

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
Minutes of 12 May 2022****Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate was called to order at 5:01 p.m. on 12 May 2022, in rooms 208/209 of the Bernhard Center and via Webex video conferencing by Sarah Summy, president.

**Roll Call:** There were 65 members and substitutes present, and 13 guests.

**Members Present In-Person:** Pnina Ari-Gur, JoAnn Atkin, Christopher Cheatham, Lisa DeChano-Cook, Decker Hains, Patrick Hanlin, Keith Hearit, David Huffman, John Jellies, Jean Kimmel, David Rudge, Kahler Schuemann (substitute for Edward Montgomery), Scott Slawinski, Brian Tripp, Andre Venter, Zeljka Vidic, Bret Wagner

**Members Present Virtually:** Osama Abudayyeh, Upul Attanayake, Sunday Bonifas, Stephanie Burns, Zbigniew Chajeccki, Jou-Chen Chen, Mohammad Daneshvar Kakhki (substitute for Reza Mousavi), William Davis, Whitney DeCamp, Anthony DeFulio, Suma Devanga, Mioara Diaconu, Steven Eberth, Kieran Fogarty, Sandra Glista, Janet Hahn, Keith Hall, Chansheng He, Michelle Hrivnyak, Pavel Ikonomov, Antonio Isea, Kyle Jehnzen, Dean Johnson, Mary Lagerwey, Doug Lepisto, Geoffrey Lindenberg, Nathan Lisak, Thayma Lutz, Colin MacCreery, Candy McCorkle, Parviz Merati, Joshua Naranjo, Amy Naugle, Dave Nofsinger, Kelley Pattison, David Paul, John Petrovic, Troy Place, Lori Reichel, Larry Simon, Marianne Swierenga, David Szabla, Laura Teichert, Jan Van Der Kley, Shu Yang, Andrew Zolp

**Members Absent:** Diane Anderson, Amy Bocko, Trey Harris, Lynn Heasley, Don Hoover, Stephen Kaczmarek, Vyascheslav Karpov, Dae Kim, Tetyana Koshmanova, Marilyn Kritzman, Mahendra Lawoti, Matthew Mingus, Kelsey Paschich, Alexandra Pekarovicova, William Rantz, Diane Riggs, Joshua Santos, Tim Scheu, C. Dennis Simpson, Paul Solomon, Carol Weideman

**Guests Present In-Person:** Steve Carr, Interim Vice President, Research and Innovation; Marcia Fetters, Associate Dean, Education and Human Development;

**Guests Present Virtually:** Cathryn Bailey, Gender and Women's Studies; Derek Diget, Information Technology; Steve Durbin, Interim Chair, Engineering Design, Manufacturing and Management Systems; Lori Farrer, Graduate Student; Dyanne Foskey, Haenicke Institute for Global Education; Susan Freeman, Gender and Women's Studies; Maria Gigante, English; Brian Jansen, Aviation; Carla Koretsky, Dean, Arts and Sciences; Edwin Martini, Dean, Merze Tate; Gene McKay, Public Affairs and Administration; Grace Tiffany, English

**Faculty Senate Staff Present Virtually:** Sue Brodasky

**Quorum**

A quorum was present with 65 Senators in attendance, of the 46 needed to establish quorum.

**Agenda**

It was moved by Abudayyeh, seconded by Simon, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

**Election of Executive Board**

In keeping with Senate practice, the following people were nominated to the Executive Board for two-year terms, returning Directors:

- Lisa DeChano-Cook, Arts and Sciences
- Kieran Fogarty, Health and Human Services

- Decker Hains, Business

And new Directors:

- Anthony DeFulio, Arts and Sciences
- Kyle Jehnzen, Aviation
- John Jellies, Arts and Sciences
- Bret Wagner, Business
- Zeljka Vidic, Education and Human Development

Questions included:

- It was questioned how the Executive Board members are determined. President Summy provided the details of the Senate constitution and bylaws regarding the election of Senate officers: **Constitution, Article V: Officers and their election, Sec. 4.** *Eligibility for election to any Senate office other than president or vice president shall be restricted to past presidents of the Senate, past council chairs who served at least one year in that role, and elected members of the current Senate or of past Senates who have served for at least one year. Those holding academic rank while also serving as unit chairs/directors or assistant/associate deans may stand for election to any Senate office other than president or vice president as long as they also meet all other qualifications. No others holding Board of Trustee administrative positions shall be eligible for election. **Bylaws, Article III: Election of officers, Sec. 3.** *At its annual meeting in May, the newly constituted Senate shall elect its officers other than the president and the vice president. At least five candidates shall be nominated for the position of director such that at least five, but no more than eight directors shall be elected—the members of the Executive Board shall represent at least four different colleges or unaffiliated units. No more than three directors shall belong to the same college or unaffiliated unit. No more than three directors shall be unit chairs or assistant/associate deans.**

President Summy asked for a vote affirming the Executive Board nominations. With one objection, the slate was affirmed.

