

# WCU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, March 24, 2023

Facilitator: Julie Wiest, President

Time: 3:00pm-5:00pm

Note Taker: Dan Forbes, Recording Secretary

Location: Zoom teleconference

Type of Meeting: Scheduled meeting

## Attendees

### Senators

|                      |         |                           |         |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| ❖ Bolton, David      | Absent  | ❖ Mishra, Vipanchi        | Present |
| ❖ Brenner, Jim       | Present | ❖ Mraz, Megan             | Present |
| ❖ Chen, Tianran      | Present | ❖ Panagiotidou, Eirini    | Proxy   |
| ❖ Cherry, Dan        | Present | ❖ Panichelli, Meg         | Present |
| ❖ Childs, Gary       | Present | ❖ Park, Innhwa            | Present |
| ❖ Cooke, Laquana     | Present | ❖ Pierlott, Matt          | Present |
| ❖ Daltrey, Rachel    | Present | ❖ Razon, Selen            | Present |
| ❖ Forbes, Dan        | Present | ❖ Riley, Kathleen         | Absent  |
| ❖ Grassetti, Stevie  | Present | ❖ Ruchti, Simon           | Present |
| ❖ Guerriero, Tara    | Present | ❖ Saboe, Matt             | Present |
| ❖ Hill, Erin         | Present | ❖ Sanz-Sánchez, Israel    | Present |
| ❖ Hodes, Jackie      | Present | ❖ Schugar, Heather        | Present |
| ❖ Houser, Mary       | Present | ❖ Smidt, Esther           | Present |
| ❖ Junius, Premalatha | Present | ❖ Stokes, Jordan          | Absent  |
| ❖ Kolasinski, Kurt   | Present | ