

Faculty Senate Newsletter

College of Liberal Arts

Feb. 3, 2015



From President Hopkins' Report

- * The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has selected Wright State to receive its 2015 Community Engagement Classification.
- * The Rise. Shine Campaign for Wright State University is in full swing and has raised \$112 million of its \$150 million goal.
- * Degree completions statewide are up 7%. It remains to be seen how this increase will affect SSI, which is now entirely attached to completions.
- * Watching closely: Proposed legislation in the Ohio Senate would mandate reducing university tuition by 5%.



From the Provost's Report

Associate Provost Thomas Sudkamp reporting.

Innovations to support intrusive advising—getting support to students when it is most critical—include

- RAPS (Raider Academic Progress System): a software tool that tracks student progress and notifies advisors if a student is not achieving designated milestones in the student's degree path. RAPS also provides historical data on degree completion, helpful for making course selection and major choices.

- The Student Academic Success Center and CaTS have collaborated to create an early alert system to notify advisors early in the semester of students who are not on track to succeed in the course. The course instructor provides information on student attendance and performance, which is available to the advisor. The system is currently being piloted in a number of critical General Education courses.

Classrooms in the new Student Success Center and Classroom Building will feature card-swipes at all entrances to assist in tracking attendance. Student absence data will be provided to the instructor and the advisor. A retrofit for other buildings and classrooms where popular first year courses are taught is planned. The Student Academic Success Center will also use this Accutrack system for tracking usage of supplemental instruction, tutoring, and attendance at other events. This information will be available to advisors to aid in creating an intervention program for academically at-risk students.

Executive Committee Report

International Education

The Senate Executive Committee met with Directors and staff of UCIE and WSIG to address questions and concerns regarding international student recruitment and admissions. The EC is concerned that there appears to be little strategy in place to tie recruiting to actual academic program capacity and needs, in particular that academic programs are not driving recruiting activities. Recruiting activi-

ties are too narrowly focused on a few locations and schools, and departments are not given the information needed on applicants (e.g. fully annotated transcripts) to aid in admissions decisions. Various Senate committees are tackling policy implications related to international education, but the Senate is calling for clearly articulated institutional strategy.

Space Utilization Survey

Faculty Senate expressed concern with a planned space utilization survey set to take place during the winter break. The survey was to be conducted by student workers who would enter each room on campus to catalogue how the rooms are being used. Workers would have been unaccompanied although campus police and environmental safety officers were to have been present in each building. It is the Senate's position that faculty members should be informed in a timely manner prior to entering their offices and laboratories so that any sensitive materials can be properly secured and laboratory experiments protected. The Senate also suggested that the Administration gather more extensive data during the space utilization survey to aid service units during emergency situations. The Administration has elected to delay the survey.

Service Unit Review

The Senate Budget Priority Committee will work with the Office of the Provost to review budgets for all campus auxiliaries and service units. The Administration asked the Senate to recommend support units for the first round of reviews. The EC recommendation includes Marketing, UCIE/WSIG, Enrollment Management Human Resources, Facilities Planning Management, Internal Audit, Office of Disability Services, Libraries, University College and Student Union. Auxiliaries selected for the first round are Athletics and Bookstores (Main and Lake).

January Business

WMS Program Name Change

New business included a proposed name

change for the Women's Studies Program. If approved in February, the new program name will be Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and the course call number will be WGS.

Tobacco Free Policy

WSU administration requested feedback on a proposed Tobacco-free policy which would ban smoking anywhere on campus. If implemented, students, faculty, and staff violating the policy would face penalties of increasing severity. The Senate tabled the resolution pending clearer details about the policy.

Moat and Faculty Dining Area

Buildings and Grounds Committee chair Dr. James Meinert reported on B&G deliberations regarding keeping or eliminating the moat located outside of the Hanger, which is expensive for the university to maintain. Options included expanding the Hangar outdoor eating area, building a stage for bands, speakers and other campus events, or simply removing the walls and extending the quad pavers. Discussion focused on whether the moat was a focal point for alumni or a nuisance. B&G is also looking at space for a faculty dining or gathering area among soon-to-be vacated campus areas. The Committee had no recommendations at this time.

Faculty Line

Nominations for Senate President and Vice President may be submitted through February 20th. The nomination period for Faculty Senators will run from February 9th-20th. Senators with expiring seats will be informed via email, and may run for reelection. Nominations can be submitted either mail, [email](#), or [online](#).

Faculty Senate Meeting dates, agendas and minutes: www.wright.edu/administration/senate

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