

Washburn University
Meeting of the Faculty Senate
December 2, 2024 at 3pm
Meeting in Forum Room Hosted by FS Executive Committee

Present: Cook, Dahl, Davies, DeSota, Dickinson, Francis, Fritch, Gonzalez-Abellas, Harnowo, Hartman, Heusi, Holt, Hu, Kendall-Morwick, Lambing, Lolley, Miller, Ricklefs, Schmidt, Smith, Sneed, Steffen, Stevens, Toerber-Clark, Wagner,

Absent: Hansen, Kay, Maxwell, Mosier, Perret, Schnoebelen, Scofield, Williams

Guests: Bailes, Broxterman, Holthaus, Wade, Worsley, Wood

- I. Call to Order at 3:02
- II. Approve minutes- Moved by Ricklefs, seconded by Miller. Motion passes
 - November 18, 2024 (page 2)
- III. President's Opening Remarks
 - Appreciate everyone showing up for the shared governance presentation (*November 18, 2024*). It was recorded if someone needs to look at it down the road. Washburn is being very proactive. There will be a quick push to get these policies put into place this spring.
 - Will likely not have our meeting on December 9th (since no items have come forward at this time.) Have until Tuesday to receive items. Question by Lolley about the By-laws? Ricklefs – that conversation is happening later on the Agenda today.
 - Greatly appreciate everyone's work. I do want to hear the comments (Many people start with "no one wants to hear this" but all comments help us.) Want to highlight that communication from Provost office has been great.
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- IV. WUBOR/KBOR Update- Tonya Ricklefs
 - KBOR – Most of this is focused on Math, have missed many of these meetings due to class.
 - WUBOR – This Thursday. VERY full. Meeting with Dr. M on Tuesday. President Mazachek asked if people from Senate will be there. Even though we can't say anything this meeting, still likes Faculty Senate presence.
- V. VPAA Update - Dr. John Fritch
 - Need to leave early today for the Sibberson Reception. Great recognition on our campus.
 - First – continuing to work on moves for Henderson. Think we have offices for all departments (not down to the person), but hope to communicate final arrangements in early spring since you have to move out right after spring semester. Each Faculty Member will get 3 boxes for the move, but can get more. Won't have the same shelf space as you have now.

- Faculty Handbook will meet this week. Charged with handling the issues for non-tenured folks and we are starting on that now. No guarantees for finishing this spring, but moving forward. Also working on Lecturers and Program Review process.
 - Working on Shared Governance Policy. Hope you trust that she (*President Mazachek*) and I believe in this, but a policy will put guardrails up for the future.
 - Commencement on Friday 13th.
- VI. Consent Agenda – Moved to accept by Cook and seconded by Stevens. Schmidt – should we retract student names and information. Yes – Wagner will work with provost's office. (Broxterman). Motion passes with amendment of retracting.
- Faculty Senate Committee Reports-
 - University Committee Reports-
 - General Education Committee Minutes (10-1-2024) (pages 3-5)
- VII. Old Business
- 25-5 BEd in Middle Grades STEM (Steffen) (pages 6-8)
 - Moved to approve by Cook, seconded by Miller. Steffen – just replacing one class with another since first class no longer exists. Motion passes (Schmidt: Does not have to go forward to General Faculty since this is a small change.)
 - 25-6 BCJ Forensic Investigation Sciences Emphasis (Memmer) (pages 9-11)
 - Motion to approve by Steffens, seconded by Lolley – Memmer not here, but just a change in a physics class (which is no longer taught). Motion passes, does not need to go forward to General Faculty since this is a small change.
- VIII. New Business-
- IX. Information Items-
- X. Discussion Items-
- ADIC Committee Status (Wagner) (*Moved to top of the list since Dr. Fritch may need to leave early.*) – Teresa Leslie-Canty email
 - Fritch – two committees belong to Provost's office. One is for leadership. One is ADIC. Looking for times to meet, but also wanted to look at the charge, legislation coming up AND the election in November will likely change how we talk about things in our country. Wanted to make sure we know where things stand before we make any changes in wording/work so that we can address concerns and make sure we can keep our work for our students going.
 - Lolley – We don't require a SS number to apply to WU, correct? (Bearman, no not required.) I've had students come in, but I can't even get them into the program because I can't get them through the background check if they don't have a number. (This is likely true for many health care fields.) Something to think about for these committees.

