

# Washington University in St. Louis

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

### **1. Call to Order – Andrew D. Martin, Chancellor**

Chancellor called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

### **2. Approval of Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting of April 28, 2022 Senate meeting**

The minutes were approved.

### **3. Chancellor's Report, Andrew D. Martin**

The Chancellor noted that Philip H. Dybvig, professor from the Olin School received the prestigious Nobel Prize in Economics. And noted that this is a great recognition for the theoretical micro-economic work on bank runs of our Olin colleague.

On the strategic plan, Here & Next, the Chancellor noted that there were 11 engagement events on Monday, 10/3. The goal is for every faculty member to find their place in the plan.

Chancellor Martin announced the successful launching of a new Student initiative, called Make Way, on Thursday, 10/6. For this, the University raised \$315 million towards a \$600 million goal, with a more comprehensive campaign to come.

Chancellor Martin noted that the University faced significant flooding recently affecting the Danforth, Medical and North campuses. The latter campus was hit the worst. Flooding impacted about 100 buildings, and damaged about 40 vehicles.

The University is processing the Dobbs decision and how it will impact our community and how to respond. University leadership is hard at work sorting out the issues. One issue is that some faculty may be criminally indemnified. The Medical School is working through processes to treat many patients with very complicated pregnancies, but not all that we could before the decision. Student health services continues to provide reproductive health services and referrals to clinics in Illinois, as we were pre-Dobbs. The leadership is also looking at our university benefits packages. The University expects these issues will remain cementitious at the state level, with transgender issues another issue.

In terms of key faculty or administrative searches, the campus is searching for Deans for the Olin and Brown Schools, and a Vice Chancellor for Government and Community Affairs. In Career Services, the Chancellor reported that Rebekah Paré is off to amazing start, implementing Handshake software as the primary job posting platform this year. This software makes it easier for employers to connect with WashU and with our students. We already have 2,500 employers recruiting WashU students, and uptake is rising. Our Career Fair last week broke records with 116 Employers attending (up 56% from last year) represented by 279 people (100 of them alumni). The Fair was attended by 2,210 students (beating previous record attendance by 11 percent).

Finally, some information on the class of 2026. The Chancellor reported that the University admitted 1,826 students, the first class under the need-blind admissions policy. Notably, 20% of the students are Pell eligible (up from 17% last year), but a significant and notable 15% percentage point increase over a decade. This represents the highest Pell growth rate of the 130 schools that are part of the

American Talent Initiative. Also notable is that in this class, 15% are first in family to attend college, 51% identify as students of color or multi-ethnic, and 11% are international students (up from 6% last year).

#### **4. Faculty Senate Council Chair’s report, Amy Eyler, Chair of the Faculty Senate Council**

Chair Eyler noted how busy this time of the year is and thanked the faculty for joining the meeting. Chair Eyler expects another productive and impactful year for the Faculty Senate Council, with a few things on the agenda.

First, the Faculty Senate Council constitution was developed in 1955. Although it has been updated 13 times since then, the last update was in 2012. A lot can change in a decade. Professor Eyler suggested that it is time to revisit those rules and identify any places that might need to be updated.

Second, an issue is the make-up of the council itself. Now, there are 15 members—including the secretary-- who serve staggered 3-year terms. Nine of those are divisional members appointed by the schools. One each except medical school and arts and sciences who have two divisional members. There are also 5 at-large members. Two each from med school and arts and sciences, and one from either Brown, Olin, McKelvey, Sam Fox, or Law. These at-large members are voted in by the full Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate Council will be reviewing the composition of the FSC with an eye towards how the number of faculty have grown over time, and will make a recommendation to change the structure or composition if it is needed.

#### **5. Strategic Plan Update – Beverly Wendland, Provost and Mary McKay, Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives**

Provost Wendland presented an update on the Strategic Plan (“Here and Next”). The Provost noted that literally hundreds of faculty members have already been engaging in the development of the Strategic Plan. However, there will be many future opportunities to engage with the Plan over the next year. Information on the plan will be coming to the faculty through several upcoming events that will be occurring, both hybrid and in-person on both Danforth and medical school campus.

The strategic plan is built around three pillars: Research, People, and Community. The Implementation strategy includes awareness, incentives (e.g., seed funds), talent hires including cluster hires, and culture (improved policies). Committees have been formed or will be formed to implement these objectives and representation will be inclusive.

#### **9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy McBride, Secretary