

Faculty Senate Newsletter

FSM: Oct. 12, 2015

College of Science & Mathematics

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From the President's Report:

1. Presidential Debate 2016

<http://www.wright.edu/event/debate>

Wright State has been chosen to host the first Presidential Debate of 2016, which will be held on Monday, September 26, 2016 at the Nutter Center. On November 5th, a small group from Wright State will attend a conference in Washington D.C., hosted by the Commission on Presidential Debates, to learn from other institutions that have previously hosted debates.

The debate may be a one-day event, but it needs to be much more than that. Hosting the debate will provide Wright State with the opportunity to increase and enhance civic engagement throughout Raid-

er Country. The University is developing and requesting ideas on how to use the debate to showcase Wright State and its students, and how to engage the regional 16-county K-12 programs.

It's estimated that the cost to host a debate is between \$3-5million, it is the hope of the administration that the debate can be leveraged to bring in more than \$10million to the University. Wright State tuition & SSI money will not be used to fund the debate, and the University is currently working with the state of Ohio and private sources to secure funding to host the debate and make other debate-related enhancements such as improvements to the Nutter Center and the nearby corridor.

Faculty governance will be

reminding the administration that care will need to be taken to minimize the debate's impact on our ability to teach our students.

2. Dr. Polatajko Announcement

Dr. Mark Polatajko, Vice President for Business & Finance and Chief Financial Officer, has accepted the Senior Vice President position at Kent State University, but will remain at Wright State until January 2016. The administration has begun conversations with Senate leadership regarding how to proceed with the recent reorganization of the Provost's Office that split the duties between the Provost/Chief-Academic-Officer and the Chief Financial Officer.



From the Provost's Report:

1. Student Success Center Grand Opening

<https://youtu.be/Hoeb2VqtfcI>

The Grand Opening of the new Student Success Center was this past Friday, October 9th. Crews from WDTN were present and captured excellent footage showcasing Senator Fred Garber's large active learning class in action. The room was abuzz with thirty tables of students engaged in multidisciplinary work, sharing ideas, and working with faculty; which is exactly what the new Student Success Center represents – a way for faculty to look at new methods to get students engaged in learning.

2. Personnel Announcements

Dr. Joseph Keferl has been named Dean-elect of the College of Education & Human Services effective October 1st.

Dr. La Pearl Winfrey, who had been serving as interim Dean, has been named Dean of the School of Professional Psychology effective immediately.

The search for the new University General Counsel has begun with Associate Provost Steven Berberich chairing the search committee. Additional details will be available as the search progresses.

3. Earthquake Preparedness

<http://www.wright.edu/emergency-management>

On October 15th at 10:15am, Wright State will be participating in the Shake Out Earthquake Preparedness Drill. All channels will be utilized to initiate the drill, including the indoor building notification system. Additional details are available on the Emergency Management website.

4. Ohio Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education

<https://www.ohiohighered.org/affordability-efficiency>

The Ohio Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education released their report last week and it contains a number of items that will impact Wright State. Most recommendations deal with finance, purchasing, and operations but there are several that deal with academics. Fortunately Wright State has already addressed or is in the process of addressing several of the recommendations as part of the response to the Ohio Legislature's 5% Challenge :

- Textbook affordability - Faculty will be asked to submit their textbook orders by the time of registration, as required by law, in order to allow students to find the best price for their books.
- Time-to-degree component
 - Standardizing number of credit hours for degrees
 - Data-driven advising
 - Increased summer programs
 - Increased competency-based credits

and auxiliary units. The review process stopped over summer due to changes within the Provost's Office as well as a need to re-tool the process, but do not appear to have resumed. The Executive Committee has requested that the Provost's Office ensure that the reviews resume.

Internal Review Survey of International Programs

The Executive Committee has named Matt Rizki, Chair of Computer Science & Engineering, and Jeannette Horwitz, Director of LEAP, to participate in the Internal Review Survey of International Programs which is part of the 360-review of International Education.

HLC Accreditation Communication Committee

The Executive Committee has named Scott Peterson, COLA, and is working to find a second member to the HLC Accreditation Communication Committee.

Shantou University MOU & Articulation

The College of Business has asked the Senate to review a transfer articulation arranged with Shantou University in China. The Executive Committee has endorsed the agreement pending a change to two electives currently filled by what appear to be ideological-based courses.

