I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes


The minutes were approved as written.

III. Report of the University President or Provost

President Hopkins

A. Dr. Hopkins invited everyone to attend the first Presidential Lecture Series of 2017 featuring Dan Rather, former longtime CBS news anchor & 60 Minutes correspondent. The lecture will start at 7:00pm, Tuesday, January 31st at the Nutter Center. http://www.wright.edu/events/presidential-lecture-series-dan-rather

B. Dr. Hopkins invited Greg Sample to the podium to address concerns raised by Senator Rizki at the December Senate meeting regarding the hiring of contactors, architects, and other outside agencies that have failed to deliver as promised in the past (poor quality work, cost overruns, etc).

Mr. Sample gave the Senate a brief overview of the ongoing overhaul of the Facilities Management Division, including a reduction in personnel, restructuring to break-up silos, and to expand interaction with building occupants and stakeholders.
In response to a question from the floor, Mr. Sample expressed that Facilities Management will continue to work within State and Federal guidelines with regards to the Campus Woods, and that a point of contact will be made available for faculty who use the Woods. Mr. Sample also mentioned a new conservation easement protecting 15 acres of the Woods.


C. Budget Remediation Updates

Dr. Hopkins spoke at length regarding the ongoing budget remediation. The following is a summary of the topics discussed:

• Anticipated Revenue
  o The University did not plan for State Share of Instruction dollars in the original budget, however the university has received $3.1 million in SSI funds this year.
  o For over 20-years the university used returns on investment to help balance the university budget, however the university lost $10 million in anticipated investment return to budget over a recent 2-year period. The current budget forecasted a $2.5 million return for FY17, which we are slightly above at this time. Starting in fiscal year 2018, the university will no longer use return on investment forecasts when developing the yearly budget.
  o While retention and domestic enrollment is up slightly, total enrollment is down mainly due to a 21% decrease in international students. This has resulted in a $9-$10 million reduction in enrollment revenue compared to the anticipated budget.

• Expenses
  o While nearly 70% of the university budget is in personnel expenses, the university has already taken some substantial actions through the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program and targeted workforce reductions.
  o Dr. Hopkins will be meeting with all of the Deans and Vice Presidents this week to discuss additional actions that can be taken to reduce expenses. Every unit will be challenged to identify more areas to forgo or delay non-essential expenses. Dr. Hopkins also stressed that the university must continue to examine areas of duplication and focus on developing innovative approaches to grow our revenue streams through recruitment and retention.

• Reserves
  o Some of the upfront costs of recent building projects and the budget remediation were met by using reserve funding with the goal to replenish those reserves via fundraising. A major challenge is that 99% of donations are restricted to certain uses; the administration is working with the Foundation to identify and reimburse the university where applicable.
  o The Wright State Applied Research Corporation has made $2.4 million in debt repayments to the university this fiscal year.
  o The administration is also investigating several private/public partnerships and monetizing assets. The university recently sold
property in Yellow Springs and has additional land for sale. The university is also continuing to investigate the parking opportunities.

Q&A
Senator Farmer asked for clarification of Provost Sudkamp’s remarks in the Dayton Daily News citing the ‘Trump Effect’ with regards to declining international student enrollments. Provost Sudkamp clarified that while WSU and other universities have lost significant enrollments of Saudi students due to their government’s change in policy, however recent survey of prospective international students has shown a decline in interest in U.S. institutions due to the ongoing rhetoric coming out of Washington. Canada is now favored over the U.S. as the premier destination for international students.

In response to questions from multiple Senators, Dr. Hopkins and Dr. Sudkamp clarified a few points regarding the impact of the increased SSI funds relative to the current budget situation. Those clarifications have been incorporated into the report above.

Senator McLellan applauded the increased retention rates and asked how the improved rates influences the budget. Provost Sudkamp stated that WSU has seen around a 9% gain in its retention rates, however those are already accounted for in the budget forecast. Dr. Sukamp and President Hopkins further clarified that much of the current costs of retention come from Rise-Shine Campaign gifts.

Senator Garber asked about the potential for an investment fund for departments to innovate and create new programs on a competitive basis. President Hopkins informed the Senate on a proposed IUC proposal to the Governor to offer a state-wide revolving loan program for innovative program development.

