

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

Regular Meeting, 11 April 2023, 4:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

ACTION MINUTES

SENATORS PRESENT: J. Albarracin, D. Atherton, S. Bailey, D. Banash, D. Barr, B. Bellott, M. Bernards, D. Brown, G. Cabedo-Timmons, A. Carr, C. Chadwell, L. Ebert Wallace, D. Hunter, J. Land, T. Lough, S. Macchi, K. Perone, B. Petrocovicci, M. Shamsuddoha, E. Shupe, Y. Tang, J. Wroblewski

Ex-officio: Craig Whetten, Parliamentarian; Provost Manoochehr Zoghi

SENATORS ABSENT: P. Eathington, B. Thompson

GUESTS: Andy Baker, Tom Blackford, Joe Cantu, Sean Cordes, Dennis DeVolder, Ritchie Gabbei, Paige Goodwin, Denise Gravitt, Shelby Henning, Sarah Lawson, Michael Lorenzen, Jim McQuillan, Russ Morgan, Mark Mossman, Renee Polubinsky, Linda Prosis, Jeremy Robinett, Jim Sarra, Sebastian Szjyka, Seyfi Turkelli, Baofu Wang, Lisa Wipperling

Senate Secretary Julia Albarracin chaired the meeting in Chairperson Bill Thompson's absence.

I. Consideration of Minutes

A. March 28, 2023

APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED

II. Announcements

A. Approvals from the President

1. Expansion of Recognition for Retired Faculty and Administrators Policy so that Unit B faculty are eligible for faculty emeriti designation. Senator Albarracin noted that Unit B faculty will be able to achieve the designation of Associate Faculty Emeriti.

B. Provost's Report – temporarily postponed until Provost's arrival after the conclusion of another meeting

C. Student Government Association (SGA) Report

(Joe Cantu, SGA Director of Academic Affairs)

Mr. Cantu reported that SGA is working on the transition between the current and next year's eBoard. He related that the current (Fiifi Godwyll) and incoming (Kyle Ramlow) SGA presidents have been talking about ongoing issues. He said that President Godwyll is speaking with the administration to let them know that students would like to see a lot more transparency going forward regarding fees and funds. Mr. Cantu related that a rumor has been going around that international students will see a 25 percent increase in tuition, but this was found to be blown out of proportion and incorrect. He said SGA would like to avoid these kinds of false alarms and misunderstandings.

B. Provost's Report (Reordered)

Provost Zoghi related he had a wonderful visit from Senator Mike Halpin today, and WIU's representatives gave a good presentation to him.

Provost Zoghi related he discussed with the Executive Committee the need for capturing the student attendance policy in the syllabus. He thinks this is a conversation that might benefit from input by those in attendance at the Senate meeting. Senator Albarracin explained that the Executive Committee discussed the relationship between class attendance and retention. She noted that WIU does not have a mandatory attendance policy, but if faculty have a policy, they must include it in their syllabi. She said Provost Zoghi expressed an interest in reviewing that policy.

Provost Zoghi related that the university has experienced a lot of challenges this past year with students not attending classes, and he thought that this might be addressed with inclusion of attendance information in the course syllabus. He pointed out that #8 on the policy specifies faculty syllabi must include "attendance requirements and penalties, if any." He wonders if it might be possible in the future to include a statement in the Course Syllabus Policy indicating that students need to attend classes and that if they do not there are certain measures that will be taken. He asked if those in attendance at the meeting have any suggestions or experiences to share.

Senator Carr asked if the Provost thinks this would be applicable for asynchronous online courses because she does not take attendance in those but students engage in weekly participation. Provost Zoghi responded this is a good question.

Senator Wroblewski said he would be slightly worried about creating a university-wide attendance policy. He noted that every professor teaches in their own way; some are stricter than others, as the class needs are figured out. Senator Wroblewski thinks that class attendance is very important, but if students are not coming to class now, even when professors build their attendance policy into their syllabi, he is not sure that making a university-wide policy, which might not fit the individual needs of the students or of the particular class it is applied to, would be the best answer.

