

## Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda

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**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 21, 2024 -- 3:45 p.m.**  
**IN PERSON**  
**Senate Chambers - DSU 2081**

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Present: S. Herbert, K. Smith, J. Logsdon, S. Flener, M. Peterson, T. Jenkins, K. Neelly, M. Crowder, J. Maddox, J. Lindsay (for J. Erickson), M. Pruitt, C. Trojan, M. Reece, S. Scali, R. Ayers, D. Clark, P. Gunter, D. Strunk, J. Stewart, M. Yates, A. Jerome, Y. Petkus, M. Salvator, S. Pollatsek, B. Elliott, C. Basham, K. Schmaltz, L. Plumlee, P. Todd, B. Thomas, S. Riehn, M. Travelsted, D. Boamah, A. Mienaltowski, A. Wichman, K. Schifferdecker, T. Seguin, S. Bonis, S. Spiller, B. Fischer, M. McKerral

Guests: J. Klemm, B. Laves, D. Kelley, R. Hale, J. Hammonds

**A. Approval of previous months Senate Meeting:**

1. [Faculty Senate Minutes 10-24-24](#)

1<sup>st</sup> Ayers/2<sup>nd</sup> Jerome; motion passes (unanimous)

**B. Officer Reports**

1. Chair - Mac McKerral

Mental health remains a priority and SEC discussed and will keep working with other groups on campus to move forward.

Dan Clark (Vice Chair) will run December meeting, Mac reminded about timelines of submitting reports. There is a seat open on university benefits advisory committee (4-year term, doesn't have to be a senator).

Noted that according to the DoE, nearly 31% of public-school students were

chronically absent 2021-2022 (now the students we have in our classes).

We all owe our students respect – it is an obligation that we have at every level. Therefore, encourages a recharge over break and that we come back with mountains of respect for our students (we will get that respect back and strengthen our community).

Meeting with President is rescheduled.

2. Vice-Chair - Dan Clark

Still some committee spots that need to be filled, can see on a website.

3. Secretary - Sarah Bonis (No report)

C. Standing Committee Reports:

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

2. Budget and Finance, Eric Kondratieff (Chair): (No Report)

3. [Colonnade/General Education, Angie Jerome \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to approve: 1<sup>st</sup> Jerome; motion passes (unanimous)

4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Stephanie Riehn (Chair): (No Report)

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

Motion to approve: 1<sup>st</sup> Logsdon; motion passes (unanimous)

a. [Graduate Council Policy Committee](#)

Motion to approve: 1<sup>st</sup> Logsdon; motion passes (unanimous)

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

Motion to approve: 1<sup>st</sup> Logsdon; motion passes (unanimous)

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

Move to action – pull the certificate for substance abuse professional and send it back to UCC, the rest of report stands to be approved, proponent would like to review the name on the title of the certificate: 1<sup>st</sup> Flener/2<sup>nd</sup> Jerome; motion passes (unanimous)

8. Faculty Handbook, Julie Shadoan (Chair): (No Report)

#### D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
2. Budget and Executive Committee (BEC)
3. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL)
4. ONE WKU, Molly Kerby (Chair)

#### E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller

In between meetings with the board, will meet on 12/5. The agenda will come out and meeting will occur before Senate meets again. Doesn't appear to be significant changes from previous committee meetings. However, there is a new board schedule that will likely come up for discussion in this BOR meeting. It would change away from 8 meetings/year. Meeting schedule would be modified to help budget & finance staff not have to stop what they are doing to prepare documents for BOR, and to ensure that all meetings are required/meaningful. Currently, there is not always something new from committee to quarterly meeting.

Shane took time to explain his role as Faculty Regent. He is elected by faculty to be the faculty voice to the board. Has a fiduciary responsibility to faculty, staff, students, and ongoing institution; report to the governor. Ongoing health of the institution requires Shane to consider all of those stakeholders. Bring the day-to-day perspective of faculty to the board. As a strategic management professor, he is always thinking through long-range planning (leadership, ethics professor, too). Many of the board members were at the alumni awards, at homecoming – the alumni talked about a specific faculty member each time they had an opportunity to tell their story of WKU and their success in the world. That is the 'why' that we all have – the intrinsic motivation we all have, making a difference in that student's life. The day-to-day operations are of central importance and it matters so that we can serve students.

Reminder that the Provost is over academic affairs (and faculty) so he is our person and remember that he is the right one that we go to for many of our concerns.

2. Provost, Robert "Bud" Fischer

BEC recommendation was approved, 2% across the board.

Dept. of Labor item regarding the exempt status based on salary/overtime has been held up in court, waiting to see if it sticks.

ESE realignment is going well. Marketing has become centralized, SARC will be moving to OIE (office of institutional equity, as it relates to legal requirements).

2025 budget conversations are happening, kick off of the 26 budget to start thinking about putting everything together in the spring.

SJR 170 (feasibility study) with CPE today – will the state allow an R2, and will they allow PhDs outside of Louisville and UK? Only board of CPE today, will go to full CPE next week, and then go the legislature sometime in the near future. It is in legislation that UK and UofL are only ones that can have PhDs. KY doesn't have any R2s currently. CPE also discussed a vet school at Murray and OP school at EKU.

SACSCOC – received comments back, will be shared in December. There is a short turnaround time and those responses go back in January. QEP is on the docket, being worked on, due in January; would move us into the next 10-year reaffirmation schedule.

Working on solving Thanksgiving into finals and break issue for the calendar.

### 3. SGA President, Sam Kurtz

Has had a great semester, 21 pieces of legislation passed including some resolutions and some bills.

Referenced student deaths and SGA is doing a lot of work internally and externally to address concerns related to student mental health.

Freshman elections – 21 ran (indicates a high interest in serving).

Had \$10,700 and spent roughly 61% this semester - on track.

Annie (senior in EEd) gave a summary of her resolution regarding mandatory annual school safety training for faculty and staff. Reminded to attend SEC to have resolution put on agenda.

## F. Old Business:

G. New Business:

H. Informational Items:

1. [Faculty Welfare meeting Oct. 25, 2024](#)

2. [Campus Shootings Research](#)

A. Wichman shared with Senate. The summary is considering risk vs. fear driven behaviors.

I. Items for the Benefit of the Body:

J. Motion to Adjourn

1<sup>st</sup> Flener/2<sup>nd</sup> Jerome, motion passes (unanimous)