

**Western Kentucky University**  
**Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**November 30, 2020**  
**Zoom**

**Introduction:**

- **Members present (Substitute):** Julie Shadoan, Laura Bohuski, Shane Spiller, Patricia Todd, Garrett Edmonds, Uta Ziegler, Francesca Sunkin, Janet Applin, Daniel Clark, Tony Paganelli, Mac McKerral, Guy Jordan, Liz Sturgeon, and Aaron Hughey.
- **Guest Present:** Jeff Hook, Amber Scott Belt, Bruce Schulte, Rheanna Plemons, Rob Hale, and Jennifer Hammonds.
- J. Shadoan called a regular meeting of SEC to order at 3:15pm

**Zoom meeting begins at time code 9:30**

<https://wku.zoom.us/rec/share/3tZyH7eh-NlFJ0HKs5BZ-4713KzM4fPvmXUrkeYpr7AWgUY3j4SjTzRbBSXU9LM.SsEdnYnFUhpKyrT>

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

1. SEC Meeting Minutes 11.2.2020; Motion to Approve: L. Sturgeon; Sunkin: (7y, 2 abs)  
Motion Approved

**B. Officer Reports**

1. Chair - Julie Shadoan
  - Handbook: Now have handbook chair, will not meet for first time until after holiday break.
    - Discussed how the handbook and the committee will be maintained going forward. Having a chair other than the past senate chair is not in alignment with the charter, but this will be retroactively changed.
    - Maintaining handbook: Senate Chair will have official copy of Handbook in both word and PDF that chair hands off to incoming chair. Handbook Chair will have a working copy saved on a flash drive that would be given to new chair. The copy of the handbook that was currently active would be maintained on a Shared drive accessible to Current Chair of Senate, Current Chair of Handbook, and a representative from the Provosts office. Will also continue to be published to the Senate website.
    - Would like an agreement to these changes, not formal, but a go ahead for these changes and then Laura DeLancey will start formal changes through the Handbook Committee. No, No votes.
2. Vice Chair - Daniel Clark
  - Sending out email for handbook volunteers.
3. Secretary - Laura Bohuski

**C. Standing Committee Reports:**

1. Academic Quality, Francesca Sunkin: (No report)

- Working on SITES questions.
2. Budget and Finance, Guy Jordan: (No report)
  3. Colonnade/General Education, Patricia Todd: (Report posted)
    - Motion to approve report from 11/10/2020: (11y, 1 abs.) Motion Approved
      - 4 new proposals accepted.
  4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Daniel Clark: (No report)
  5. Graduate Council, Aaron Hughey: (Report posted)
    - Motion accept Graduate Council Report: (7 y, 1 abs.) Motion Approved
  6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Liz Sturgeon: (Report posted)
    - Motion to include minutes on Senate agenda: (12 y, 1 abs.) Motion Approved
    - Discussion about next meeting date and submission deadlines for UCC.

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

1. Faculty Handbook: (No report)
2. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL): (No report)
3. American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Margaret Crowder: (No report)

#### **E. Advisory Member Reports:**

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller:
  - Regents meeting December 11<sup>th</sup> on Zoom in the morning.
2. Provost, Cheryl Stevens
  - Working on a Solution to the P/D/F issue. We agreed on a work around to help students and remain true to our set policies: students can choose to change their grade to P if they have a B or C after the grades are posted by sending an email to their professor.
  - L. Sturgeon: Drop date still December 4<sup>th</sup>? Yes.
  - M. McKerral: Fee for dropping a class still stands?
  - J. Hammonds: Students can appeal for the fee to be removed.
  - Discussion of Covid policies from questions by M. McKerral.
  - G. Jordan: Any guidance from SACS about Covid?
  - Question about how students will request a P? It's a modification of current the grade change policy.
3. SGA President, Garrett Edmonds
  - Appreciative to Provost, R. Hale, and Julie for sitting down with me and Ivan to come to the agreement we did. Trying to make this as clear to students as possible and encourage all faculty to be as understanding as possible in this time.

#### **F. New Business:**

1. WKU Athletic Committee Fall Report
  - Address questions about report to Craig Martin, GFCB/Marketing.
2. Innovation Campus (Dr. Bruce Schulte, Jeff Hook) Presentation from (44:50—51:00)
  - In line with the Strategic Plan were changing the Center for Research & Development into the Innovative Campus.
3. Senate Charter Change (Faculty Handbook Committee)
  - Chair position of Handbook language requires position be filled by former Chair of Faculty Senate. Committee is meeting to see if this language should be changed.
  - Committee status: It being a non-standing committee and if this needs to be revisited.
  - No updates on this until the fall. We have no language for this, as handbook has not yet met.
4. AA Policy 1.4100 Definition of Areas of Expertise for Academic Programs (Rheanna Plemons) (Starts 59:00)
  - Motion to approve: M. McKerral, G. Jordan. (11 y, 2 abs.) Motion Approved
  - R. Plemons: Both a new policy and policy revision; states that departments can create concentrations to provide an avenue to test waters before creating a new program.

#### **G. Old Business:**

1. P/D/F Grading Option, Fall 2020
  - Puts burden on Faculty but felt this was the best compromise.
  - Question about the timeline students have inform faculty about asking to switch grade to a P.
2. Faculty Ombudsperson(s)
  - Talked to President again; Supportive of two faculty, one male one female, being hired to this role. After break will ask Senate for recommendations for positions. Asking the handbook committee to formalize the hiring of the Ombudsperson and to the role of the Ombudsperson more specifically explained in the handbook.
3. Regent Election
  - a. OAG Opinion re: eligibility to vote (part-time instructors)
    - Request for Legal Counsel to contact OAG about voting. Want to include more specific language of eligibility to vote and run for Faculty Regent according to OAG opinion.

Adjournment: L. Bohuski; F. Sunkin.