

# Washington University in St. Louis

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

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

Chancellor called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting of October 12, 2022 Senate meeting**

The minutes were approved.

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

Here and Next Strategic Plan: We have made great progress; it is an exciting time for the University. The Chancellor expressed thanks to the Provost and colleagues.

Recent hires: Dean at Olin; Dean at Brown School. Two recent administrative hires: JD Burton from the University of Minnesota for Government Relations. Also hired Lisa Weingarh as Senior Advisor for St. Louis Initiatives.

Work campus and climate: We created a Danforth task force with faculty members and post docs, with a similar task force at WUSM established by the Executive Faculty. Both of these are looking at the unique scientific culture.

Commencement: changed to Monday May 15. This timing will remain the same going forward, with the timing chosen to minimize disruptions to student schedules. It took us a while to get everyone to fit on Francis Field.

New course: Dialogue across differences. This is an eight weeks course to sort through difficult topics. The scale is 1,500 per year and the pilot program was funded by two parents.

Gift: we received a very significant gift from the Taylor Family, to fund Student Success. This significant donation will make this program even stronger. The program funds robust mentoring, creates a support team for life and has long lasting and transformative impact.

Dining contract: had been with Bon Appetite; changed to Sodexo. Every employee can join here, but it will have greater diversity. Women led and minority led businesses can come in.

Transgender action taken by the Attorney General. We communicated to community on this last week. The Chancellor said he could answer some questions, but not all of them due to the legal action. The University is sorting through the facts and responding to national and state Legislators. The State Legislature is considering legislation. Bottom line: given what we now understand, the allegations have no merit. This is a difficult issue for our colleagues.

Questions and Answers:

Q: what can the University do going forward?

A: we cannot be sure because we don't know the constraints.

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

Sponsored Programs: since the last faculty meeting the Faculty Senate Council has dealt with issues related to sponsored programs. The FSC did a survey over 110 faculty, obtaining qualitative and quantitative data. This led to a discussion with the administration of ways to solve the issues raised.

Here and Next: the FSC has worked with Provost's office on policy committee work.

Communication: Julie Flory met with the FSC to discuss internal and external policies for communication.

Committees: the FSC helped the campus administration fill committee vacancies.

Constitution: we are in the last stages of setting up the vote on amendments to constitution. The main changes will be to create a dedicated seat for TRaP faculty. Also, the Chair will be elected for two year terms, acknowledging the need to build on the knowledge gained in the first year.

#### **5. Necrology Report – Timothy McBride, Secretary, Faculty Senate**

FSC Secretary delivered the Necrology Report.

#### **6. Sexual Harassment Prevention Training – Jessica Kennedy, Director and Title IX Coordinator**

Jessica Kennedy presented a PowerPoint on the issue of mandatory reporting, discussing how important it is to understand responsibilities in this process. More information can be obtained at <http://Titleix.wustl.edu>

Questions and Answers

Q: in some cases, some faculty choose not to engage, is there way to train mandatory reporters?

A: At a minimum, faculty should get online training; lack of comfort with the process may be relieved somewhat.

Q: where does bias reporting system reside?

A: on the web site. If the report is based on gender and sex but we don't get too many of those reports.

Q: should we use email?

A: timeliness is important; we have not had an issue with email.

#### **7. Student Sunrise – Erin Culbreth, Associate Provost and Executive Project Manager; Keri Disch, University Registrar**

A PowerPoint was presented to update on the process. This is an exciting initiative. The existing system is over 30 years old and vulnerable, based on an antiquated structure. Current plans are to launch this mid-year and over several years. It is a five year project with several elements. There will be a testing phase in the Fall and Sunrise will be turned on in AY2024-25. Much work has been done with engagement groups, a faculty advisory group. Why did the campus choose the Workday vendor? This is the only one that connects faculty accounts with finance and students.

Questions and Answers:

Q: in the Sam Fox School we have tested whether the system will support cross listing, issues with terminology.

A: There is a glossary integrated into materials; the course renumbering took time to integrate architecture to it. We won't need to cross list like we do now, which should help students.

Q: Are there student advisory committees?

A: We have three committees. In focus groups we found students in interdisciplinary spaces frustrated but validated by new system.

## **8. Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy McBride, Secretary