

## Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

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### Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Meeting Monday, October 14, 2024 -- 3:15pm (In Person: WAB 227)

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**Present:** R. Ayers, S. Flenner, S. Kurtz, E. Kondratieff, R. Fischer, S. Bonis, M. McKerral, D. Smith (parliamentarian), M. Pruitt, K. Smith, A. Mienaltowski (for A. Jerome), S. Riehn, K. Schifferdecker, S. Bonis, S. Spiller, S. Kurtz

**Guests:** R. Hale, J. Hammonds

A. Approve minutes of previous month's SEC Meeting:

1. Approval of [SEC Meeting Minutes, 9.9.24](#)

1<sup>st</sup>: Pruitt/2<sup>nd</sup> Flenner, motion passes (unanimous)

B. Officer Reports

1. [Chair - Mac McKerral \(Report Posted\)](#)

Handbook committee will meet on Thursday, needs a chair.

2. Vice Chair - Dan Clark

No report

3. Secretary - Sarah Bonis

No report

C. Standing Committee Reports:

Motion to bundle and approve reports

1<sup>st</sup>:Pruitt/2<sup>nd</sup>:Ayers, motion passes (unanimous)

1. Academic Quality, Tracy Jenkins (Chair): (No Report)

2. Budget and Finance, Eric J. Kondratieff (Chair): (Report Posted)

a. [9-5-24](#)

b. [10-3-24](#)

3. Colonnade/General Education, Angie Jerome (Chair): (Report Posted)

a. [9-3-24](#)

b. [10-1-24](#)

4. [Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Stephanie Riehn \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

5. [Graduate Council, Jeremy Logsdon \(Chair\): \(Report posted\)](#)

6. [Graduate Council Curriculum Committee, Whitley Stone \(Chair\) \(Report Posted\)](#)

7. [Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Shelia Flener \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

8. Faculty Handbook, Needs a chair (Chair): (No Report)

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. American Association of University Professors (AAUP)

2. Budget Executive Committee (BEC) ([See Chair's Report](#))

3. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL)

4. ONE WKU, Molly Kerby (Chair)

E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller

1<sup>st</sup> committee meeting of semester on Friday, agenda sent out this week.

Shane reminded of how to access reports on agenda by clicking the title of the committee which is a hyperlink. Academic affairs committee has a fairly light agenda (emeritus appointments, information items RE: renaming's, etc.), a student group is presenting.

There is a review from Budget & Finance regarding the external audit report which is ~200 pages. This mentions a renewal of our 10mil line of credit which is just an emergency line of credit if we need it. We haven't used that in Shane's time at WKU, but keep it as insurance. Personnel actions is lengthy because it includes all of the one-time payments through this past summer.

Board of regents bylaws are being worked on.

Internal audit office is a function that reports to the board, they had an external audit and got a great, flying recommendation but did have some suggestions. Bruce is presenting as part of an internal audit report.

Discussion of meeting schedule for WKU board of regents, this has been a discussion and they have looked at what other institutions do on board's schedules – e.g., committee meetings in AM and quarterly in PM. Shane says that they are sometimes doing the same work twice, they meet once and then again several weeks/months later – discussion item. Considering the schedule and timing.

## 2. Provost, Robert "Bud" Fischer

Associate Vice Provost for Research position posted in next week and will be filled early in the spring.

Tomorrow is Dr. Genova on campus at 6:30 for Presidents seminar series.

This is the last week for VSIP decisions.

BEC is determining how to allocate the 2% pool and sent the recommendation to the President.

SACSCOC visit 3/9-3/13.

QEP is on the graduate profile (skillsets that we hope students have when they leave WKU, KY graduate profile), still working on that.

Provost's additional areas of interest/priorities to partner with faculty: health & wellness, disability/accessibility, mentorship of JR faculty, how we incentivize interdisciplinary programs.

Question from Pruitt – RE inclement weather policy and RE calendar for Thanksgiving time – will look at both.

Mac question RE: change in CAD invitation – answer: only item was RE: reupping recruitment and not necessary to talk with all.

## 3. SGA President, Sam Kurtz

Sam is also student regent on board of regents.

SGA updates: small scale – event on Thursday - 2<sup>nd</sup> year - Pink walk for raising awareness for breast cancer. Speakers who are survivors or family members, alumni and former employees speaking.

Overall legislative update – events to raise money for Potter Children's, food drive occurring in November, current drive for school supplies for Jennings Creek - \$800 donated in supplies so far, delivering to them on Friday.

Scholarships are open for students to apply. Any student can apply to any scholarship, simple application process.

Awarded 50 organizations with organizational aid (part of budget of SGA directly gives back to RSOs, giving to as many as possible, but smaller amounts).

Veterans Drive 5K redoing to donate back to ROTC.

Taught new senators how to write legislation.

Discussed student perspective on finals week/thanksgiving break (80% angry, 20% pumped).

F. Old Business:

G. New Business:

1. Approval: Dan Clark to serve as a faculty representative on the BEC, replacing Mac McKerral

1<sup>st</sup>: Pruitt/2<sup>nd</sup>: Kondratieff, discussed Dan's expertise, motion passes (unanimous)

H. Additional Updates/Announcements:

Update from Robin Ayers – can also give Martha Sales those gift cards that you don't want and she uses those very intentionally to support students in need.

Discussion of student need at WKU: Provost Fischer shared average family income for a WKU student is somewhere around 56/57K per year, UK is 120K per year. student perspective – will lose upper/high end of income because they will pick fancy dorms at UK

Benefits committee rep (Eric K.) – committee did recommend a modest increase in premiums 2 years ago but there was no raise in premiums because administration was nervous about faculty morale. Was a flat rate increase last year; benefits committee did vote for a change – recommended a different percentage for administration and for faculty and staff, that was rejected and President's council approved premiums that are there now; R. Hale asked if the committee ever puts together a report that could be shared prior to open enrollment just for context for others. Eric will look at that.

I. Motion to adjourn: 1<sup>st</sup>: Ayers/2<sup>nd</sup>: Pruitt, motion passes (unanimous)