### Minutes

It was moved by Hearit, seconded by Wanger, to approve the 7 April 2022 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Questions included:

- It was asked what actions were taken regarding curriculum proposal CEHD 1155 following the last Faculty Senate meeting in April. President Summy explained that the curriculum form was signed by past president Kritzman noting that the proposal had not been approved by the Faculty Senate and it was forwarded to the administration. Discussion was held regarding the processes and procedures.

It was moved by Wagner, seconded by Hearit, to approve the 21 April 2022 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

### Report of Officer

#### Faculty Senate President Sarah Summy

President Summy reported on the passing of WMU emeriti:

- Michael Barcelona, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Engineering

President Summy welcomed re-elected departmental Senators:

- David Rudge, Biological Sciences
- Upul Attanayake, Civil and Construction Engineering
- Jean Kimmel, Economics
- Doug Lepisto, Management
- Thayma Lutz, Mathematics

- Andrew Zolp, Physician Assistant
- Zbigniew Chajewski, Physics
- Joshua Naranjo, Statistics

President Summy welcomed and thanked newly elected departmental Senators:

- William Davis, Art
- Paul Solomon, Art
- Brian Tripp, Biological Sciences
- Keith Hearit, Communication
- Michelle Hrivnyak, Intercultural and Anthropological Studies
- Bret Wagner, Marketing
- Keith Hall, Music
- Steven Eberth, Occupational Therapy
- Mahendra Lawoti, Political Science
- Patrick Hanlin, Sindecuse Health Center
- Mioara Diaconu, Social Work

The results of the Council and Committee elections will be included in the next Senate Snapshot.

The annual Faculty Retirement Recognition event that was planned for May 27 has been postponed. The event that is jointly sponsored with the Provost's office will be rescheduled for later this summer or early fall. Further details will be distributed once they have been confirmed.

### **Reports of Ex Officiis**

Due to President Montgomery's absence Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Kahler Schuemann provided the following remarks.

Currently the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine is celebrating commencement at Miller Auditorium. This is the fifth commencement for WMed and the first in-person graduation since 2019. WMU President Edward Montgomery is conferring 84 MD's at the ceremony.

There are several events and activities occurring along with new leadership in important posts worth mentioning. It's a pleasure to be working with President Summy as she steps into this pivotal role of Faculty Senate President. As Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Dr. Schuemann recognized the Faculty Senate as a valued partner in shared governance. He expressed appreciation to past president Kritzman who did an exceptional job through the extremely challenging past two years. Thanks to the Executive Board for providing sound strategy and Sue Brodasky for her logistical support. Under President Summy's guidance, the Senate will continue to be a valued contributor to the University's future.

As was announced a couple of weeks ago, pending approval by the Board of Trustees, WMU will welcome Remzi Seker as the Vice President for Research and Innovation. Seker joins the University from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida, where he served as Vice President for Research and Doctoral Programs. He has a strong record elevating research, and WMU is excited to welcome him. Thanks again to the search advisory committee, led by Jorge Rodriguez, and Jeff Breneman. Also thank you to Steven Carr for his service as the interim vice president.

<https://wmich.edu/news/2022/04/67867>

Just this week WMU welcomed a new assistant vice president for Governmental Relations. Fred Schiable joined WMU from the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, where he served as deputy director for engagement. Previously Schiable held a number of staff positions with the Michigan Legislature, and has extensive experience in key areas of state government. He's a proud Bronco alumnus and WMU is pleased to welcome him to his new role.

