

Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee  
Western Kentucky University

Report to the University Senate Executive Committee

Date: January 25, 2019

From: Dr. Lauren McClain, Chair

The Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee met on January 18, 2019 and submits the following report for consideration to the University Senate:

Information Items:

1. We were joined by members of the Academic Quality committee for the first part of this meeting to discuss the charge given to both committees at the Special Called SEC meeting in December. We discussed the three points of concern expressed at that meeting and decided that the work would be divided as follows: (1) Academic Quality will work on the concern about the quality, use, and interpretation of data on campus when making data-driven decisions, (2) Faculty Welfare will work on the concerns about shared-governance, (3) volunteers from both committees will work together on concerns about budget priorities, particularly with a focus on the values they convey. All members were asked to field input from their colleagues and we ask that Senators do the same. Concerns can be brought to Heather Strode or Lauren McClain. We will continue to update the Senate on our efforts as we work on these issues.
2. After the Academic Quality committee members left, the Faculty Welfare committee members began brainstorming on point (2) above. We come up with some questions we had about the Handbook and Academic Affairs policies (which subsequently the Chair asked the Provost about). We will be working on drafting our thoughts and suggestions by email prior to the next meeting and will continue working on this as expeditiously as possible.
3. We also discussed the change to the FLMA policy that was set out by Tony Glisson in December, came up with a list of follow-up questions to ask Tony, and based on those answers, will be moving forward with the development of a parental leave policy that is more clear and comprehensive than when exists even with the updated policy change. We will continue this work through the Spring semester.