

Washburn University  
Meeting of the Faculty Senate  
September 16, 2024 at 3pm  
Meeting in Forum Room Hosted by FS Executive Committee

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approve minutes-
  - August 26, 2024 (pages 2-4)
- III. President's Opening Remarks
- IV. WUBOR/KBOR Update- Jim Schnoebelen
  - KBOR
  - WUBOR
- V. VPAA Update - Dr. John Fritch
- VI. Consent Agenda –
  - Faculty Senate Committee Reports-
  - University Committee Reports-
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business-
- IX. Information Items-
  - KBOR Math Pathways (Cook)
- X. Discussion Items-
  - Potential amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution (I.D.2.)  
Wagner/Schmidt (pg 5)
- XI. Announcements
- XII. Adjournment

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August 26, 2024 at 3pm  
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**Present:** Cook, Dahl, Davies, DeSota, Francis, Fritch, Hansen, Harnowo, Hartman, Heusi, Holt, Hu, Kay, Kendall-Morwick, Lambing, Lolley, Maxwell, Perret, Ricklefs, Schmidt, Schnoebelen, Scofield, Smith, Sneed, Steffen, Stevens, Toerber-Clark, Wagner, Williams

**Absent:** Dickinson, McHenry, Miller, Mosier

**Guests:** Broxterman, Holthaus, O'Neill, Wade, Worsley, Burdick, Rhadra (sp?)

- I. Call to Order at 3:02 pm
- II. Approve minutes- Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Kay. Motion approved unanimously.
  - April 29, 2024 (pages 2-3)
- III. President's Opening Remarks
  - Introductions of everyone in the room. (This was actually done just after the Call to Order.)
  - Point one – In the Constitution, there are the responsibilities of Faculty Senate, so make sure you look at them and fulfill them. Look ahead and see what is on the agenda and think about how it impacts your area before coming to meetings. Make sure you try to get feedback/communicate with your group. We are moving fast, so it can help people feel less overwhelmed if they know what is coming up. If you don't know how it might impact your area, ask Deans/Area Heads/etc. We will be continuing lunches this year so senators can stop by and ask how things work, give feedback, etc. Committee Assignments – ask if you have questions. Assume that we will be busy this year, so you will have the meetings.
  - Point two – There are lots of questions about process, so we want to have more discussion about that. This means we will be busy, and the committees will be working on some of this as well.
  - If you want to submit something that is non-curricular, please use the form attached to this agenda. Curricular items go through CourseLeaf. Wagner – just to note Senators can submit items and a few other paths, so not open to “anyone.”
  - Schmidt – The people who can submit are listed in the Constitution. Also, where are we on Standing Rules? (*Note from Secretary...with all the changes that were going through due to KBOR Gen Ed, Standing Rules got pushed off for the future.*)
  - Smith – If we have a committee assignment, will we get an email from the group? Ricklefs – For FAC and AAC you should receive an email from Provost's Office and you will select a chair at the first meeting. For other committees (outside FS), the chairs will reach out.
  - Scofield, information on the committees is up/available. You can reach out to the committee.

- Ricklefs – Everyone seems to be feeling rushed, low on time. We have more students which is exciting and a great thing, but it doesn't increase the number of hours in the day. Resources and Process are the two main themes that keep coming up.

#### IV. WUBOR/KBOR Update- Tonya Ricklefs

- KBOR – First meeting is in Sept – Cook: KBOR will have a math pathway, based on degree. Students will not be able to choose. Fall 25 is a pilot, Fall 26 is full start. Wagner – What about students who aren't sure of their major? Cook: That is a good question and Math faculty on KBOR have repeatedly asked this question. O'Neill – KBOR has had lots of conversations and is just starting to put our concrete information, and we will have LOTS of time to communicate. Glad you brought this up. Cook: KBOR committees have done their work over the summer, so this is new. Ricklefs – I am sure Faculty Senate Presidents will be tackling this as well. Jim and I will be at those meetings.
- WUBOR – Talked to Dr. Mazachek about the retreat this summer. There are several items they will bring forth this Fall, but we don't have details yet. Lots of the work was on Process.

