

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

Present: Cook, Dahl, Davies, DeSota, Dickinson, Francis, Fritch, Hansen, Harnowo, Heusi, Holt, Hu, Kendall-Morwick, Lambing, Maxwell, McHenry, Miller, Mosier, Perret, Schmidt, Schnoebelen, Scofield, Smith, Sneed, Steffen, Stevens, Toerber-Clark, Wagner, Williams

Absent: Hartman, Kay, Lolley, Ricklefs,

Guests: Broxterman, Grospitch, Holthaus, Hutchinson, O'Neill, Wade, Worsley, Burdick, Barrett, Erby

- I. Call to Order at 3:03 pm
- II. Approve minutes- Moved by Stevens, seconded by Steffen, motion passed unanimously.
 - August 26, 2024 (pages 2-4)
- III. President's Opening Remarks
 - Remember if you are member of senate, you must attend the meetings for committees you are on. FAC did not have quorum, so couldn't elect a chair. FAC and AAC are meeting next Monday.
- IV. WUBOR/KBOR Update- Jim Schnoebelen
 - KBOR – Schnoebelen will be attending a KBOR event on Thursday
 - WUBOR – met last week. Branding update was discussed, City of Topeka revitalization plan being discussed and funding measure. No real controversy. Information given at the Kickoff (Branding updates, etc) was given to BOR.
- V. VPAA Update - Dr. John Fritch
 - Later this week we will be getting out an agenda for the General Faculty Meeting. Currently the only item is electing a secretary that I know of. Have to meet early in the fall in case there is any pressing business.
 - Quality Initiative in the Fall. Project is selected by President, but will have a committee to screen projects. What is QIP – Required by HLC, as part of reaffirmation/reaccreditation to keep making campus better. Want entire campus and Tech represented. Looking for ideas (1st stage short proposals, small number will be selected for more in depth proposal) CTEL was last big project. Current ideas, standards for online courses, movement to Plass, AI, community involvement/Carnegie community involved campus, etc. No real desired outcome, but should tap into who we are. Steffen – These proposals could be academic/curricular/etc. Fritch – If it doesn't touch the academic side, that is a problem. Provost office will be in charge (J Ball). May combine proposals (100K set aside for it), depending on what the project is, given budget, etc. Lambing – When are initial proposals due? Fritch – not sure, but early November-ish. Encourage it to be larger than department/college/etc. Williams -Who can

submit it? (Individuals, Department, etc) Fritch – All of the above, but get buy in if you are submitting for a group.

- Some topics will be discussed soon. Getting good news from Modern Think and enrollment, about Sept 20th. Foundation Kick-Off happening around homecoming.

VI. Consent Agenda – none

- Faculty Senate Committee Reports-
- University Committee Reports-

VII. Old Business-

VIII. New Business-

IX. Information Items-

- KBOR Math Pathways (Cook) –
- Overview of initiative by KBOR – put together by K Erby
- Statewide initiative encompassing several things: no remedial math courses (MA090, 095, MA108), but co-req classes to give them additional support. (How do you study, background skills, reiteration of things)
- Standardized measures across the state
- Specific courses for particular programs (ie MA112/MA116), MA112 will be split into MA112 and MA1XX Elementary Stats.
- 4 models to choose from for the co-reqs (College Algebra with review, maybe a Co-req time to work on in Math Lab). Do we want different levels of co-req?
- Workgroups started last spring, most work done over the summer. Sets the scores for putting people in courses, Discipline-specific groups for gateway math courses. Cut scores are set (see presentation after minutes)
- Timeline – development this year, next year at least one section of each with co-req, AY27 full-scale launch.
- Must participate if we want full funding (something similar with English, but that is being worked on by them)
- Institutional decisions: Things like credit-hours and charges
- Wagner – What happens if the placement courses end up being too hard for students? Parachute courses?
- Steffen – How are we going to handle the extra costs. Don't want to put extra burden on our students.
- Cook/Fritch – We think it will be a 3 CH course, but students will get extra support time. Appreciate the concern people have for student success, don't want them to just get through a course, but also develop skills. Cook – very appreciative of the administrative position that we want to help students succeed/not put extra burden on them.
- Fritch - Math Department and Sarah have been really thoughtful about the math lab.
- Kendall-Morwick – Are there going to be resources students can work on BEFORE they get into class. Cook – not something we have considered, other than Pearson test.

