

## WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

### Regular Meeting,

**SENATORS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:** E. Hamner, J. Hancks, K. Wiseley

**SENATORS ABSENT:** B. McDonald

**EX-OFFICIO:** Krista Bowers Sharpe, Parliamentarian; Interim Provost Mark Mossman

**GUESTS:** Andrea Alveshere, Dan Atherton, Tom Blackford, Amy Burke, Amy Carr, Sol Cat, Gin Choi, Craig Conrad, Sean Cordes, Gloria Delany-Barmann, Dennis DeVolder, Hunt Dunl, Holz, Rob Kelly, Rick Kuracz, Sarah Lawson, Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Jennifer McKenzie, Holly Nikels, Lorette Oden, Katherine Perone, Kaycee Petermann, Renee Polubinsky, Linda P, Pynes, Pam Rockwood, Dan Schmidt, Victoria Smith, Anna Valeva, Alisha White, Karen Zell

### I. Consideration of Minutes

- A. April 23, 2024
- B. April 30, 2024
- C. May 28, 2024
- D. July 10, 2024
- E. July 25, 2024

The minutes were all approved as distributed.

### II. Announcements

#### A. Provost's Report

Interim Provost Mossman recognizes that it is hot across the campuses, and the buildings' air conditioning units are strained. He is meeting tomorrow with Facilities Management to get more information on the situation, but he is not hopeful that Horrabin Hall will be coming back online quickly because it may be a long-term issue. He understands that the damage to the Horrabin chillers was caused by a lightning strike, which is something that can be specifically addressed rather than trying to get parts from other campus chillers. He said at this time Horrabin cannot achieve above a certain percentage of cold air in the building, so in the meantime the deans have helped to reschedule classes usually held in that building into other locations. Interim Provost Mossman related that Malpass Library is adjusting its hours due to the heat while its air conditioning unit is being repaired.

#### B. Student Government Association Report – None

Senator Albarracin remarked that SGA is in the process of selecting a representative. Chair Robinett meets with SGA President Emir Miranda on Friday. He thinks Mr. Miranda may join Faculty Senate meetings as his schedule allows.

#### C. Faculty Senate Chair's Report

Chair Robinett expressed a desire to communicate with Faculty Senate about those things that he does outside of the meetings. He noted that one thing it is important to recognize is that many situations currently being seen at WIU have been experienced at the institution before. He recalled that when he began at WIU in 2014, he took that year to get his feet under him, then started attending Faculty Senate meetings in 2015 when Christopher Pynes was Chair. In a short PowerPoint, he highlighted what the Senate's Constitution, the Board of Trustees (BOT) procedures, and a variety of other documents say about what responsibilities are delegated to Faculty Senate and its councils and committees. He thought that as the Senate counc2 (u)2 ((a)11.9.2 (e)-1.6 (t(6 (en)12.9)12.9 (at1 (i)-2.6 3t)-2.6 (t

university.

others will come forward over the course of the semester. He noted that over the past two weeks he has had rather a full calendar trying to figure out some of these different things.

Senator Albarracin related there was a request last year to populate the ERP Task Force; she was placed on it but never heard from anyone about it. Chair Robinett said the task force meets once a month, but he thinks that with Mr. Kain's duties being reassigned some of those meetings have been shifted around. He anticipates that Senator Albarracin will hear more from them as they get ready to move forward. He thinks the next meeting is September 11.

1. Motion Regarding Zoom Attendance

*Whereas the Western Illinois University Faculty Senate is subject to the requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act; and*

*Whereas Section 5 ILCS 120/7 outlines the procedures for attendance by means other than physical presence; and*

*Whereas, once a quorum of the members is physically present, a majority of the body may allow members of the body to attend by other means if they cannot physically attend because of personal illness or disability, employment purposes or the business of a public body, a family or other emergency, or unexpected childcare obligations;*

*Be it resolved that for the 2024-2025 academic year, once a quorum of the members is physically present, senators who have notified the Acting Secretary or Parliamentarian of their wish to attend by other means shall be allowed to attend remotely.*

Senators Albarracin, Turkelli, Elbe, Melkumian, and Brewer volunteered to serve on this committee which collects data for the evaluation of the president and provost. Senator Brewer will serve as the Executive Committee representative.