Senator Ebert Wallace noted that the university is coming out of the pandemic, during which attendance was upended for many reasons, so she thinks this is a good time to think about this topic again. She related that faculty have struggled to get students to culturally transition back to attending classes in-person reliably. Senator Ebert Wallace added a large banner at the top of her syllabi to reiterate that this is not an online class, and nothing can be completed without coming to class. She recalled that last year felt very transitional with students continuing to operate somewhat outside the norms; students still expected to be able to do some things online if they needed to, for instance if they were ill. Senator Ebert Wallace thinks the university needs to move clearly beyond pandemic norms but also thinks it is impractical to create a university-wide attendance policy. She did not, however, think a university-wide attendance policy was what the Provost was suggesting; she thinks the Provost is just asking faculty to pay special attention to attendance. Senator Ebert Wallace has taken down things that were on WesternOnline to make it perfectly clear that her class is held in-person. She is trying to shift the norms back with her students and is open to anything that would help do that.

Senator Banash has taught a lot in the the First-Year Experience (FYE) program and a lot of General Education and freshmen/sophomore courses. He believes attendance can predict how well students will do in a class and noted that WIU is bringing in students that are extraordinarily vulnerable. He would be in favor of a university policy that says that professors who are teaching freshmen and sophomore courses should, at a minimum, be required to report attendance. He would hope this information would be available to advisors so they can coordinate and be on the same page as professors. Senator Banash recognizes academic freedom considerations, but when he thinks about freshmen and sophomore Gen Ed classes and the challenges the university faces, he would be strongly in favor of the university getting together to think about this as a team.

Associate Provost Mossman concurs with Senator Banash. He thinks it is important to know there is a direct correlation between attendance and student failure in classes. Associate Provost Mossman arrived at WIU in 2001 and has heard discussions about a university-wide attendance policy since he

has been here, but he thinks it would be hard to do this for a variety of reasons. He thinks it would be beneficial for the university to think as an institution about using administrative tools and communicating to/from advisors and faculty about improving the environment because improving attendance improves the success and retention of students. Associate Provost Mossman recognizes that attendance has been a chronic problem for universities since he was in college, but coming out of the pandemic it has become an acute problem. He noted that WIU's First Generation students and other considerations make it important for the university to come together to determine a solution.

Senator Bernards noticed his first couple of years at WIU how big a driver attendance was, so since then he has had an attendance policy. He has tried to frame his policy with some freedom by determining the number of class periods students meet during the semester and assigning students two, three, or four "vacation" days based on if the course is 2, 3, or 4 s.h. Senator Bernards tells students that when they graduate they may have a job where they get two weeks of vacation, so these are their vacation days to use for interviews, funerals, or other needs; beyond their assigned days, there are penalties. Senator Bernards would support encouraging faculty to have an attendance policy but thinks that its structure should be up to the individual faculty members.

Senator Shupe related she teaches many classes, some with as few as ten students and others with up to 60 students. She said it is easy to keep attendance in the small classes where she knows the students very well and it is easy to see who is there, but in the larger classes, when there is a lot of material to cover in 50 minutes, doing daily attendance takes a huge chunk out of her educational time. She has not found an easy way to take attendance with the larger classes, whether by assigned seats, roll call, or other methods; all take a significant portion of the time she has available to teach.

Senator Hunter thinks students should use the Online Absence Reporting System (OARS) when they miss class; he thinks using this system deters students from missing class. Senator Hunter lets his students know that class attendance is expected, not recommended, and that by not attending class students will lose points and their grades suffer. Senator Hunter thinks the OARS system needs to be part of this discussion because it has been a good tool for his students to dissuade them from missing class. He thinks that if students are honest on OARS about why they are missing class, it kind of helps them understand the importance of attending.

Senator Wroblewski agrees that having an attendance policy in each class is important and agrees with Senator Bernards that faculty should have the freedom to assess what that policy should be. He has a policy similar to Senator Bernards's. Senator Wroblewski recognizes that the university is coming out of the pandemic and trying to get back to normalcy, but he does not think there will be normalcy as it was known prior to Covid. He noted that things are shifting around the world and will likely not go back to the way they were, and he does not think this type of thinking is going to work. He agrees that attendance is probably a key indicator in retention and how well students do, but he also suspects that thinking WIU will go back to how things were pre-Covid is not feasible. Senator Wroblewski noted, for instance, that universities are now creating mental health days, a topic of discussion at a previous Senate meeting. He wants faculty and the administration to realize that times are changing and thinks classroom policies need to reflect this as well.