The Undergraduate Academic Policies Committee has been asked to develop a policy governing the approval of international articulation agreement

Space Allocation Survey

The Executive Committee reviewed and provided feedback regarding a new plan to conduct space allocation survey of Wright State facilities.

- The survey will be informed by a prior space allocation study.
- Prior to the survey, the colleges will be asked to report which spaces are secured / off-limits.
- FMS Personnel will conduct the survey when custodial staff access the rooms.
- Faculty will be given ample notice of the date when their spaces will be surveyed so that documents can be secured and arrangements can be made to attend.
- The Executive Committee has requested the following:
 - The survey lead to an improvement in signage
 - A means be developed for timely updates to space usage and a report back to the Senate indicating that the updates were made
 - The completed survey be made available for Faculty Senate review and comment
 - The final report include a breakdown indicating the amount of space dedicated to administrative, academic, and research functions.

Vice President for Research Presentation

VP for Research, Dr. Bob Fyffe, gave a lengthy presentation regarding the reorganization of his division (which includes research and sponsored programs, research compliance, technology transfer and WSRI/ARC) over the summer. Questions from the floor of the Senate regarding the role of faculty in the creation and review of policies involved with research were raised. The Senate Executive Committee will frame additional questions for Dr. Fyffe to address during its upcoming meetings.

Old Business

Distance Education Task Force Report

The Distance Education Task Force Report returned as unfinished business. After fur-

ther review of the report, eleven recommendations were recognized as needing attention from the University. Of the eleven, eight recommendations were distinguished as being outside of the Senate's scope of responsibility. A motion was passed to ask administration to address these concerns. Three of the eleven recommendations fell within the senate's scope of action. The Undergraduate Academic Policies Committee is currently acting upon one of the three recommendations, leaving two recommendations to be addressed. One, recommending adoption of uniform terminology for types of distance learning courses, was sent to the Undergraduate Academic Policies Committee for action. For the third, a motion was passed requiring the Executive Committee to create a taskforce responsible for reviewing and implementing the two remaining recommendations. Because of the urgent nature of this matter, a motion was passed to populate this taskforce prior to the November Senate meeting.

Committee and Council Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Professor Jim Menart presented an oral report focusing on four areas of interest to the University. First, the committee facilitated a meeting of several CAC faculty members with architects to make rooms in the Creative Arts building more conducive to learning. Second, an individual from the Dayton community wishes to donate 1,000 cherry trees to the Dayton area. Wright State University is one of the locations being examined to potentially receive of some of the trees. Third, individuals working on the campus master plan will speak at a future Faculty Senate meeting. Finally, Dr. Menart reported that 43 faculty parking spaces in lot 17 had been lost during the construction of the NEC building. The lost spaces have been replaced in lot 1A and lot 14, but the administration had agreed prior to the NEC construction that the spaces would be replaced in lot 17. The Buildings and Grounds Committee is currently discussing potential ways to expand campus parking to accommodate for more student and staff parking spaces. Dr. Garber raised a suggestion that the university investigate ending faculty-student parking segregation as a means to reduce parking pressures on campus.

Woods Committee

The chair of the Woods Committee, Dr. Thomas Rooney, presented a verbal report before the Senate. Dr. Rooney informed the senate that from April until October Wright State University may no longer cut down any trees because of prior violations to endangered species protections in the area. Dr. Rooney discussed the desirability of development of a Habitat Conservation Plan that would include a conservation easement between Wright State University and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio Ecological Services Office, which would state that Wright State will continue protecting species on campus in exchange for greater flexibility of upkeep on natural areas on campus property. The committee has begun work on writing the plan. The committee is also implementing a 5-year plan to develop a trail system through the woods and pollinator gardens to enhance wildlife habitat to better utilize the natural areas on Wright State property.

Faculty Line

Faculty Senate Meeting dates, agendas and minutes: www.wright.edu/administration/senate.

By Faculty Senate Interns: Arica Rohn and Jonathan Dillon

Executive Committee Report

Academic Integrity

While the Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee reviews the current academic integrity policies, the Senate Executive Committee has requested that the Provost instruct the Deans of every college to fully inform students of all due process mechanisms (departmental, college, and university petitions/appeals) at the beginning of an integrity case and to ensure that it happens at the first integrity infraction.

Service Unit Reviews

Last year, in response to Senate feedback regarding the Mission Driven Allocation budget proposal, the administration agreed to conduct reviews of all academic service

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