Faculty Senate Newsletter

College of Liberal Arts

From the President’s Report

• The President’s Report to the University’s employees, reporting for the President.

From the Provost’s Report

• Dr. Carl Brun has been named Assistant Vice President for University Curricular Programs. He will serve as a full-time administrative position and report to the Ohio Board of Regents on the Ohio Transfer Module, Transfer Assurance Guides, and statewide curricular protocols. Dr. Brun will head Wright State’s participation in the Partnership with a Purpose—Ohio Board of Regents initiative on competency-based education; and will provide administration support for the Wright State Core and the Writing Across the Curriculum programs.

One year remains before the Higher Learning Commission visit. On March 29, every one will be invited to participate and lunch at 12:30 in the Endeavor Room of the Student Union to learn where we are, what the process is, when we expect the coming year, and what to expect when the review team comes to campus.

Introduction of Craig Woolley, CIO

Craig Woolley, WSU’s new Chief Information Technology Officer, introduced himself before the Faculty Senate at its February 23 meeting. Woolley brings to Wright State more than 27 years of experience in managing higher education information technology with a strong focus on the customer.

Executive Committee Report

House Bill 616: Textbook Policy

The Ohio Faculty Council has requested feedback on Ohio House Bill 616, which would prohibit faculty from assigning proprietary or custom textbooks for a course unless that course is offered exclusively by the institution. The bill appears to be in favor of faculty from profiting from textbook selection. However, as written, the bill fails to consider customizations that might save students money. If this policy is implemented, instructors will be unable to select open-source materials that could reduce costs. Faculty would also be prohibited from assigning textbooks they have authored regardless of savings to students. Because of these concerns, the Senate is seeking formal representation from the Ohio Board of Regents to the Senate. Senate Study Committee on Tobacco Free Policy, meeting in the January meeting, that would ban smoking everywhere on campus. If implemented, students, faculty and staff who are caught violating this policy would face increasing penalties. Chase, who has some expertise on tobacco policy, recommended that the Senate discuss this change instead of focusing on penalties. The Senate decided to table the resolution indefinitely.

Resolution in Support of the AAUP Centennial Celebration

This year marks the centennial celebration of the 1915 AAUP Declaration of Principles of Academic Freedom and Academic Tenure. The Executive Committee introduced the following Resolution in Support of AAUP as new business:

Whereas the core mission of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) is to advance academic freedom and academic tenure, as well as professional responsibility, and Whereas this year marks the centennial celebration of the 1915 AAUP Declaration of Principles of Academic Freedom and Academic Tenure; and Whereas the AAUP-WSU and Wright State Faculty Senate stand together in their desire to protect the interests and principles of shared governance; now therefore, be it Resolved that the Wright State Faculty Senate:

1. Strongly Supports the principles of academic freedom and academic tenure codified in the AAUP declaration of 1915.
2. Applauds the AAUP and AAUP-WSU for their leadership in protecting the core values of the institutions of higher education; and
3. Congratulates AAUP on their centennial celebration.

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February Business

CoLA Admission Policy

After suspending the rules and a discussion of implications for further decentralization of services, the Senate voted unanimously to approve a new admissions policy for the College of Liberal Arts. Three tiers of admission based on high school GPA and ACT/SAT scores will permit students to be directly admitted to majors, directly admitted to CoLA as intending majors, or admitted into University College as CoLA intending. The policy will admit almost 300 additional students into CoLA who would have been denied entrance under the old admissions policy, and allow this decrease to be passed on to CoLA staffing. The Senate also approved a new admissions policy for the College of Business.

WMS Program Name Change

Wright State is close to implementing a $5 million renovation Classroom Project. Building and Grounds Committee Chair Dr. James Menart discussed the process in determining which classrooms have the potential to be renovated and why. A study conducted by Woolpert assessed the condition and quality of all classrooms on campus. Each classroom has been given a rating between 1 (outdated and non-conducive for teaching) and 5 (updated to incorporate the latest technology and pedagogical practice). Because the $5 million renovation will not cover all of the classrooms, B&G will collaborate with the Deans about which projects are the most important.

Building and Grounds

The governor has issued an executive order to place the units offering the course.

Voting: February 23, 2015

Faculty Line

Election Updates

• Dr. Carol Loranger will be the candidate for Faculty President

• Dr. Doug Peltce (CoSM) & Dr. Melissa Gregg (CoMB) will be the candidates for the Faculty Vice President

Balloting or Faculty Officers and Senators

Next scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting: March 23, 2015

Faculty Senate Meetings, agenda and minutes: www.wright.edu/administration/senate

By Faculty Senate Interns: Arica Rohn, Elizabeth George and Talya Flowers