

Faculty Senate

2:30pm, Monday, September 25, 2023
Student Union Endeavor Room

I. Call to Order

Faculty President Subhashini Ganapathy welcomed those present to the first Faculty Senate meeting of fall semester. She recognized [the eight faculty members who won excellence awards](#) (see attachment). Dr. Ganapathy introduced leaders from the Student Government Association and the Staff Senate. She presented a slide listing Senate Priorities that were focused around relationships (see attachment).

Roll call was taken, and the meeting was officially called to order at 2:38 p.m.

Faculty Senators

- ✓ Barnett, Jessica
- ✓ Birch Evans, Vicki
- ✓ Clayton, Angie
- ✓ Duby, John
- ✓ Garverick, Pamela
- ✓ Huang, Hong (EC)
- ✓ Martin, Kerry
- Matott, Michael
- ✓ McGinley, Sarah
- ✓ McNutt, Mindy (EC)
- ✓ Oroszi, Terry (EC)
- ✓ Raslich, Marc
- ✓ Ricker, Josh (EC)
- ✓ Rucker, Mary
- ✓ Shannon, Vaughn
- ✓ Steele-Johnson, Debra (EC)

Faculty Senators

- ✓ Stover, Sheri
- ✓ Strombeck, Andrew (EC)
- ✓ Willardsen, Kevin (EC)
- ✓ Wischgoll, Thomas
- ✓ Zhong, Quan
- CoSM: Vacant Seat

Faculty President

- ✓ Subhashini Ganapathy (EC)

Faculty Vice President

- ✓ Dawn Wooley (EC)

Faculty Senate Parliamentarian

- ✓ Melissa Spirek

University President

Susan Edwards

University Provost

- ✓ Amy Thompson

II. Approval of Minutes

[Minutes of the April 24, 2023 meeting.](#)

Dr. Ganapathy asked for any corrections to the minutes before calling for a vote to approve. The minutes were approved as written.

III. Report of the University Provost

Dr. Ganapathy turned the floor over to University Provost Amy Thompson who gave an oral report. Provost Thompson highlighted increased enrollment numbers and reviewed the incident with the rubber ROTC training rifle that occurred at the Hangar. She mentioned the importance of week 5 check ins with students in the form of progress reports and early alerts for students who are experiencing attendance, performance (grades), technology barriers, and/or other concerns in your course. She congratulated the College of Science and Mathematics for winning the participation roster competition with a 96% completion. Provost Thompson mentioned 37% of students were not retained due to their GPAs being below 2.0 or not passing 67% of their courses. She said that we need to better with retention. Some initiatives to improve retention include making sure students complete give high impact practices (to be implemented by fall 2025), developing first year seminars, and helping students with mental health issues through new initiatives, such as resiliency week. Two new awards are on the horizon—outstanding scholarly activity and impact awards. Lastly, she discussed the ongoing program review to be completed by December 2023.

Provost Thompson turned the floor over to Tim Littell for a PowerPoint presentation (see attachments) on the student academic alert system and the drop/fail/withdrawal (DFW) rates. The question and answer session for Mr. Littell focused on the numbers of credits taken by students, block scheduling, toxic combinations of courses, and developmental courses.

Questions directed to Provost Thompson regarding the gun incident included the timing of the response and follow-up messaging (e.g. not getting all-clear message). She responded by saying they are conducting a critical review of the response for future situations.

IV. Report of the Senate Executive Committee

The Senate meeting schedule and committee rosters were presented (see links below)

A. <https://www.wright.edu/faculty-senate>

B. [AY2023-24 Faculty Senate Committee Rosters](#)

C. [Ohio Faculty Council](#) Representatives

Subhashini Ganapathy and Dawn Wooley will be Wright State University's representatives on the council, and the alternate will be Mindy McNutt.

V. Curricular Items for Final Approval

There were seven undergraduate and five graduate proposals carried over from the previous academic year. All approved unanimously without discussion.

VI. Old Business

Two items of old business were approved without discussion:

- A. [Policy 4275 - Deactivation, Reactivation, and Termination of Programs \(GAPC\)](#)
- B. [Policy 5070.3 – English Proficiency \(GAPC\)](#)

VII. New Business

There was no new business introduced.

VIII. Guest Speaker

Dr. Ganapathy turned the floor over to Vice Provost Bruce Mackh to give a presentation on the Academic Efficiency Effectiveness review process. He spoke about the makeup of the review and executive committees and about the committees' charge, including mission, outcomes, markets, and margins. Program will be placed into four categories as follows: 1) enhance; 2) maintain; 3) improve; and 4) close. Programs need to complete their reviews by October 6, 2023, which is a hard deadline. The report is due to the Provost on November 30, 2023 and to the Board of Trustees on December 14, 2023.

Questions from Senators included issues of perception with regard to retrenchment and program cuts and how these issues align with retention goals. A question was posed about rolling DFW rates into the data. Will they be siloed or combined?

In answer to these questions Dr. Mackh stated that they are not reviewing DFW rates and they are not looking at course completions, only program completions. He stated that he is aware of the stress caused by this review and how they tried as much as possible to conduct the review with compassion and caring. He stated that they are not making any decisions yes because it would be uniformed to do so. They are being deliberative and only making recommendations, not decisions.

Another question related to how the committees used information on retention, recruitment, and mental health. Were resources invested? Provost Thompson answer in context of the higher education landscape and pointed out that they are being extra deliberative and including shared governance, which is unique compared to other institutions doing similar reviews. She said that any program to be sunsetted with go through the shared governance process.

IX. Written Committee Reports and Minutes

1. [AY2022-23 Committee Minutes](#)
2. AY2023-24 Committee Minutes
(links pending submissions from committees)

X. Announcements

- A. [Celebration of Undergraduate & Graduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities](#)
 - a. Event scheduled for October 26, 2023 (all day) in the Student Union
 - b. Presenter registration closes September 30
- B. [Honorary Degree Nominations](#)
 - a. Initial nominations due by October 9
- C. [World Mental Health Day – October 10, 2023](#)

XI. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.
- B. The next meeting is scheduled for 2:30pm, Monday, October 30, 2023.