Provost Zoghi asked if it makes sense to encourage faculty to have some sort of statement in their course syllabi and leave it up to faculty how they want to describe that. He thinks the statement could stress that attendance in classes is important and would like to encourage faculty to capture that information on their course syllabi.

Senator Banash thinks it is important to give faculty flexibility, but he also thinks faculty have a responsibility to freshmen and sophomore students who are coming to WIU with different kinds of expectations but are also tremendously at risk, even the good students. He thinks there needs to be a broader university commitment to encourage these students to get back into the classroom, and an attendance policy is probably only part of that. Senator Banash has changed his pedagogy a lot; he now has daily reading quiz which is worth a lot of points, something he would never have done in the past. He said students have to come to class to take the quiz, and if they do not, they have to write annotated bibliography entries to make up for it, which is one of the few ways that Senator

Banash can drive students to class. He thinks the university needs to have a larger conversation about how pedagogy may have to change a little bit, particularly in freshmen and sophomore classes. Senator Banash is not indicating that one size fits all by any means, but he does think the issue is bigger than an attendance policy. He agrees that attendance is a part of this and hopes that Faculty Senate spends time with the administration working on what can be done because if students who are so at risk are going to be brought to WIU, it is incumbent also to support them. Provost Zoghi agrees with Senator Banash and looks forward to the opportunity to develop some sort of summer bridge program so that these students can be better prepared.

Senator Albarracin likes the idea of recording attendance. She does not think the university should decide what kind of penalties faculty should assign to absentee students, but if attendance is recorded that information could be used to the students' benefit by others at the university. She does not think professors should be told how many points students should lose if they are absent, but she likes the idea of asking faculty to record and report attendance and absences.

Theatre and Dance professor Lisa Wipperling agrees with a lot of what has been said, particularly the reflection that the university is coming out of the pandemic and needs to adopt something. She does not, however, think the university can go back to what it was pre-pandemic because life is a bit different now. She wonders if there could be some device so that faculty can know who the advisors of their students are so that if a student is consistently absent for the first two or three weeks of school to the extent that the student's grade would suffer if this pattern continued, the advisor could be informed in some way. Associate Provost Mossman responded that this is possible, and at the next Faculty Senate meeting there will be a proposal to move the early warning midterm grades to a date earlier in the semester. He added that an administrative program is being developed so that faculty can report if a student has not shown up to class for the first three weeks. Ms. Wipperling remarked that this would allow faculty to still have their own attendance policies but provide the information that the university needs to move forward. Associate Provost Mossman thinks there needs to be multiple ways to tackle this problem and that it needs to be addressed as an institution.

Senator Hunter thinks that if the university is going to have an attendance policy, the attendance tracking software needs to be restored or replaced. He said it has not worked well all semester, so everyone has had to take manual attendance.

Senator Barr asked if the discussion is only about undergraduates, graduates, or all students. He noted that there are many delivery formats, particularly at the graduate level; for instance, he teaches a class for three weeks only on Saturdays and Sundays, so there is no standardized way to take attendance in the manner being suggested. Provost Zoghi responded the primary concern is undergraduates, particularly freshmen and sophomores. He expressed special concern for incoming freshmen not even showing up and seeming to "check out" of their classes. Senator Barr said he asked because he has seen a few instances since arriving at WIU where policies were established with undergraduates in mind but were applied to everyone. He noted that some policies are not as easily applied to graduate students, and he thinks this would be one of them. Senator Barr related he does not take attendance but works it out with his students individually, but they are working adults. Provost Zoghi said that is a good point.