<https://wmich.edu/news/2022/05/68007>

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs search advisory committee met for a kickoff retreat. This team is co-chaired Sarah Summy and Brian Gogan. Thanks to them for their leadership of the 14-person committee, which includes a cross-campus group of faculty, staff, and students. Your input is needed as the position profile is further developed. If you were unable to participate in one of the several campus voice sessions, please consider providing perspective through the website: <https://wmich.edu/provostsearch>

During the Research and Innovation's Spring Convocation, the newest class of Presidential Innovation Professors were introduced. The three outstanding individuals were celebrated for creativity and entrepreneurial approaches to their disciplines. They also represent excellence from across the academic spectrum. Congratulations to this year's honorees:

- Martha Councill-Vargas, associate professor, School of Music
- Tianshu Liu, professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
- Alisa Perkins, associate professor, Department of Comparative Religion

In other awards, WMU's Trademarks and Licensing came in fourth in the nation for its Operation Hat Trick program. The other four finalists were all Power Five schools: University of Arizona; Clemson; Virginia Tech; and Texas A&M. The \$20,000 award will be donated in WMU's name to Blue Star Service Dogs in the greater Detroit area. Their mission is to provide military veterans diagnosed with PTSD and TBI with healing through service dogs. WMU partnered through the sale of branded merchandise and products, donating the proceeds to organizations related to that mission. WMU appreciates the department of Military Science and Leadership for their assistance in awarding the scholarships. <https://wmich.edu/news/2020/11/62011>

Congratulations to the Academically Talented Youth Program (ATYP) on its 40th anniversary. This program began with 22 advanced middle schoolers from seven area school districts. It gave them the chance to take part in high school-level math and language arts studies, regardless of their ability to pay. Over the past four decades the program has grown to include 60 school districts and it has served nearly 3,000 students. It's also a model for similar programs across the state. Yesterday's anniversary celebration included an announcement of the creation of the Charles C. and Lynn L. Chen-Zhang Academically Talented Youth Program Personnel Endowment. This endowment supports an ATYP coordinator position, which will enable it to serve students well into the future. <https://wmich.edu/news/2022/05/67780>

While the 57th Medieval Congress is now underway, this year's event is again virtual. The conference is always a point of pride for WMU. Jana Schulman, the WMU Medieval Institute director, has provided strong and steady leadership for the congress and the institute. As Schulman returns to faculty on July first, her incredible work and dedication to this collaborative success is appreciated. At the same time, it's an honor to welcome Robert Berkhofer as the next director.

On a final note, Governor Gretchen Whitmer appointed Kathy Purnell, an instructor in the School of Public Affairs and Administration, to a term on the Black Leadership Advisory Council. This body is charged with developing, reviewing, and recommending policies and actions designed to eradicate discrimination and racial inequity in Michigan. She will serve through December 2024. Congratulations to Purnell.

### **Acting Provost Christopher Cheatham**

Congratulations were offered to the new and returning Executive Board members and Senators.

### **Enrollment Updates:**

For this report, the focus is on observations for fall 2022. With respect to the incoming freshmen class:

- WMU surpassed the 20,000 (20,035) application mark. This puts WMU at 127% of its STRETCH goal and contributes to an increase in applications of 20% over the last two years.
- Currently 2,658 prospective students have confirmed for fall 2022. This puts WMU at 114% of its STRETCH goal and is 28% higher than this time last year.
- Lastly, 2,067 prospective students have registered for orientation.

#### University Strategic Planning Update:

- The steering committee has wrapped up its work on the University's mission, vision, and values. The President's Cabinet recently reviewed these elements and provided positive feedback. With their approval, those statements are now available for broader review. Please take a look at them via the strategic planning website: <https://wmich.edu/strategic>
- The working groups recently submitted their three to five draft objectives to the steering committee and the diversity, equity and inclusion advisory committee. Both committees will spend summer I reviewing those submissions and developing formal suggestions to be shared back with the working groups during summer II. The revised plans will be shared with the campus community for additional feedback beginning in the fall.
- The Core Team will spend the summer compiling all recommendations from the working groups, aligning language, reducing overlap, and working towards having a draft plan to present to campus at the beginning of the fall 2022 semester. In addition to receiving campus feedback on the draft plan, the focus will shift to implementation and planning within units.

#### Academic Affairs Searches:

- Charles Cotton, III has accepted the position of Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, following a nationwide search. Pending Board of Trustees approval, his appointment becomes effective on June 15. Cotton is a Michigan native and currently serves as Vice President for Enrollment Management at Clarke University in Dubuque, Iowa. WMU looks forward to welcoming him and benefiting from his talents and experience. Appreciation to the search team, led by Dean Dan Guyette and Registrar Carrie Cumming. <https://wmich.edu/news/2022/05/68007>
- The search committee for the Director of Academic Collective Bargaining recently conducted their first round of interviews. Three finalists will be coming to campus and those visits are in the process of being scheduled over the next several weeks. <https://wmich.edu/provost/administrative-searches>
- Ming Li has decided to step down from his position of dean of the College of Education and Human Development, effective July 1, 2022. While his leadership in the dean's office will be missed, he is remaining at the University as a professor in the department of Human Performance and Health Education. Please join me in thanking Li for his exceptional leadership to CEHD and his contributions to the campus community. The colleagues in the college are working to identify an interim dean, and a nationwide search for the position will launch this fall.