Senator Sabo asked if the University has assessed their investment management firm. Dr. Hopkins indicated that he would ask CFO Jeff Ulliman to come to a future Senate meeting to give a more complete picture of WSU’s investments.

Senator Rizki asked for a single total amount required as part of the budget remediation. Dr. Hopkins indicated $27.7 million of base realignment needed to achieve this year and FY18.
Provost Sudkamp

D. In reference to the DACA / BRIDGE Act Resolution on the meeting agenda, Dr. Sudkamp informed the Senate that all of the IUC Schools have signed a letter in support of the BRIDGE Act.

E. The B.S. in Neuroscience and B.S.B. in Entrepreneurship were presented to the Board of Trustees last week. They will be up for approval during the public Board meeting in February, if approved they will be sent to ODHE for final approval.

F. Dr. Rosalie Mainous, dean of the College of Nursing and Health, has accepted the position of director of academic nursing development for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in Washington, D.C. Dr. Deb Ulrich will serve as interim dean during the transition.

G. As required by law, the university is conducting a review of duplicative programs in the region as identified by the State of Ohio. Central State is the only other university in the same region as Wright State. A preliminary report is due by April 30th, a follow-up report in September, and a final report in December. If duplicative programs with low enrollment are identified, the university will first work with Central State in an effort to share programs.

H. The university has received $2 million earmarked for laboratory renovations. The university will work with the Senate Building & Grounds Committee and faculty to prioritize current needs.

IV. Report of the Senate Executive Committee

A. DACA/BRIDGE ACT Resolution


Background Information:
- https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/s3542/text

After discussions, the resolution was put to a vote and approved.
B. GE/Core Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee Report (Anne Russell, Laura Luehrmann)  

After a presentation from Laura Luehrmann, a motion was made, seconded, and approved to charge the Senate Executive Committee to develop, and present by the next Faculty Senate meeting, a proposal for implementing the recommendations regarding Faculty committees and oversight of the Core.

C. Enrollment Management Presentation (VP Mary Ellen Ashley)  

Vice President for Enrollment Management Mary Ellen Ashley gave a presentation highlighting the division’s recruiting strategy and tools. Audio of the presentation is available at: http://www.wright.edu/static/faculty-senate/R_20170123-EM_Presentation.mp3

D. Other Executive Committee Updates

Dr. Loranger briefed the Senate on the following miscellaneous items:

- As a result of the Libraries of the Future Taskforce report received in December, the Senate will charge and populate an ad hoc Library Advisory committee for 2017-18.
- At the Senate's direction, the EC has drafted a revised charge to the Research Council for inclusion in QR and implementation on ad hoc basis this year. The committee is fine-tuning the charge in conversation with the VPR and faculty membership of the council.
- The EC was asked to develop a guiding topic for Presidential Candidate presentations to faculty forums in February. The topic the EC provided was "The University Faculty are particularly interested in the candidate's prior experience with budget remediation and the strategy s/he has or would employ in addressing pressing budget issues while preserving the integrity and quality of academic programs, particularly with respect to the candidate's understanding of the Faculty's role in shared governance."
- Faculty are urged to make every effort to attend the public fora for each Presidential candidate.
V. Old Business

A. Credit Hour Policy (UAPC)

   Note: Due to concerns raised after the December Senate meeting, the committee requests a motion to amend language regarding Study Abroad.
   https://www.wright.edu/sites/www.wright.edu/files/uploads/2017/Jan/meeting/UAPC_CreditHourMotion.pdf

   A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the proposed amendment as written. A motion was made and seconded to approved the policy as amended. The policy was approved.

VI. New Business

A. Curricular Items
   • New Program – 15742 EE Ele&Comp Egr TechnologyBSECET

     A motion was made and seconded to move this item to Old Business at the next Faculty Senate meeting. The motion was approved.

VII. Written Committee Reports and Attendance

A. IT Committee

B. Senate Woods Committee

C. Undergraduate Academic Policies Committee
D. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

E. Undergraduate Student Petitions Committee

VIII. Council Reports

IX. Announcements
   A. Faculty Senate Elections
      • Faculty President & Vice President Nomination Form (deadline: Feb 20th)
        https://wright.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8kRx1Y4k0CZBcuF
      • Election Schedule & Information
        https://www.wright.edu/faculty-senate/about/faculty-membership-senate-elections

X. Adjourn

Next scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting:
February 20, 2017