- b. Provost's Advisory Council (three senators for one-year terms)

Interim Provost Mossman stated that this council meets monthly. He said it is a

Dr. Carr said the next meeting is in September, and while she does not know what this year's working groups will be, last year they were on higher education funding, artificial

Dr. Atherton related the BTC was told that the university does not make calculations that includes the income generated by tuition, which Dr. Atherton thinks is rather strange and worth exploring. He encourages the new BTC to work through the data the previous one collected and to use their list of suggestions, included in their report, this year.

Dr. Atherton said his suggestions include for the BTi4ion B.2 (r)-4I(o)2 ( t)-2.6 (ak)12.9 (ea( m)19.1 (o) cau theFhas t

(Dan Schmidt, Chair, 2024-2025)

1. Annual Report (Dan Schmidt, Chair, 2023-2024)

Mr. Schmidt reported that CCPU met once a month throughout the academic year so that faculty representatives could learn about current campus projects as well as upcoming projects from Facilities Mbo



level to 100-level. He added that last year's activities were lighter than the previous year on the council.

### **NO OBJECTIONS TO THE REPORT**

F. Council for Instructional Technology (CIT)  
(Andrea Alveshere, Chair, 2024-2025)

1. Annual Report (Rebel Mickelson, Chair, 2023-2024)

Ms. Mickelson reported that last year CIT rewrote their bylaws and policies and procedures to include a new AI subcommittee. CIT last year invited former University Technology CIO Greg Kain as well as Dawn Sweet and Ian Szechowycz from University Technology to speak to the council. They also heard a report from Michael Lorenzen and Everett Hamner, who co-chaired the Faculty Senate's ad hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence.

### **NO OBJECTIONS TO THE REPORT**

G. Council on Intercollegiate Athletics (CIA)  
(Todd Lough, Chair, 2024-2025)

1. Annual Report (Jeff Hancks, Chair, 2023-2024)

Dr. Hancks informed senators that historically CIA focuses on the number of classes students must miss in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics, and this year students missed fewer classes, primarily due to the university's move to the Ohio Valley Conference. He noted that this conference requires less distant travel for students so they can be away and nh6 (ed)2 ( ( b)

## NO OBJECTIONS TO THE REPORT

### I. Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID) Council (TBD, Chair, 2023-2024)

#### 1. Annual Report (Anna Valeva, Chair, 2023-2024)

Dr. Valeva reported that the council's discussions were dominated by the rapid development, use, and misuse of artificial intelligence as it applies to WID courses. She related that this motivated the council's revision of the existing course review policy. She said they felt there should be consistency in moving all courses forward, which is why they modified the previous policy to require review of all sections of WID courses and all syllabi, not only for the current but also those for the previous semester.

Dr. Valeva reported that the council did not actually conduct any reviews this year because they thought people needed time to absorb the new policy and implement or modify their course delivery and evaluation of student performance in light of AI developments. She thinks in hindsight this decision was quite reasonable because otherwise the WID Council would have reviewed syllabi which will not in the future be used. Dr. Valeva recommends that the council look at how WID courses have been impacted by recent personnel changes and modify the rotation of their reviews accordingly.

Dr. Valeva pointed out that AI developments motivated the yearly workshop that the WID Council organizes. A link to the workshop was sent at the time to the faculty body to watch and is included in the WID Council report. She noted that the workshop includes additional resources that Writing Center Director Ashley Beardsley created

the previous year. Dr. Perone remarked that her term on Faculty Senate has ended, so she wishes Senator Albarracin well as SNC Chair this year. She also expressed thanks to the many faculty who responded affirmatively when asked to serve on various councils and committees throughout the year.

### **NO OBJECTIONS TO THE REPORT**

Chair Robinett expressed his thanks to all of the chairs who led these Senate councils and committees and to the faculty who served on them. He noted that there is a tremendous amount of work that goes on in these spaces, which represents the responsibilities the Senate has for faculty governance at its different levels and the wise decision-making authority that has been delegated. Chair Robinett also expressed his thanks to the faculty who are already serving

was under the impression that the text feature was gone, but if there is a way to still do that this is fantastic.

Dr. Filipink reminded everyone that academic activity reporting is due tomorrow for the eight day of classes. He encouraged everyone who has not yet done this to complete it in order for the university to be in compliance with the requirements for federal student aid.

**Motion:** To adjourn (Hunter)

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary