

Western Kentucky University
Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 20, 2022
Zoom

- **Members Present (Substitute):** Kirk Atkinson, Julie Lyn Barber, Lauren Bland, Kristi Branham, John Cipolla, Daniel Clark, Elizabeth DeLozier, Sydney Denney, Amanda Drost, Susan Eagle, Landon Elkind, Austin Elledge, Sheila Flener, Stacey Forsythe, Phillip Gunter, Kara Haughtigan, Will Hemenover, Kate Horigan, Kate Hudepohl, Sungjin Im, Michelle Jackson, Andrea Jenkins, Eric Kondratieff, Stacy Leggett, Mac McKerral, Mohsen Mollagholamali, Matt Nee, Kurt Neelly, Ivan Novikov, Ahmet Ozkan Ozer, Anthony Paganelli, Anna Patsfall, Matt Pruitt, Donna Schiess, Kevin Schmaltz, Julie Shadoan, Tannaz Solatani, Dan Strunk, Dana Sullivan, Antonia Szymanski, Danilo Tulusso, Truth Tran, Jason Wilson, Dawn Wright, John Wright, Qin Zhao, (LeAnne Coder), (Michael Frohling)
- **Non-voting Members Present:** (Rob Hale), Shane Spiller
- **Guests Present:** Jennifer Hammonds, Michael Crimmins, Dennis George, Gayle Mallinger, Molly Kerby, Beth Laves, Nancy Richey, Stuart Burric, Jessica Dorris, Jace Lux, Leslie North, Bruce Schulte, Evelyn Thrasher, Laura Delancey, Juliana Ortolani, Marko Dumančić
- **T. Szymanski called a regular meeting of the faculty Senate to order at 3:45 pm Central Time.**

<https://wku.zoom.us/j/5940316448>

A. Approval of previous month's Senate Meeting:

1. [Faculty Senate Minutes 9-22-22](#) M. Pruitt, J. Shadoan (35 y, 0 n, 1 abstain) **Motion approved**

B. Officer Reports

1. Chair - Antonia (Toni) Szymanski

- a. CITL Presentation Blackboard Ultra

- D. Dumančić shared the transition to BB Ultra overview. About 70 faculty members have already transitioned. Mobile friendly with over 1 million student logins already. Some colleges or departments have already made plans to roll out.
 - J. Ortolani gave an overview of Ultra. 1 page of content. More modern view. Simplified. Post registration for upcoming events next week.
 - H. Digges-Elliott shared strategies for transitioning completely to Ultra. Does your college or department have a strategy in place? How do you teach what you teach? F2F, hybrid, online courses first? 100, 200, graduate level courses first? There is a site for Ultra course transition. There is an application of interest.
 - K. Atkinson asked about plug-ins.

2. Vice-Chair - Dan Clark

- D. Clark: Elect members from Academic Complaint Committee. Ballot is from the college academic complaint committee.

3. Secretary - Stacy Leggett

- No report

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Amanda Drost, Chair: (Report posted) A. Drost (43 y, 0 n, 3 abs) **Motion approved**

2. Budget and Finance, E. Kondratieff, Past-Chair: (No report)

3. Colonnade/General Education, Stacey Forsythe, Chair: (Report posted)

a. 9-6-22 Report S. Forsythe (41 y, 0 n, 5 abs) **Motion approved**

b. 9-27-22 Report S. Forsythe (43 y, 0 n, 4 abs) **Motion approved**

4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Kate Horigan, Chair: (Report posted)

K. Horigan, M. Pruitt (check) motion to bundle 8-26 and 9-23 faculty welfare reports. (43 y, 0 n, 2 abs) **Motion approved**

K. Horigan motion to approve (43 y, 0 n, 2 abs) **Motion approved**

Meeting with J. Tougas has been postponed due to event on campus tomorrow.

a. 8-26-22 Report

b. 9-23-22 Report

5. Graduate Council, Dana Sullivan, Chair: (Report posted) D. Sullivan (23 y, 0 n, 4 abs) **Motion approved**

6. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Shelia Flener, Chair: (Report posted) S. Hener (44 y, 0 n, 1 abs) **Motion approved**

7. Faculty Handbook, Julie Shadoan, Chair: (Report posted)

J. Shadoan, first proposal to revise to include school directors with department heads (41 y, 0 n, 4 abs)

a. Faculty Handbook Revision 1 (Chair Reference)

Motion to bundle b-f J. Shadoan, M. Pruitt (43 y, 0 n, 0 abs) **Motion approved**

Motion to approve b-f. (38 y, 0 n, 0 abs) **Motion approved**

M. McKerral thanked Julie for the work they are doing on the handbook.

T. Szymanski agreed and thanked all committees.

b. [Faculty Handbook Revision 2 \(Program Coordinator\)](#)

c. [Faculty Handbook Revision 3 \(Faculty Senate\)](#)

d. [Faculty Handbook Revision 4 \(Links and Policy\)](#)

e. [Faculty Handbook IXA \(UDP\)](#)

f. [Faculty Handbook XIIM \(Conference USA\)](#)

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. Budget Executive Committee, Kirk Atkinson, Chair (No report)

- K. Atkinson. BEC Meeting was cancelled. 2% across board raise approved by Board of Regents.

2. American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Susan Eagle, Chair: (No report)

3. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL), Susan Eagle, Chair: (No report)

4. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Molly Kerby, Chair (No report)

Jonesville site to RSVP. Encouraged everyone to attend. Remarks are at 5. [Jonesville | Western Kentucky University \(wku.edu\)](#)

J. Shadoan-sponsoring name change clinic.

E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller

- S. Spiller reminded the Senate of the role of the Faculty Regent including attending to events to interact with representatives from other regions. Committee Meetings for the Board of Regents are tomorrow. There will be some discussion about how we are doing financially, including renewing the line of credit for the university. The executive committee will be discussing and voting on some athletic contracts. There will be discussion about bonuses for coaches for winning conference championships. President Caboni will have a Conference USA update.

2. Provost, Robert "Bud" Fischer

- R. Hale-Inclement weather group has formed and we will see this policy in next month or two.
- 20-year celebration at Glasgow campus today. Classes there since 1988. Rolled out an Early College program there.

3. SGA President, Cole Bornefeld

F. Old Business: none

G. New Business:

- D.Clark: University Academic Complaint Committee, Student Results (Top 4): Tristan Burks, Olivia Blackmon, Kaitlyn Cook, Gabe Heckerman
- K. Atkinson, J. Shadoan motion to refer to the Handbook Committee to a plan to revise the schedule for major changes to the handbook. (30 y, 7 n, 7 abs) **Motion approved**
 - K. Neelly-Would we want to limit being able to make substantial changes?
 - J. Shadoan-Handbook language the year you were hired, but it is a moving target. Making substantial challenges to P&T, grievance, etc., fairly frequently.
- T. Szymanski looking for ad hoc committee with representative from each college to work on something other than SITE evaluations for teacher evaluation.
- T. Szymanski how can we better engage newer senators. Discussed a 1-hour new senator orientation and polled senate on possible interest: (33 yes, 10 no, 1 abs)
 - D. Sullivan, K. Atkinson-we once did this.
 - J. Cipolla-maybe we could find a way to meet in-person.
 - T. Szymanski-some have mentioned going back to face-to-face. Maybe we could do a meet and greet.
 - K. Horigan-timing of the meetings is during challenging child care hours—after school pick-up. I am able to participate through Zoom.
 - S. Eagle-Possibly consider hybrid or multi-modal meetings.
 - L. Elkind-challenges for parents and serving if not hybrid. Maybe reflecting on meeting time.
 - M.McKerral-Would need to secure a new location if move to hybrid.
 - J. Ciplolla-this is my job. I have to make arrangements.
 - K. Horigan-responded to comment about child care. Asking to rethink 3:45 meeting is not not fulfilling responsibilities of job.
 - J. Wright-support K. Horigan's statement.
 - L. Elkind-the meeting could rotate.
 - T. Szymanski-someone had to leave to go teach class.
 - K. Atkinson-all committee and subcommittee meetings are based on the schedule of the Senate.
 - K. Atkinson might try it.
 - S. Leggett-maybe survey.
 - T. Szymanski-I liked the anonymity of Zoom votes.

M. Pruitt, M. McKerral motion to adjourn. Adjourned at 5:07.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Leggett
Senate Secretary