- Wagner – Will there be a chance for exceptions? Cook - Can be approved by the new degree granting unit but can't just make it a fall swoop option for everyone in the College. They are trying to prevent College Algebra from being the standard for everything.
- Williams – What happens if they are coming from Native American School? What about transfers? Cook – They would have gone to High School, so we would have their GPA. Transfer students are just like we do now.

X. Discussion Items-

- Potential amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution (I.D.2.) Wagner/Schmidt (pg 5)
- Wagner Introduced by reading statement attached to the Agenda. The changes affected some of the movement of items forward last year, but we don't want to "automatically" change it back to how it was without thinking about it.
- Schmidt – What is role of Faculty Senate and what is role of General Faculty? Faculty Senate is the representative of General Faculty, so should have the ability to pass certain things. BUT some things are so large that maybe they should go forward. When is representation occurring?
- Cook -What is not going forward automatically? Wagner reread lists of items from before and current constitution.
- Steffen – What is purpose of this?
- Ian Smith – There is a perception that Faculty Senate didn't look carefully enough at the Bachelor of General Studies. Would like to point out a "new degree" should be put back in. Need to ask question about how we prevent something like this again.
- Steffen – Looking forward, may need to make sure we put steps in, but don't want to rush.
- Cook – appreciate minimizing what we need to do in General Faculty, and need for quorum, but think new degrees should go back in. Not just due to not having representation but may also cause program duplication.
- Williams – In the vein of adding these back in, but would like stipulations as to why/why not so that no one feels like they are being picked on. Try to compromise streamlining.
- Dickinson – Think about transparency, this helps some people feel like they know what is going on.
- Wagner – That is a reason for having things go forward to General Faculty.
- Miguel – Why are we not having quorum at General Faculty? What needs to be addressed? (Schnoebelen: 33% is what we need for General Faculty quorum)
- Schnoebelen – More classes are being taught which may make it more difficult for people to attend with this extra load.
- Schmidt - One other piece, Faculty Senate can vote to send things forward, some things have to go forward (as listed in the constitution),

twenty faculty can petition to put an item on the agenda. There are many options of getting items put forward.

- Schnoebelen – Assign this part of the constitution to FAC, and then bring us a proposal.
- Dickinson – Do we have a representative from general faculty?
Schnoebelen – No, since we are all members.

XI. Announcements

- Barrett – Grad fair is coming up and we are asking departments to participate. (See announcement attached.)
- Cook: Lots of students wanting to discuss their academic plan for WU101, will be advising again in 2 weeks. Is there any way to align the two better? (Steffen: SAS is hoping a big meeting will help where students can come (ex 10 am-1 pm). Then they should just have to get PINs to students). Holt will report back to unit, but mentioned Steve Hageman is the FYE contact and Megan Smedjer is in charge of advising. Dickinson – Did SAS create an event to handle WU101? (Steffen: No)
- Cook: Ichabod Statue has varying shades of skin tone (Courtyard of Union). Very proud Washburn is doing this.
- Eric Grospitch – Family Weekend – The great DuBois, a 2-person circus show, no free lunch this year, \$10 for alumni.
- 7 pm next Tues 24th – Russ Jacobs lecture (BTAC)
- Fritch – Thanks for all the work you are doing with Shared Governance. Two quick stories about student success: SON – student who failed for 1st year, got student in correct group to help diagnose issues, etc but graduated as top student in class. Second: After Kickoff for 100th Birthday party for Art museum, ran in for a drink. The guy at counter talked about how his major advisor got him an internship that will turn into the career and his microbiology adviser helped him earn an A. These stories show the impact of faculty on our students' lives.

XII. Adjournment at 4:03