted to the Chancellor by December 31, 2015.

Executive Committee Report
The Executive Committee met several times over the summer to determine how to advise the administration with their plans to reorganize the upper-level administration.

The Executive Committee is pleased with the administration’s decision to appoint Thomas Sudkamp as Provost and Mark Polatajko as Chief Operations Officer.

The Senate will ask the University Buildings and Grounds Committee to account for parking spaces that were vacated during the renovation of the construction of the new buildings and to follow up on the Parking Resolution passed in April 15, 2013.

The Library of the Future Taskforce is being formed and will be charged to review the Wright State Dunbar Library services and collections with respect to faculty teaching and scholarship needs and to the student learning and research needs.

The GE Core Assessment Taskforce will conduct a thorough assessment of the current Wright State Core, with attention to student progress through general education and course availability. Last year’s GE review subcommittee report remains on the table until assessment is complete.

Commencement Committee
Commencement Committee chair Dr. Eric Rowley met with the Faculty Senate to discuss possible changes in Wright State’s current commencement ceremony by increasing size and making it more flexible.

The committee plans to circulate a short questionnaire to gather information from faculty and possibility students. Faculty members, who have suggestions concerning the commencement ceremonies, are invited to contact Dr. Rowley at eric.rowley@wright.edu.

New Business
Distance Education Task Force Report
Dr. Sean Pollock presented findings from the Taskforce on Distance Education’s (TDE) report. The Taskforce found an increase from 4,608 students taking distance education courses compared to 96% success rate. However, the report also showed that a startling 84% of courses had un-proctored exams, and only 8% had proctored exams. 5% of classes had proctored quizzes, and 3% had both. Success rate was determined by students receiving an A, B, or C in the course and does not measure persistence of grade. The TDE report made a case for more centralized oversight and support for developing effective distance learning and recommends university for terminology and designations of distance education. The report includes a number of policy proposals for implementation in distance education. The TDE suggests that the University make distance education a part of its strategic plan and budget. It also recommends that online orientation courses be set up in order to ensure student preparedness for online learning.

The report advises that classrooms be examined for use in distance learning environments. Finally, the report proposes a task force be developed to ensure online accessibility to safeguard compliance with disability standards.

Wright State Assessment
Dr. Carl Bruin and Dr. Renée Atkén present a report on assessment. To ensure continuous accreditation, the university needs a robust assessment process of systematically examining patterns of student learning across courses and programs and using this information to improve educational practices. To facilitate assessment, the administration is offering seven 2-hour online workshops. Those who complete them will receive a certificate.

Council Reports
Research Council
The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to reject the Research Council’s summer report following discussion of various details in the report. After the rejection, the Senate also voted in favor of having the Research Council submit a fully revised report for the October Senate meeting. The VicePresident for Research and Graduate Studies, Dr. Fyffe, is set to speak before the Senate at the October 12 meeting on the reorganization of the Wright State Research Institute (WSRI).

Facility Line
Faculty Senate Meeting dates, agenda and minutes: www.wright.edu/administrative/ senate
By Faculty Senate Interns: Arica Rolo and Jonathan Dillon