Senator Shupe agrees attendance is very important and knows that it correlates with grades; students attending classes regularly tend to have better grades. Senator Shupe is teaching classes in three modalities: face-to-face, online, and recording lectures in zoom for Early Childhood teachers and students attending class from the Caribbean. She has no way of knowing which of her students are watching the zoom lectures at a later time and does not know how she could provide accountability for this teaching method. She related that for her bigger classes she does random pop quizzes if she sees that it appears there are a lot of students who are not attending class.

Senator Barr asked what the purpose is of taking attendance but only collecting it. He would like to know what is to be done with the attendance that faculty are being asked to collect. Senator Hunter responded that taking attendance allows faculty to coordinate with a student's advisor if someone is missing a lot of class and then work a plan out. Senator Barr said this is a good reason; he just

wondered what happens to all of the data that is being collected. Engineering and Technology professor Denise Gravitt noted that attendance must be collected for financial aid so that students do not receive federal funding for classes they are not attending. She added that, by law, the university is supposed to be collecting this data, no matter what. Senator Barr said that he has never been asked for it. Dr. Gravitt said she is asked every time a student drops or flunks her class if the student had been attending or when they stopped attending because the student may have to pay back financial aid they received. Senator Barr noted that some of his classes do not start until the end of October or first part of November; there are so many different requirements based on the programs or the course delivery method.

Provost Zoghi noted that one size does not fit all but reiterated that, according to the Course Syllabus Policy, all faculty should specify attendance requirements and penalties, if any, on their syllabi. He said the administration wants to remain flexible and not mandate attendance policies but wants to encourage faculty to include them because they do help with retention. He noted that student retention has been a problem and might only get worse because current students are not as ready for college.

Senator Albaracin remarked that if she has a student who disappears from her class and stops attending, she submits a Leatherneck Care report. She would like to get feedback on these reports after submitting them to the Student Development Office because she never hears back if the student is okay.

Senator Tang related he has a mandatory attendance policy in every class he teaches; students can miss three times without penalty but lose five points for every unexcused absence beyond those. Excused absences require documentation. He thinks freshmen and sophomore students need mandatory attendance policies because many of them are not college ready.

SGA Representative Joe Cantu related that he and some other SGA cabinet members met with Provost Zoghi and Associate Provost Mossman about this issue. He stated that after meetings with other students and cabinet members, SGA supports an attendance policy and thinks it would improve students' retention and success in their classes. He said SGA supports having flexibility for faculty to implement attendance policies in ways that work for them, but they think some sort of attendance policy should be implemented.

D. Other Announcements

1. Election of Senate Officers

a. Chair

Motion: To nominate Julia Albarracin for Chair (Albarracin)

Senator Albarracin observed that Faculty Senate has not had a female chair for many years, and she would like to take up the challenge by nominating herself. Senator Albarracin turned over the gavel to Parliamentarian Whetten since she cannot run the meeting and run for a position.

There were no further nominations, and Senator Albarracin was elected Chair. Senator Albarracin took back the gavel to run the remaining elections.

b. Vice Chair

Motion: To nominate Craig Whetten for Vice Chair (Whetten)

There were no further nominations, and Parliamentarian Whetten was elected Vice Chair.

- c. Secretary

Motion: To nominate Guada Cabedo-Timmons for Secretary (Albarracin)
Senator Cabedo-Timmons turned down the nomination.

Motion: To nominate Denise Gravitt for Secretary (Gravitt)

There were no further nominations, and Dr. Gravitt was elected as Secretary.

2. Election of Senate Nominating Committee Representatives

- a. College of Arts and Sciences

Parliamentarian Whetten asked if there is any reason why he could not volunteer to serve on the Senate Nominating Committee if he is also to be on the Executive Committee. Ms. Hamm responded she could not think of any prohibition against this.

Motion: To nominate Craig Whetten (Whetten)

- b. College of Business and Technology

Motion: To nominate Dave Hunter (Hunter)

- c. College of Education and Human Services

Motion: To nominate Katherine Perone (Perone)

- d. College of Fine Arts and Communication

Motion: To nominate James Land (Land)

There were no further nominations, and the nominees were elected.

- e. Senate Nominating Committee Chair

Motion: To nominate Katherine Perone (Hunter)

There were no other nominations, and Senator Perone was elected SNC Chair.