#### V. VPAA Update - Dr. John Fritch

- Welcome back – Thanks for the work you do as Senators. This is the place where a good chunk of Shared Governance occurs. Keep me in line, unless it's not appropriate.
- We do have more students here this year! Big jumps in some areas (Education went from 40 to 90 majors!) How do we keep growing while making sure students have a place? How do we maintain being Washburn while we grow? We are having these types of conversations with leadership.
- Lots of structural reorganization this summer in our office. Michaela is in Leadership program now. A new person is coming at end of September and the position will be slightly redesigned (will be in office almost all the time, at front desk) to make the office more responsive. Melanie Worsley, Beth O'Neill, and Danny Wade's titles are now changed to Associate Provosts.
- Academic Review Process will hopefully get easier. (25 pages will now be the cap.) What happens to reviews? Want to have a short Annual Follow-up with departments (what are your 3-5 year goals), which may change with our growth. This is helpful in the Provost office for planning. Worked on salaries this summer – two places were really hurting. 1) Instructors need to make at least 50K/year when hired. 2) Full Professors were lagging and we made some adjustments here. We are close to our initial benchmarks that were set a few years ago. Now want to see what we can do next? A good thing about more students, we know where we can spend the money and the President agrees with that (ie Faculty/People).
- Working on Faculty Handbook – Changes that have been approved are now being put into place. Let me know if you see something that shouldn't be there.
- Time – more students means more effort/time. Service is a high expectation, takes time. Where is service important and where is it not? We never denied International Travel, so do we really need this committee? Can we remove that committee? I'm interested in those time savings, focus on where we

need lots of high-level input. Where can we “trust” Provost/Dean’s offices to manage and where do we need the input from Faculty?

- Lolley – We used to take students to Haiti and faculty travel was funded. Is that process being affected? Fritch – We are looking at that and making changes.
- Fritch – Grants ...We are a teaching campus. BUT there are still grants out there so that we can improve as a campus to make things better for our students.
- Schnoebelen -CUPA does it have standards for Adjunct pay or just full-time? Fritch – It is accurate for tenure-track/Assistant to Associate, but not as much when the time increases because it may not be able to track it. (Associate and Full are difficult, and the years at that level is not as obvious). Some areas are being paid much more. (Has to do with the market.) Cook – Is years of service something you are looking at for other areas? Fritch responded that there are many factors being considered and they are trying to take care of the biggest issues first.

VI. Consent Agenda –

- Faculty Senate Committee Reports- Moved by Cook, seconded by Lolley. Motion passes unanimously.
  - Graduate Council Minutes (April 1, 2024) (pg 4-5)
- University Committee Reports-

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business-

IX. Information Items-

- 2024 Faculty Senate Committee Assignments (pg 6-7)
- Faculty Senate Constitution (pg 8-15)
- Senate Agenda Template for Non-Curricular Items (pg 16)
- Pathway to WUBOR (pg 17) (*Note that Wagner sent out incorrect version first, so make sure you are looking at the version dated in July!*)

- X. Discussion Items- none today, but these are times to really discuss, bring items forward if you don’t really want anything that will be an “Action Item.” Schnoebelen – Can bring it up at the moment, correct? (Lolley, Schmidt: Yes). Not everyone wants their name attached to a discussion. Wagner – BUT if you can give an elected officer a head’s up if it might be a big issue so that we can set aside time for it.

XI. Announcements – None for today

XII. Adjournment at 3:45 pm

#### Discussion Item for Faculty Senate – Potential Amendment to the Constitution

The rewriting of the Faculty Senate Constitution was a multi-year process, but it was approved at General Faculty in April of 2023 to begin with the 23-24 academic year. Now that we have been using it, we are realizing some of the changes may need to be adjusted. For example, matters that automatically go forward to General Faculty.

#### 2005-2023 Constitution:

I.D. Any action by the Faculty Senate concerning changes in graduation requirements, new degrees, academic majors, or programs; elimination of existing degrees or major programs; or creation of new academic departments will be brought before the General Faculty for a vote.

#### 2024 – present Constitution:

I.D.2. Any action by the Faculty Senate concerning changes in university graduation requirements or creation of new academic departments will be brought before the General Faculty for a vote.

In the past, there have been some issues getting quorum at a General Faculty Meeting and thus, this step could have prevented changes in academic matters from going forward. However, there were some items last year that the Faculty Senate officers expected would go forward automatically and we had to vote specifically for them to move forward, which created some issues. We believe that this procedure should be looked at again by the Faculty Senate.