

Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities

Faculty Senate Committee Monthly Report

Members Present: Ashley Orehek (Committee Chair); Wendy Chelson; Xingang Fan; Rob Hale; Kyla Mitchell; Kelly Reames; Aaron Wichman

Members Absent: Kaylee ben Yosef; Jenny Burton; Ciin Lun; Sara Pickett; Stephanie Riehm; Pinky Rusli

Guest: Eric Reed

Agenda & Notes | Friday, 13 March 2026 | via Zoom

1) **Meeting began** around 3:05 PM CT.

- a. **Approval of minutes** from previous meeting ([FWPR February 2026 Report](#)).
 - i. First- Aaron, Second – Kelly

2) **Old Business**

a. **Question to Registrar about the public availability of course schedules via TopNet**

- i. Rob Hale researched how other KY institutions make this information available, if they do. The consensus is that *course schedules* are publicly posted but syllabi are posted on an *internal* course schedule webpage. Most likely this is the direction WKU will follow.

b. **Faculty Compensation**

- i. Eric and Kelly created a data document that could be attached to a potential resolution this committee drafts for Senate. The document is a table comparing the average salaries across all levels of faculty across the current benchmark institutions list (circa 2010) and benchmarks identified in the compensation study completed in 2022.
- ii. This committee decided we will draft a statement for Senate and request that WKU make *faculty compensation* a strategic goal for the strategic plan extension period because it could be helpful for future budget planning. The preliminary suggestion is to set a specific and reasonable target to yield an action – this committee plans to offer one or more suggestions in this statement.

c. **Annual welfare survey**

- i. Survey closed officially on Fri, 13 March at 12:00 CT (briefly extended to capture any stragglers).

- ii. There were 301 complete responses out of an estimated 548 faculty (based on AY 24-25), for a 55% response rate. Total responses were 312, but 11 were eliminated because they were totally incomplete (it is assumed that these respondents chose to review the questions prior to answering).
- iii. An analysis strategy was discussed and responsibilities were assigned. Goal is to provide an initial report for SEC on Mon, 6 April, with target of Faculty Senate on Thu, 16 April.

3) New Business

- a. None at this time.

4) Other discussions

a. Developing a Policy about Remote Work Faculty Positions

- i. We decided to not pursue anything at this time because we think the Alternative Work Arrangement Policy ([4.2502](#)) covers it.

5) **Adjournment** occurred around 4:00 PM CT

Next meeting is Friday, 17 Apr 2025 at 3 PM CT via Zoom.

Report prepared by Ashley Orehek (30 March 2026).