III. Reports of Committees and Councils

- A. Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (CCPI)
(Paige Goodwin, Chair)

- 1. Curricular Requests from the School of Agriculture

- a. Request for Change of Minor

- i. Cannabis Production

Dr. Goodwin noted that the request asks to restructure the minor to allow students to pursue pathways to genetics and cultivation. Agriculture professor Shelby Henning said the changes are intended to strengthen the minor to make it more appropriate for the current industry. He noted that the current title, Cannabis Production, refers to extraction after the hemp has been grown, but WIU does not do that; the School of Agriculture only

grows the plant. Dr. Shelly said the name of the minor was wrong when it was created, but the school was unaware of this. The title of the minor would be changed to Cannabis Cultivation if approved, and it would be strengthened by adding a breeding track and a cultivation track so that students can specialize further. He added that the industry has changed, so Agriculture's program is changing with the times.

CHANGE OF MINOR APPROVED

2. Curricular Requests from the School of Computer Sciences

a Requests for New Courses

- i. IS 335, Introduction to Cloud Computing, 3 s.h.

IS 335 APPROVED

- ii. IS 425, Artificial Intelligence Applications and Management, 3 s.h.

Senator Tang remarked that it seems as though the proposal overlaps with CS 460. He also noted that legal implications of AI and privacy laws, contract laws, and other laws have been widely discussed in recent years. He wonders if it would be beneficial to add one word to the course description. The course description says the course will “review ethical, business, and organization challenges in developing AI capabilities.” Senator Tang asked if “legal” should be added to this list.

Computer Sciences professor Jim McQuillan admitted he does not know the answer; because he is not an Information Systems faculty member, he does not know if those faculty members plan to look at the legal implications of AI in this course. In response to Senator Tang's first question, Dr. McQuillan said there will be some overlap with CS 460, but the CS artificial intelligence courses are more technical while this course will focus more on improving business practices. He noted that Computer Sciences has an IS database course and a CS database course, but they are implemented differently depending on the audience. He added that CS courses will generally always be more technical. Python is the programming language used for both this course and the CS course, but this course will have more of a business focus.

Senator Tang thinks bringing in a couple of the legal aspects of AI would benefit students. Dr. McQuillan promised to ask IS faculty if this makes sense to them; if they wish to add this, it can be done as a minor catalog change. Senator Tang said that would be fine with him.

IS 425 APPROVED

b. Request for Change of Major

- i. Information Systems

Dr. Goodwin said the changes to the major are related to cybersecurity and business intelligence. Dr. McQuillan told senators that IS faculty are very excited about the new Business Intelligence emphasis and think it will be very attractive to students. He noted that the courses just approved by Faculty Senate would be added as directed electives. He added that UNIX would also be added as a directed elective; it is a very useful course and a

prerequisite for some other courses in the list. Additionally, students will have the option of taking either CS 395 or CS 455 as their security course; CS 455 is not as rigorous, and Computer Sciences thinks that will be fine for the learning objectives they are looking for.

CHANGE OF MAJOR APPROVED

3. Curricular Requests from the Department of Kinesiology

a. Requests for New Courses

i. KIN 111, Foundation of Tai Chi, 1 s.h.

Dr. Goodwin stated that this course will also be going to the Council on General Education to request Gen Ed designation. She noted that this course is intended to teach students how to engage in Tai Chi as a form of exercise; it will not prepare students to teach Tai Chi.

Senator Tang remarked that this looks like a very interesting class. He asked if the department would consider adding one more course objective indicating that students will learn to understand the basic philosophical concepts behind Tai Chi. Senator Tang stated that as a person who came from China, he knows that Tai Chi is deeply rooted in the Taoism tradition, and a basic understanding of those philosophical concepts would enable students to better practice the skills. Kinesiology professor Baofu Wang said that is a great suggestion. He noted that the course syllabus states that students will also learn a basic understanding of Chinese culture related to Tai Chi. He plans to show, for example, a video of a girl playing a traditional Chinese lute when students are learning about the related Tai Chi movement. Senator Tang said this sounds very good and is what he wanted to hear.

