



Faculty Office
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Faculty Line #252
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I hope that each of you had a restful and rejuvenating summer. Below are some topics of interest as we approach the start of the fall semester.

Participation Roster

You will be receiving a message from both The Provosts Office and from Financial Aid regarding documenting student attendance/participation. Over the past two years, faculty and representatives from Student Success, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office and CaTS have worked to improve the process for documenting attendance/participation in the first two weeks of the term (for full-term courses). Similar to submitting final grades, you can find a link to this under the Faculty tab in WingsExpress, as well as a link on the right-hand column in Wings.

While Wright State University does not have an official attendance policy, we are required to determine if a student has established attendance/participation in each course. The requirement is rooted in Title IV compliance regulations and may affect a student's eligibility to receive federal financial aid. Therefore, it is imperative that the data on who has established attendance/participation is accurate. While this process is focused on meeting a requirement for federal financial aid, having students complete an assignment early in the course is also considered a good instructional practice. This can communicate some of your expectations for the course, and get students into a habit of completing important work for your course.

The Department of Education defines attendance/participation as follows:

For **face-to-face, mostly or partially online** courses, the establishment of attendance means students must attend/participate in at least one class session or complete an academic related activity as described below.

For **fully online** courses, documenting that a student has logged into an online class is not sufficient, by itself, to demonstrate attendance. Examples of participation in an academically related activity in an online class include:

- student submission of an academic assignment,
- student submission of an exam,
- documented student participation in an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction,
- a posting by the student showing the student's participation in an online study group that is assigned by the institution,
- a posting by the student in a discussion forum showing the student's participation in a online discussion about academic matters, and

- an email from the student or other documentation showing that the student-initiated contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course.

Additional information on Participation Rosters can be found on the Registrar's resources page for faculty and staff at <http://www.wright.edu/registrar/resources-for-faculty-and-staff#ParticRostFAQ>

It is important that **all faculty** complete this process of documenting student attendance/participation. Please complete this for each of your courses by the deadline (Sept 2 for full-term classes)

Professional Development Opportunities

Teaching for Student Success

The Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) is hosting the Teaching for Student Success Symposium on the Dayton campus on Thursday, August 18th from 11:30-4:30. This is a free event designed by Wright State faculty, students, and staff to support our all of us as we begin the semester. Please consider attending to engage with our colleagues across campus and get ideas for your own teaching.

You can check out the full program here, <https://www.wright.edu/center-for-faculty-excellence/workshops>, and the link to register is [here](#).

Other Professional Learning Opportunities for Faculty

There are some recurring workshop series for being coordinated for faculty by Instructional Technology Services (ITS) and Wright State Online (WSO). These include:

- Pilot Basics
- Webex Basics
- Webex Education Connector
- Panopto Basics
- Classroom Equipment Training

You can register for one of these sessions, or join at your convenience during an open lab. Daily sessions will run August 16-25, 2022.

You can find the full listing of dates/times and registration links at

<https://www.wright.edu/information-technology/instructional-technology-services-and-wright-state-online-workshops>

CATS Resource Alignment

Following the Faculty Senate IT Subcommittee's decision to select WebEx as the university's primary virtual classroom platform, ITS has undergone a Resource Alignment and Retention Project. This means that some services (Zoom and Blackboard Collaborate Ultra) will no longer be supported, and older materials from Panopto are being archived. If you have questions consider attending upcoming [Instructional Technology Workshops](#) or reviewing the details of the [Resource Alignment and Retention Project](#).

Bookstore

The University's Bookstore is now being run by eCampus. While there will be some differences in the process of ordering books, it appears these adjustments should be minor. The hope is that the entire bookstore experience will be more efficient and more cost effective for students. This [link](#) has information for faculty about how to order course materials. And this [link](#) is an FAQ page about the process, including some information on the transition from Barnes and Noble to eCampus. The main page for the new bookstore can be found at <https://wright.ecampus.com/>

The new bookstore will initially be located in the same footprint in the Student Union, previously occupied by Barnes and Noble, but this is not expected to be its permanent place.

Faculty Senate Meeting

Our first Senate meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19 at 2:30. This meeting will take place in-person, in the Endeavor Room of the Student Union. An agenda and other details will be available after the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meets on September 12. In the meantime, you can access the Faculty Senate meeting schedule, agendas, and minutes, as well as the Senate and committee rosters, on our webpage: wright.edu/faculty-senate.

Closing thoughts

It has been good to see and hear from many of you as we approach the start of the fall semester. We are looking forward to students moving in later this week, and to the official start of the semester on Monday. We also have many new faces on campus, including many new university leaders that began at WSU this summer. We are looking forward to working collaboratively with them as we continue to enhance opportunities for our students.

Brian Boyd
Faculty President