- DeSota – is there an anticipated timeline? Fritch – I’ve asked Ann to find us a time. Leadership will meet first, the ADIC hopefully in early spring.
 - Ricklefs – Language for these committees is important because different programs have accreditation standards, which need to be considered as well.
- Alan Bearman – Plass Renovations
 - I don’t really have a presentation but do have directory that we have put out. The renovation has been an adventure. We are nearing the end of Phase I, about 2 months behind schedule. Students are finding us, Coffeeshop is almost finished. Today we do have another leak. (Bailes notes that the water may be turned off tomorrow). Have some hot spots and cold spots today.
 - Lolley – We have lots of problems with mold in Benton and therefore respiratory issues. One of the faculty members said Plass employees have had an increase in respiratory issues. Are they doing testing? (Bearman –This is the first I’ve heard about this, but we have tested.) Schmidt – What was the rush getting into Plass? Bearman – Had to move so that Mabee could be done, so Bennett can move into there, so money from state is spent on the project. Lolley – Washburn had one million (*in State money*) that had to be used. Radiology has lots of construction issues (to protect people). Ricklefs – we (in Bennett) have unofficially had to shuffle people due to mold, so hoping to move as quickly as possible. Bearman – We tried to do a year’ s worth of work in 6 months, and almost pulled it off. Miller –Does Plass have the same entrances? Bearman – No have reduced some of the smaller entrances due to use, but primary entrances are still there. Lambing – How has the team/administration learned from this and documented challenges to help avoid them in future renovations? Bearman - Can’t avoid everything, but we have done a good job of trying to make notes. Probably won’t try to do another schedule this quickly. Cook – Appreciative it (Plass) opened, since I don’t know where I would have held two full classes. Bearman – This is first phase, so we still have phases II and III. It is fair to say we appreciate the patience of those who moved in. Lolley – On 4th floor are these book stacks? Bearman – Yes. We will have an open house in the Spring, ran out of time now. Lambing – Can I make a recommendation – A reminder that some of the offices don’t automatically lock and FERPA could be an issue. Wagner – Will there be maps at the entrances so people can find their way? Bearman - Yes
- Input on Draft Board Policy (pages 12-18) (Holthaus/Mazachek)
 - Holthaus – The summary is as the Board is revising their By-Laws, some things are being moved to WUPRM (to govern University) and others staying in By-Laws (to govern the board). This policy is

before you as a second reading since Faculty Affairs looked at this a couple of weeks ago.

- Ricklefs – She (President Mazachek) is truly going to take our comments forward, but we don't have official say in the By-Laws for the Board.
- Smith – At the bottom of pg. 18 “Added prestige.... Should be morale vs moral” Holthaus – This is in the language (written in 40's), so this is in context. If you feel like it should be changed, I can take that forward. General sense is morale makes more sense... (Holthaus – Maybe a typo in the original language.) Wagner – Anything that makes the statement clearer in today's language is a positive thing. Holthaus – Maybe change Lustre (to give distinction to, makes them brilliant and shiny) to a current synonym perhaps. Moral vs Morale is a bigger deal than Lustre.
- Schmidt – 3b2 – Talks about General Faculty has the ability to transmit.... Does this list limit the voice of the faculty? Miller – as I read the language “matters including” , the word including is not limiting language. In part dealing with Academic Freedom, it is very clear for teaching and research, but not for service. Should it include Service? (Thinking Faculty Senate) (Lolley - This could matter in service outside the university) Miller- Would be nice if it could be as broad and open as possible. Lambing – Did service show up in any more board policies? Holthaus – Think this is from AAUP. The good thing about board policy is that is just takes one meeting to change it, if we want to take time to really research this. Academic Freedom is generally meant to cover teaching. If you are doing something as employees, then we are all on the same page. None of us have any extra protection as an employee. We get into first amendment issues. If we want to address this, we need to research that. Miller – Don't think you meant to say this, but are you meaning to say Academic Freedom is not a first amendment issue? Holthaus – No, that is not what I intended to say. Lolley – So just to clarify, if we are educating a student committee, then we would be protected. H - possibly.. Fritch – Since we have three pillars, then it would be nice if Academic Freedom covered all areas, but I can see where service can become more difficult because of the range of service. I do think they are interrelated, and can't really separate. Holthaus – I agree. As Lolley mentioned, it would require some analysis of the situation. Cook – If we look at the original language, I think Academic Freedom should cover... Schmidt – Some of this came from non-tenured people feeling like maybe they can't speak out at meetings (ie Faculty Senate) since they don't know if they have protection. Ricklefs – We did an anonymous sticky note exercise last year to provide a chance to give feedback. Wade – AAUP covers teaching, research, and intramural speech, speaking/writing as a citizen,...does not include service per se.

Fritch – that makes sense because the intramural speech is important. Thinking the work with the student group probably has less protection (based on courts). Done research on Ward Churchill. The courts have moved to very narrow view of Academic Freedom. Board Policy gives quite a bit of protection. Miller – by not including intramural speech, The Board is suggesting that it does not cover these areas. We want to protect more than what courts in America might protect. Should have something paralleling AAUP on speech. Schmidt - Is this 1940s/1980s language that was copied over? New language might address this. Wade – looks like section C addresses this. Miller - think that doesn't really give the faculty member protection, but adds responsibilities. Cook – earlier it does say when Faculty Member speaks as an individual.... Wagner – just to clarify that if there is more research required and changes don't go in this Thursday, we can still look for potential changes in the future. CH – Yes.

XI. Announcements

- Bailes: Holiday Party is Dec 10th – please RSVP If you are having an Open House, please send to me, so we can get it on official calendars.
- CTEL Winter Social tomorrow
- It is time to be thinking about elections for next year. Think about people you want to recruit and start talking to them. Also time to think about officers, so please come ask questions. (Wagner's term is over.) Holt – Who lets us know which terms are up, which positions will need to be filled? Election Committee. Carson Kay is still on committee, but Amanda Hartman is going to chair this year.
- Cook – Did all tags on the tree in Plass get picked up? Yes, they did. BUT if people still want to participate, talk to Wagner.

XII. Adjournment