KIN 111 APPROVED

ii. NUTR 220, Foods and Nutrition, 3 s.h.

Senator Albarracin asked why the course request specifies that the course will only be taught online because if the department decided to teach it in person, they would have to submit a change request. Senator Shupe, who teaches this course, responded that the program was accidentally listed as an online program on the academy website during Covid, and a huge number of students from countries around the world and across the country have expressed an interest in taking these courses. She related that Dietetics has struggled with student numbers ever since being put on the APER list a few years ago and then being removed from it, and they see this as a way to bring that population back up. She already teaches an online healthy cooking class that has been taught for many years; students complete the labs at their homes, record them, and submit them, and that course has been very successful.

NUTR 220 APPROVED

iii. NUTR 320, Nutrition in Quantity Foods Management I, 3 s.h.

NUTR 320 APPROVED

iv. NUTR 420, Nutrition in Quantity Foods Management II, 3 s.h.

NUTR 420 APPROVED

- b. Requests for Changes of Majors
 - i. Nutrition and Food Service Management

Dr. Goodwin noted that many of the changes are related to accreditation.

CHANGE OF NUTRITION AND FOODSERVICE MANAGEMENT MAJOR APPROVED

- ii. Nutrition and Dietetics

CHANGE OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS MAJOR APPROVED

4. Curricular Requests from the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration

- a. Request for Change of Minor
 - i. Hospitality Management

RPTA professor Jeremy Robinett stated that the request includes some course changes and better reflects what the program will be doing curricularly.

CHANGE OF MINOR APPROVED

5. Curricular Requests from the School of Education

- a. Requests for Changes of Options

Dr. Goodwin observed that the options are being changed in order to remove MATH 260 and replace it with MATH 106 and 206. She reviewed the other individual changes for each request.

- i. Early Childhood
- ii. Elementary Education
- iii. English as a Second Language
- iv. Multilingual

CHANGES OF OPTIONS APPROVED

- b. Requests for Changes of Majors

- i. Middle Level Education
- ii. Special Education

Dr. Goodwin said the changes are being requested to make the majors more attractive to transfer students. She outlined the changes for each request. Senator Hunter asked why the directed General Education courses are being removed from each and what they will be replaced with. Interim Director of the School of Education Sebastian Szyjka responded that they will not necessarily be replaced. He stated that as a result of Illinois School Code 25 legislation, the rules have changed for Early Childhood and Elementary Education so that General Education courses will no longer be required for those majors. He said that the School of Education would also like to extend this to Middle Level and Special Education majors. He added that advisors will continue to place students in Gen Ed courses based on their

needs and their deficiencies upon entering WIU. Dr. Szyjka said the intent is to make all Education programs look similar in response to the change in legislation, and students will take the Gen Ed courses if they do not have them when they transfer in.

CHANGES OF MAJORS APPROVED

B. Council for International Education (CIE)
(Sean Cordes, Chair)

1. Request for Discipline-Specific Global Issues (DSGI) Designation

- a. SSED 354, Methods for Teaching Social Studies PreK-2nd Grade, 3 s.h.

Dr. Cordes told senators this is the first Global Issues request that CIE has considered post-pandemic. He noted that some of the new courses being considered by Faculty Senate, such as Tai Chi, may have global issues focus, so departments should keep that in mind.

Dr. Cordes related that CIE overwhelmingly approved this course request, and there were no issues with the course content or material. He related that one CIE member remarked that the course seems to cover multiple objectives. The response from Education was that teachers need to be able to teach all of these objectives from a discipline-specific social studies perspective, so it makes sense to cover more than one standard. Dr. Cordes added this is not atypical for education courses.

