

Washburn University General Faculty Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 1 at 3:30pm

Location: Hurd Recital Hall

- I. Call to Order at 3:35 pm President Mazachek
- a. Approximately 99 faculty in attendance (more may have arrived after the headcount).
- II. Approval of Minutes from April 30, 2025 (pp. 2-4) President Mazachek
- Moved by and seconded – motion approved unanimously
- III. Remarks President Mazachek
- Enrollment in up again for this academic year. We have approximately eight thousand students when all categories are counted (CEP, WUTech, Corrections, Undergrad, Graduate, Law). Undergraduates on Washburn central campus comprise the largest group (4800).
 - There are three finalists for Strategic Enrollment Management, with visits occurring October 6-8.
 - Long Term Financial Sustainability through Data: This should enable us to have meaningful, timely information to make strategic decisions and get the best value with the dollars we have. President Mazachek explained we have already determined key investment areas, how this works at Washburn, and how we can use the metrics to communicate what is happening at Washburn. Going forward, there are two main goals. The first is building the Business Information Framework which involves getting accurate data about student success, financial reporting and similar metrics. The second goal is to build the capacity to make good use of the information gathered in the first goal. This will be important to make sure the data is accessible to anyone who needs to make decisions. Open and accurate data should increase transparency and trust. The project leads are Provost Fritch, VPAT Lee and Cynthia Holthaus. There will also be a variety of working groups (Academic Deans, Data Stewards (Data Management, Registrar, HR, Finance), and Unit Liaisons (Super users of data like Deans and Chairs). There will be regular communication about this development with the first version of data available next June. A report about Data Ecosystem Review and Recommendations which will cover data systems/data governance should be out by the end of the semester.
 - Discussion turned to the types of data (Institutional Metrics, Program Metrics, Department Metrics involving student retention, when do we count people as part of a major, etc.) and how that could be used in developing a culture of data-based decision making. Concerns about how the data might be used were brought up, particularly for small programs. Dr. Mazachek reassured people that the main goal is to get good data, not removal small programs. Because we are doing so well right now, this is a good time to gather the data (rather than being in the position of having to make tough decisions.) When asked for examples of how the data might be used, Dr. Mazachek mentioned determining needs for classroom space, faculty etc. based on trends. (If average class sizes have decreased from 32 to 18 or increased from 25 to 38, what caused this....? What do we want to do in response? Is this what we want?) People can look at these numbers so that we hold each other accountable. Things are not broken, but the data should help us get better. Talk with your Deans if you have concerns, so that they will be brought forward.
 - Shared Governance: President Mazachek showed members of the committee and announced a survey that will be coming out in January. Faculty should make sure they fill it out so that we can make sure we get good input for decisions.

- Town Halls on October 20th and 21st will talk about campus in terms of demolition, building, remodeling, the new energy saving plan and ESCO project. There has been quite a bit done already and more is left to be done.
- There will be a celebration for another year of increased enrollment on October 8th.

IV. Business

Provost Fritch

- Discussion Items
 - New ADA Title II Compliance

Dr. Ju-Yu Chang

 - Dr. Chang noted that this is not a business item that we would vote on; it is the law. She emphasized that these changes are helpful for all students, even if they don't need accessibility. These regulations will help us remove barriers for students. All materials on D2L will need to be ADA compliant (Captioning, transcripts, documents need to be structured so assistive technology can read.) The goal is to help people make progress and learn about the tools. CTCL is offering workshops to learn more about it, especially during Accessibility Week (end of October) to help people know how to use Yu-Ju-Rama on D2L. Self-paced modules will also be available to guide you in making these documents. Sue and Ju-Yu can help you. Multiple questions were raised about how soon everything needed to be done and what support is available. The important thing is to start changing the material you are creating for Spring 2026 courses and focus on higher enrollment courses/high impact forms.
- Informational Items
 - FS Agenda Item 26-2
 - Modifications to catalog reflecting Kansas Math Pathways, a component of the Kansas Systemwide General Education framework (2026-27 forward) (pp. 5-12)

Beth O'Neill – Catalog pages included in your agenda show the changes that were made (red is changes). The required course is no longer MA112 or higher. Instead each program has its own "gateway course" (MA112, MA116, or an Intro Stats course). The catalog language has been changed to clarify this. There is also a link to show the gateway courses and other components about placement scores, (regular course or a course with a co-requisite for extra support at the same time as the class.) There are still things changing to get codes correct in Banner, etc. This is effective Fall 2026 (started Spring 2023). Sarah Cook worked on many groups/math faculty to design these new course/advisors to learn how to advise. (BIG THANKS!!)
 - Provost Fritch acknowledged many people in working with KBOR (Melanie Burdick, Carolyn Carlson, Sarah Cook) which seems to have resulted in us getting good support. He mentioned the School of Business had an accreditation visit and he hopes to have a party when results are back. Dr. Wiard wrote a grant proposal and got a perfect score, so we will be receiving the grant when the Government comes back to work. Finally, Eric McHenry just got a book contract from Oxford Press.

V. Announcements

President Mazachek

- A variety of announcements were made about upcoming events in the next few weeks
- Apeiron is April 17th, 2026

VI. Adjournment

President Mazachek

Moved and seconded to adjourn at 4:36 pm Motion passes