#### Faculty Accomplishments:

- Congratulations to Ashlyn Kuersten, professor of Sociology in the College of Arts and Sciences, for leading a team of students credited with assisting the Michigan State Police in solving a 1987 murder case. The team works directly with police agencies to digitize and organize records to uncover new leads in cold cases. Congratulations to Kuersten for finding an innovative way to immerse her students in experiential learning while providing an important service to the community. She and her students were recently featured on a segment on the Today Show.
- Jessica Van Stratton, associate professor in Psychology, received the Outstanding Advisor Award from the Association for Behavior Analysis International. This is the second time Van Stratton has received this recognition.
- Mariam Konate, associate professor in the Institute for Intercultural and Anthropological, received funding from the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Advisory Council for the project entitled "Building a cohort of skilled STEM women/students Researchers, Mentors and Teachers: A collaborative project to grow research, mentorship and virtual pedagogy capacity with curriculum review and harmonization for both graduate and undergraduate mathematics programs at the University of Nairobi and in Kenya."
- Eric Archer, associate professor in Educational Leadership, was named as a Fulbright Scholar for 2022-23. Archer is the fourth WMU faculty member to be named a Fulbright Scholar for the upcoming year joining Sandra Borden, Chansheng He, and Shannon McMorro, all of whom have been announced previously.

Questions included:

- It was stated that three years ago WMU conducted the Employee Engagement Survey which received a 35% affirmative rating, but the same survey conducted this year received only 15% affirmative rating. It was asked what is the leaderships strategy to correct this trend. Cheatham noted that the results are concerning and need to be addressed, but he does not currently have an answer. Through open dialog between academic affairs, the APA, and the PSSO it is hoped there will be developments to address these issues together. In addition, the President's Cabinet will be looking for results as well.

### **Faculty Senate Council Reports**

Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation Steven Carr introduced [MOA-19/10](#): Revision of the Intellectual Property Policy being put forward from the Research Policies Council. The Research Policies Council is recommending the Intellectual Property Policy be revised to move to the new policy template, to update definitions, and to separate royalty distribution procedures from the policy. It was moved by Rudge, seconded by Venter, to approve MOA-19/10. The motion carried.

### **University Reports**

Director for Enterprise Application Success Bryon Glock provided an update on the Campus Connection Project. Topics included an overview of the project, the replacement of goWMU portal, definitions of the project phases, project timeline, and a preview of the new goWMU.

<https://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2022/20220512-ConnectedCampus.pdf>

Questions included:

- It was questioned if portal channels there are owned by different units be changing ownership. Glock stated that those will remain as is, and governance will be established.
- Concern was expressed that everything in the portal is geared toward undergraduate students and more consideration should be taken for graduate students.
- It was asked if reports will be standardized. Glock indicated that there are many stakeholders, and while reports are focusing on advising it is a goal to meet everyone's needs.
- There was a question if there will be changes to Elearning. Glock stated that Elearning in not in the scope of this project.
- It was questioned what changes can faculty expect. Glock referenced a slide of his presentation that provided a preview of the new goWMU branding and homepage changes.
- It was asked if faculty need training to navigate the new portal. Glock indicated that there will be one-minute videos provided demonstrating the new system.
- Questions were raised regarding default settings for class list look up. Glock explained that those defaults are driven by Banner and not in the scope of this project.

### **Professional Concerns**

The Executive Board was encouraged to consider revising to the curriculum process and procedures, as they are too ambiguous. Also, the update should consider the Strategic Resource Management budget model and University Strategic Planning, credit hour production, and overlap between colleges. President Summy asked the Senator to provide the details of his concern to the Faculty Senate office.

### **Adjournment**

In closing President Summy shared a student vignette that was part of commencement.

<https://app.frame.io/reviews/bbc48a5f-b65e-4444-b373-2c0729edb5de/4169070d-9748-49c1-a280-7668049d6f19>

President Summy adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m. The dates and location for the remaining 2022-23 Faculty Senate meetings will be determined over the summer and posted to the Faculty Senate website.

### **Approval**

Submitted by Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator.

Minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2022.