DSGI DESIGNATION APPROVED

C. Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)
(Dave Hunter, Chair)

1. Nominations for Fall 2023 Vacancies

SENATE COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Council on Admission, Graduation, and Academic Standards (CAGAS)

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|------|------|
| Barry McCrary, LEJA | replacing | Julie Brines | 2026 | E&HS |
| Lawrence Leff, Computer Sciences | replacing | Graciela Andrago | 2026 | B&T |
| Josh Wroblewski, Theatre/Dance | replacing | Julie Cox | 2026 | FA&C |

Council on Campus Planning and Usage (CCPU)

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|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------|----------|
| Rick Hardy, Political Science | replacing | Craig Whetten | 2025 | A&S |
| Haritima Chauhan, AFED | replacing | Denise Gravitt | 2024 | B&T |
| Dan Schmidt, Theatre/Dance | replacing | Bill Howard | 2026 | FA&C |
| Curtis Simonson, Education | replacing | Redina Finch | 2026 | AT-LARGE |

Council on Curricular Programs and Instruction (CCPI)

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|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------|----------|
| Minsun Doh, RPTA | replacing | Paige Goodwin | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| Anjam Razzaque, Computer Sciences | replacing | Hoyet Hemphill | 2026 | B&T |

Council on General Education (CGE)

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|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------|--------------|
| Greg Baramidze, Computer Sciences | replacing | Lia Petrocovic | 2026 | MATH/NAT SCI |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------|--------------|

Council for Instructional Technology (CIT)

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|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------|------|-----|
| Andrea Alvshere, Soc/Anth | replacing | Hunt Dunlap | 2026 | A&S |
| Md Shahin Alam, Engineering/Tech | replacing | Nilanjan Sen | 2026 | B&T |

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|----------------------|-----------|--------------|------|---------|
| Paul Chinen, Music | replacing | Emily Sevick | 2026 | FA&C |
| Sean Cordes, Library | replacing | Brian Clark | 2026 | LIBRARY |

Council for International Education (CIE)

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|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|------|---------|
| Sanjetta Ghimire, Engineering/Tech | replacing | Sanjetta Ghimire | 2026 | B&T |
| Brian Clark, Library | replacing | Sean Cordes | 2026 | LIBRARY |
| Jongnam Choi, EAGIS | replacing | Edmund Asare | 2026 | A&S |

Council on Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID)

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|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------|------|
| Hollie Mason, Education | replacing | Kaycee Peterman | 2026 | E&HS |
| Joel Gruver, Agriculture | replacing | Janice Gates | 2026 | A&S |

UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES:

Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) Advisory Committee

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|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------|------|
| Ute Chamberlin, History | replacing | Casey LaFrance | 2025 | A&S |
| Michelle Howe, Mgmt/Mktg | replacing | Michelle Howe | 2025 | B&T |
| Minsun Doh, RPTA | replacing | Jeremy Robinett | 2025 | E&HS |

Bureau of Cultural Affairs

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|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|------|----------|
| Daniel Schmidt, Theatre/Dance | replacing | Brian Clark | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| Jessica Martin, BC&J | replacing | Elgin Mannion | 2026 | AT-LARGE |

Campus Violence Prevention Committee

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|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|------|----------|
| Pat Vandermeulen-Walton, LEJA | replacing | Patricia Vandermeulen-Walton | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
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CITR Advisory Committee

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|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|------|---------|
| Suzanne Bailey, LEJA | replacing | Jennifer McGarry | 2024 | WIUQC |
| Janice Gates, Mgmt/Mktg | replacing | Martin Maskarinec | 2026 | B&T |
| Jim Sarra, Kinesiology | replacing | Robert Kelly | 2026 | E&HS |
| Craig Whetten, Library | replacing | Sean Cordes | 2026 | LIBRARY |

Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Selection Committee

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|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------|------|
| Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, Soc/Anth | replacing | Rich Filipink | 2026 | A&S |
| Katherine Perone, Hlth Sci/Soc Wrk | replacing | Eric Mansfield | 2026 | E&HS |

Diversity Council

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|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------|----------|
| Leigh Ann Fisler, Psychology | replacing | Julie Eggleston | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| Monica Rouse, Education | replacing | Monica Rouse | 2026 | AT-LARGE |

FYE Leadership Committee

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|--------------------|--|--|------|----------|
| Steve Gray, AFED | | | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| Troy Stinson, LEJA | | | 2026 | AT-LARGE |

Committee on Honorary Degrees

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|------------------------|-----------|---------------|------|----------|
| Yong Tang, BC&J | replacing | Bruce Western | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| Rich Filipink, History | replacing | Steven House | 2026 | AT-LARGE |

