

Western Kentucky University
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2022
Zoom: <https://wku.zoom.us/j/96965226266>

Introduction:

- **Members present (Substitute):** Janet Applin, Kirk Atkinson, Melanie Autin, Julie Lyn Barber, Cort Basham, Lauren Bland, Kristi Branham, Katrina Burch, John Cipolla, Margaret Crowder (Dan Clark), Martha Day, Amanda Drost, Susan Eagle, Stacey Forsythe, Nick Fortune, Dawn Garret-Wright, Kara Haughtigan, Kate Horigan, Trish Jagers, Mike Kennedy, Eric Kondratieff, Julie Lee, Stacy Leggett, Sonia Lenk, Philip Lienesch, Mac McKerral, April Murphy, Ozkan Ozer, Tony Paganelli, Matt Pruitt, Kelly Reames, Asghar Rezasoltani, Nancy Richey, Mark Robinson, Marilee Salvator, Donna Schiess, Kevin Schmaltz, Julie Shadoan, Heather Strode, Dan Strunk, Francesca Sunkin, Toni Szymanski, Jenni Teeters, Patricia Todd, Pavel Vasiliev, Bangbo Yan, Qin Zhao
- **Guests present:** Leslie North, Merrall Price, Dennis George, Jennifer Hammonds, Rob Hale, Beth Laves, Bud Fischer, Shane Spiller, Laura DeLancey, Margaret Glaser, Jace Lux, Jessica Dorris, Wininger, Calleigh Powell, Michael Crimmins, Danita Kelley, Andrea Hales, Jennifer Smith, Stuart Burris, Bruce Schulte, Molly Kerby, Amy Wininger
- J. Lee called a regular meeting of Senate to order at 3:45 pm CST

A. Approval of January 27, 2022 minutes:

1. [Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 1.27.22](#)
 - Motion to approve: M. Pruitt, M. Autin (41 y, 0 n, 0 abs) Motion approved.

B. Officer Reports:

1. Chair, Julie Lee (No Report)
 - a. Senate Leadership nominations
 - J. Lee asked senate to consider what role they would like to play in Senate moving forward with respect to leadership and standing committees
 - a. [Charter revision to move Handbook to Standing Committee \(first reading\)](#)
 - J. Lee discussed moving the Handbook committee to a standing committee. Motion to approve: M. McKerral, J. Shadoan (41 y, 1 n, 2 abs) Motion approved.
 - b. [Handbook Committee Bylaws \(already approved, just for reference\)](#)
2. Vice-Chair, Janet Applin
 - a. At-Large Senate elections this Spring
 - J. Applin discussed at-large senate elections – asking for nominations by Feb 25th. The number of needed at-large senators by college are as follows: PCAL – 7; Gordon Ford – 0; CEBS – 3; CHHS – 7; Libraries – 0; Ogden - 8
3. Secretary, April Murphy – No report

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Francesca Sunkin, Chair (No Report)
2. Budget and Finance, Kirk Atkinson, Chair ([Report Posted](#))
 - K. Atkinson reported on BEC, including reporting on Axiom and we are fully up and running in the RAMP model. Motion to approve: K. Atkinson (44 y, 1 n, 1 abs) Motion approved.
 - M. McKerral followed up on dollar amount included on 2% compensation. K. Atkinson reported that the actual amount of 1.5% was \$1.236 million. It was a total of filled lines, with the 0.5% was what was left to handle compression was about \$300,000.
3. Colonnade/General Education, Patricia Todd, Chair ([Report Posted](#))
 - Motion to approve: P. Todd (47 y, 0 n, 0 abs) Motion approved.
4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Trish Jagers, Chair (No Report)
5. Graduate Council, Martha Day, Chair ([Report posted](#))
 - Motion to approve: Martha Day (36 y, 0 n, 3 abs) Motion approved.
6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Melanie Autin, Chair ([Report posted](#))
 - Motion to approve: M. Autin (40 y, 0 n, 3 abs) Motion approved.

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports

1. Faculty Handbook, Julie Shadoan ([Report posted](#))
 - Motion to approve: J. Shadoan, F. Sunkin (41 y, 1 n, 1 abs) Motion approved.
2. Budget Executive Committee, Kirk Atkinson (No Report)
3. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL), Robin Ayers, Chair (No report)
4. American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Susan Eagle, Chair (No report)
5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Molly Kerby, Chair (No report)
 - a) “Naming” Task Force Update
 - M. Kerby discussed “naming” task force that was created that was charged with renaming buildings. This is an advisory committee that does not make decisions, but does make recommendations to the President.
 - M. McKerral discussed regathering of the Jonesville folks and commended the efforts. Raised concerns regarding the closed nature of the meetings.
 - J. Shadoan discussion confusing around WKUs policy on naming rights – is there a place where one could go to find the policy on all of this?
R. Hale linked policy in the chat
(<https://www.wku.edu/policies/docs/index.php?policy=285>)
6. [Jennifer Smith, WKU Executive Director of Government & External Relations](#)
 - J. Smith provided update on the legislative session. The House passed their budget before the Governor’s budget address. It added additional \$50 million in performance funding pool. Extended HB 8 from last year, which provides a subsidy for KTRS employer compensation rate. Budget is now in the Senate and we are waiting for them to introduce their version.
 - Reported on HB 290 and HB 51, which have both had some movement. HB 290 is a student due process act, which will put student disciplinary processes in statute and require all schools to have the same processes. HB 51 relates to K-12 and Higher Education math requirements due to COVID-

19.

- HB 14 and HB 18 – both still sitting in the Committee on Committees. Until they are referred to a committee, they cannot be heard.

E. Advisory Member Reports

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller
 - S. Spiller acknowledged passing of Dr. Randy Capps
 - Discussed concerns/questions about Sodexo – paying contractor to do work and we are getting less and less each year. Discussed what they used to do versus what they are doing now.
 - Budget season is in full swing on campus. Discussed faculty regent role in the development of the budget and encouraged faculty, department heads, and deans to get involved in the process early.
2. Provost, Bud Fischer
 - B. Fischer announced Provost Innovative Teaching Awards have gone out
 - Feb 26th will be the first First Gen event; March 1 will be the kickoff for the rest of the initiative
3. SGA President, Matthew Wininger
 - M. Wininger noted the passing on Dr. Capps
 - Rally for Higher Ed was moved to March 18th, which is over Spring Break
 - Swipe Out Hunger initiative – faculty, staff and students can donate on the 4th, 8th, and 12th week of the semester. Provided link (<https://wkuherald.com/63975/news/meal-swipe-donation-program-targets-food-insecurity-on-campus/>) if you want to donate.

F. Old Business

G. New Business

1. Academic Affairs, Rob Hale
 - a) [AA Policy 1.5041 Selection Appointment and Reassignment of Department Heads/Chairs](#)
 - R. Hale reported that language was cleaned up and differentiation between interim and acting department heads was discussed. S. Eagle raised question on who is included in professorial rank. R. Hale reported that it is anyone who has “professor” in their title. S. Eagle asked what the rationale was for excluding instructors, which R. Hale reported the policy was on the books prior to his coming to WKU. Different colleges have found different ways to get information from instructors and staff.
 - D. Schiess proposed that we change the language. B. Fischer recommended that language be written and sent to his office so they can work on including language.
 - M. McKerral made motion to table indefinitely and move to faculty welfare committee. Seconded J. Shadoan (37 y, 2 n, 2 abs). Motion tabled.

Adjournment 5:11pm CST (Atkinson, Jagers)