

**Western Kentucky University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2020
Zoom**

Introduction

- **Members present (Substitute):** Jennifer Hanley (Eric Kondratieff), Sarah (Herrick) Scali, Laura Bohuski, Donielle Lovell, Jason Bergner, Ken Payne, Nicholas Fortune, James Gary, Claus Ernst, Mac McKerral, Trish Jagers, Shura Pollatsek, Michael Kennedy, Julie Lee, Sue Lynn McDaniel, Jennifer Hammonds, Heather Strode, Chris Groves, Bangbo Yan, Lactetia Dye, Francesca Sunkin, Matt Pruitt, Patricia Todd, Asghar Rezasoltai, Aaron Hughey, Quentin Hollis, Jenni Teeters, Liz Sturgeon, Dan Clark, Katrina Burch, Melanie Autin, Cheryl Stevens, Jim Lindsey, Jay Gabbard, April Murphy, Margaret Crowder, Jarrett Johnson, Dawn Wright, Kelly Reames, Mark Robinson, Kara Haughtigan, Guy Jordan, Janet Applin. Ivan Novikov, Anthony Paganelli, James Barker, Kandy Smith, Colin Farrell, Jacob Byl, Jeanine Huss, Jean Snavely, Uta Ziegler, Mary Wolinski, Allie McCreary, Travis Newton, Mariah Yates, Alison Youngblood, Kate Hudepohl, Kevin Schmaltz, Bruce Schulte, Lester Archer, Stacey Forsythe, and Sara McCaslin.
- **Guest Present:** Amber Scott Belt, Eli Edens, Rob Hale, Laura DeLancey, Michael Carini, Darlene Applegate, Susann deVries, Peggy Gripshover, Danita Kelley, Merrall Price, Kirk Atkinson, Jennifer Tougas, Bob Skipper, Alan Fortenberry, David Brinkley, Sonia Lenk, Evelyn Thrasher, Molly Kerby, Michael Payne, Jessica Williams, Ryan St. Clair, Andrea Hales, Dennis George, Aaron Mudd, Kanita DuCloux, Tyler Clark, James May, Rheanna Plemons. Greg Arbuckle, Angela Jerome, Tania Basta, Marshall Dees, Stuart Burris, and Leslie North.
- J. Shadoan called a regular meeting of Faculty Senate to order at 3:45pm.

Meeting begins at 11:50 of Zoom recording:

https://wku.zoom.us/rec/share/1_Nrs5I_9iZZ-a4xMiYghEfYZATyw-Yjyj5X7eEX1taP7WbuPKgYO_08mPvfzGBg.GDgkMag3fbGI3Lkj

A. Approval of August 2020 Minutes:

1. [Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 8.27.2020](#) F. Sunkin, L. Sturgeon: Motion Approved (49 y, 0 n, 1 ab.)

B. Officer Reports

1. Chair - Julie Shadoan: Holding Report
2. Vice-Chair - Daniel Clark: Prof Educational Council 1 senator for a 2-year term. Strategic Plan Implementation Executive Committee (SPIEC), 1 volunteer. University Athletic Committee needs 1 faculty representative from CEBS, senate needs to recommend someone to President for a three-year term. Janet Applin volunteered for PEC.
 - Faculty Regent Election coming up; Eligibility list out please check for accuracy.
3. Secretary - Laura Bohuski
 - Social Media guidelines.

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Francesca Sunkin: (No report)
 - Met Brittany Schuler from Dual Credit. In October meeting Chris Jensen from Advising coming to clarify some questions. Will be looking at 2021-2022 Academic Calendar and Free Speech response.
2. Budget and Finance, Guy Jordan: (No report)
3. Colonnade/General Education, Patricia Todd: (No report)
4. [Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Daniel Clark \(Report posted\)](#)
 - Move acceptance of the report: Motion Approved (52 y, 0 n, 1 abs.)
5. Graduate Council, Aaron Hughey: (No report)
6. [Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Liz Sturgeon: \(Report posted\)](#)
 - Move for acceptance: No action items. Motion Approved. (53y, 0n, 2abs.)
 - Darlene Applegate: Timeline of certificate to senate? Working Concurrently with Grad Council to create a policy and definition to October/November Senate meetings
 - D. Applegate: Question about certificates, specifically ones that got pulled? Not certain. R. Plemons: That's up to your Dean, more information will be needed for the board.
 - U. Ziegler: Question about meaning of multiple certificates.

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. Faculty Handbook, Kirk Atkinson: (No report) No chair still for Handbook. Reaching out to members and former members. Urgent because of carry over issues from last year.
2. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL), Molly Kerby: (No report) Molly has stepped down. There was a statewide meeting of AAUP on Saturday. Discussed reorganization of COSFL as CPE has requested COSFL's reorganization to help funnel information. Looking for another volunteer for COSFL from Senate.
3. American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Margaret Crowder: (No report)
 - Our faculty regent is also invited to be a representative for COSFL.
 - Recently sent forward statement on CHHS Policy change on program coordinators

E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Claus Ernst
 - Faculty Regent, Claus Ernst: 2 new members appointed by Gov Beshear. Jan West and Curry Millikan.
2. Provost, Cheryl Stevens
 - Covid on Campus: There's a lot of angst about what's going on with the case load. It's in decline along with the other metrics tracked. Contact trace time is down to 1.5 days. Anytime there are multiple cases in one area the health department takes a close look for connectivity or a cluster. There is no evidence of Covid transmission happening in

classrooms at WKU. Looking at departmental spread of the virus. Housing cancellations: there are a few due to modality changes.

- Having a meeting next week about what the spring academic calendar will look like.
 - Want our Spring courses to have a mix of modalities if possible.
 - Looking at questions on faculty surveys.
 - J. Shadoan: Is there a reason we are relying on contact tracing from BRH and not doing our own?
 - P. Stevens: We don't have the staff or the trained people to carry out contact tracing.
 - J. Barker: Question about updating the readability of the dashboard and keeping total numbers over time.
 - Trish Jagers: Question about quarantined student counts.
3. SGA President, Will Harris (Absent)

F. New Business:

1. Jennifer Tougas and Alan Fortenberry: From Barnes and Noble to show new software for textbook adoption.
 - Features: easy renewal, low cost textbook options, first day access, etc.
 - Screen shared video is in Zoom recording for viewing. (Starts at 45:40).
 - J. Shadoan: question about price match function for students.
2. WKU Restart Survey (follow-up)
 - Motion to approve: D. Clark; G. Jordan: Motion Approved (49y, 0n, 3 abs)
 - J. Shadoan: Distributed late yesterday and purpose of survey is to follow up on restart survey circulated in May before Want to do a flash survey to have this information in time for the Restart Committee meeting next week.
 - Basic questions about typos, duplicated questions, and definitions at top of survey. Definitions provided by Provosts office.
3. Statement supporting Bruce Kessler. Endorsed by SEC and AAUP
 - Moved M. Autin; Second H. Strode. Motion Approved (48 y, 1 n, 6 abs.)
 - T. Jagers: Question about wording #3. (else instead of not) – Friendly Amendment accepted.
 - Discussion included: Administrators not knowing/following policies, who will receive statement, and statement added to website,
 - Senators involved: M. McKerral, U. Ziegler, M. Autin, J. Barker,
 - J. Barker: I have had five department heads in the last four years and the faculty in my department (Philosophy & Religion) have never been asked for input on their selection by the Dean.
 - Statement will go to Dean of Ogden College and Provost will be copied.

- Motion to send to all faculty. J. Barker, M. McKerral: Motion approved. (54 yes; 0 no; 4 abs.)
- P. Stevens: discussion about B. Kessler, his years of interim service, how department heads, deans, etc. serve at the pleasure of their supervisors, decision was not retaliatory and sending out this statement is inflammatory. No one has approached me or Dean Arbuckle about this issue. This is a situation that has been inferred. This was a personnel action and can't be discussed.
- M. McKerral: Employee files are open record and if no one will tell us why this happened, we have to infer.
- E. Klaus: Math department sent letter to Dean, before sending this to senate and got no response.
- Discussion about policy, letter of dismissal, and no faculty consultation.

Adjournment: J. Barker; L. Bohuski. (1:31:40)