Honors Council

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|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|------|------|
| Munia Cabal-Jimenez, FLL | replacing | Bill Knox | 2026 | A&S |
| Yeongkwun Kim, Computer Sciences | replacing | Alla Melkumian | 2026 | B&T |
| Minsun Doh, RPTA | replacing | Young Gin Choi | 2026 | E&HS |
| Rebel Mickelson, Theatre/Dance | replacing | Josh Wroblewski | 2026 | FA&C |

Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------------|------|----------|
| Amy Carr, RRGM | replacing | Amy Carr | 2027 | MEMBER |
| <u>Intellectual Property Oversight Committee</u> | | | | |
| Mei Wen, Health Sciences/Soc Wrk | replacing | Craig Tollini | 2026 | E&HS |
| <u>Provost's Advisory Council</u> | | | | |
| Andrea Hyde, Education | replacing | Pat Vandermeulen-Walton | 2025 | AT-LARGE |
| <u>Radiation Safety Committee</u> | | | | |
| Doug LaFountain, Math/Philosophy | replacing | Saisudha Mallur | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| <u>Student Laureate Selection Committee</u> | | | | |
| Bob Mann, Math/Philosophy | replacing | Christie Davis | 2026 | A&S |
| Kristin Wiseley, Education | replacing | Suzanne Bailey | 2026 | E&HS |
| <u>University Benefits Committee</u> | | | | |
| Patricia Vandermeulen-Walton, LEJA | replacing | Denise Gravitt | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| <u>University Conduct Board</u> | | | | |
| Bruce Western, Mgmt/Mktg | replacing | Karen Zellman | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| Christopher Pynes, Math/Philosophy | replacing | Davison Bideshi | 2026 | AT-LARGE |
| <u>University Technology Advisory Group</u> | | | | |
| Beth Hansen, Math/Philosophy | replacing | Amy Ekanayaki | 2026 | A&S |
| Donna Wiencek, Mgt/Mktg | replacing | Yeongkwun Kim | 2026 | B&T |
| Bridget Sheng, Education | replacing | Debra Allwardt | 2026 | E&HS |
| Michael Lorenzen, Library | replacing | Sean Cordes | 2026 | LIBRARY |

There were no additional nominations, and the slate of candidates was appointed.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

A. Proposal to Create an Ad Hoc Committee on Anti-Bullying Policies

Senator Albarracin related that she, Senator Tang, and Chair Thompson worked on the composition of the committee and the main issues that the committee will deal with. She noted that bullying is widespread in all academic institutions, and WIU is no exception. She stated that individuals affected by bullying suffer multiple psychological consequences, and it is very impactful in their lives. Senator Albarracin said the Executive Committee proposes creating an ad hoc committee to study solutions to this problem.

Senator Albarracin said the membership being proposed would include one senator, one trustee, one administrator, and one representative each from the Council of Academic Personnel and the Civil Service Employees Council. She said the ad hoc committee would study what type of policy might be established, but the policy would eventually come from the Board of Trustees.

Motion: To approve creating this ad hoc committee (Cabedo-Timmons/Tang)

MOTION APPROVED 15 YES – 0 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS

B. Proposal to Create an Ad Hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence

Senator Albarracin stated that the proposed composition of this ad hoc committee would include two senators, two CAGAS representatives, and one administrator. She noted that AI is moving very

quickly into all spheres of life, including academic life; students are using AI platforms to write their papers and term projects. She said the committee would study this situation and suggest some policies.

Motion: To approve creating this ad hoc committee (Hunter/Banash)

MOTION APPROVED 13 YES – 0 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS

C. For the Good of the Body

Dr. Robinett stated that he and Dr. Keith created a survey regarding faculty perceptions and experiences with online education at WIU. He said that all faculty should have received an email related to this and asked them to please take the time to complete it. He added that it is IRB approved. Senator Hunter remarked that there is also a human resources survey on the WIU news announcements, but it was pointed out that this one is not for faculty.

Motion: To adjourn (Banash)

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Hamm, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary