

Western Kentucky University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2021
Zoom

Introduction:

- Members present (Substitute): Alison Youngblood, April Murphy, Bangbo Yan, Cheryl Stevens, Chris Groves, Colin Farrell, Dan Clark, Dawn Garrett-Wright, Dean May, Francesca Sunkin, Guy Jordan, Heather Strode, Ivan Novikov, James Barker, James Gary, Janet Applin, Jarrett Johnson, Jason Bergner, Jay Gabbard, Jeanine Huss, Jenni Teeters, Jim Lindsey, Julie Lee, Julie Shadoan, Kandy Smith, Kara Haughtigan, Kate Hudepohl, Katrina Burch, Kelly Reames, Ken Payne, Kevin Schmaltz, Loretta Dye, Laura Bohuski, Lauren Bland, Lester Archer, Liz Sturgeon, Mac McKerral, Margaret Crowder, Mariah Yates, Mark Robinson, Mary Wolinski, Matt Pruitt, Melanie Autin, Mike Kennedy, Nick Fortune, Patricia Todd, Sara McCaslin, Sarah (Herrick) Scali, Shane Spiller, Shura Pollatsek, Sonia Lenk, Stacey Forsythe, Sue Lynn McDaniel, Tony Paganelli (Laura DeLancey), Travis Newton, Trish Jagers, and Uta Ziegler.
- **Guest Present:** Martha Day (Vice Chair Graduate Council), Danita Kelly, Katrina Burch, Jennifer Hammonds, Evelyn Thrasher, Greg Arbuckle, Preston Romanov, Kristina Arnold, Angela Jerome, Bruce Schulte, Rob Hale, Darlene Applegate, Aaron Mudd, and Kelly Reams.
- J. Shadoan called a regular meeting of Senate to order at 3:45 pm.

Zoom meeting begins at time code: 12:00

<https://wku.zoom.us/rec/share/sMEsv9aC-e3iWI-QzTnWcjm7YuVLM21lq2MIDIngHEAADFaJ6ItU0Fau8EeCM8dy.uhg8JjUeDSXWyu-D>

A. Approval of December 2020 Minutes:

1. Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 12.10.2020; F. Sunkin; M. Crowder. (41 y. 0 n. 1 abs.)
Motion Approved.

B. Officer Reports

1. Chair - Julie Shadoan
 - Grade Change Data Fall 2020: Jen Hammonds shared information with CAD. 686 grades updated for 502 students or .93% of the student population. 182 were Bs and 504 were Cs as of Wednesday.
 - Departmental senator elections coming up as well as officer positions. Elections are open in March with officers elected in April.
 - Provost forms are upcoming. Both for Faculty and then for all governance bodies (Staff and Faculty Senate and SGA). Can be attended in person at DSU auditorium or via Zoom.
 - Formal presentation of resolution given to J. Shadoan by Board of Regents. Recognizes the efforts of Faculty and Staff at WKU over the last months of the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Congratulate Provost Stevens on her Retirement.
2. Vice-Chair - Daniel Clark

- Departmental senator elections this year.

3. Secretary - Laura Bohuski

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Francesca Sunkin: (No report)
2. Budget and Finance, Guy Jordan: (No report)
 - No report but at next meeting Jennifer Breiwa Smith will be joining us.
3. Colonnade/General Education, Patricia Todd: (Report posted)
 - Motion for approval of report: (53 y. 0 n. 0 abs.) Motion Approved.
4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Daniel Clark (Report posted)
 - Motion for approval of report: (54 y. 0 n. 0 abs.) Motion Approved.
5. Graduate Council, Aaron Hughey: (Report posted)
6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Liz Sturgeon: (Report posted)

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. Faculty Handbook, Laura DeLancey: (No report)
 - Handbook committee is going to meet. 😊
2. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL), Shadoan/Clark/Spiller: (No report)
3. American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Margaret Crowder: (No report)
 - Meeting in February, Second Tuesday at 3 pm.
 - Thinking about AAUP membership? Take a look at the following and/or email me for more information. Thanks! <https://www.aaup.org/membership> (From Zoom Chat)
 - J. Shadoan: AAUP sent out a survey about governance on Academic campuses. Will report once I have information from the results.

E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller
 - Know that Regents had talked about how to recognize the amount of work faculty have done this year. Everyone sacrificed something during these times and wanted recognition of that.
 - Board of Regents has a committee meeting tomorrow. Please send me any questions you have about the agenda or the meeting.
2. Provost, Cheryl Stevens
 - GPA is the same from before Pandemic. Shows the dedication of students and how faculty were being flexible and are promoting student success.
 - No spike in cases on campus like some other schools.
 - J. Barker: Question about CAD operates in relation to shared governance and open meetings, and meeting minutes/votes; Discussion about fair governance i.e. CAD

overruling Senate decisions. James Barker: thoughts about ability of Senate to have shared governance.

- P. Stevens commented about makeup of Senate and its representation of the whole Faculty body and senior faculty in particular.
 - J. Shadoan: Question about the vaccine.
 - P. Stevens: Western faculty are 1.C, they are currently vaccinating 1.B. Our area of KY is not getting enough vaccines to fulfill demand.
3. SGA President, Garrett Edmonds (absent)

F. New Business:

1. WKU Budget Update, Susan Howarth – Budget and Finance Committee is going to meet with Susan Howarth instead of with full senate. May ask for her to come address full senate depending on the Feb. meeting.
2. Senate Representation (Margaret Crowder) – Instructors are representative of long-standing faculty. Concern about thought that Faculty Senate is not given much weight.
 - Full discussion about this issue. Discussion includes: Representation of Faculty in Senate, Instructors as representatives of senior faculty, if Faculty Senate is being given enough consideration as a governing body, engagement with constituents, concern about CAD overriding Senate decisions, and how to approach these conversations of improving shared governance.
 - Involved in discussion: M. Crowder, J. Shadoan, M. McKerral, D. Clark, U. Ziegler, J. Barker, and Katrina Burch.
 - More comments in the Zoom recordings Chat log.

G. Old Business

1. Faculty Ombudsperson(s) appointment
 - President Caboni working on Ombudsperson position.
2. OAG Opinion re: voting eligibility for faculty regent
 - Emailed Andrea Anderson for status update but have received no response, will follow up.
3. Senate Charter change
 - Charter change underway regarding Handbook chair. That should go to SEC next month. This goes with a consideration if handbook should be a standing committee.

Adjournment: M. McKerral; M. Crowder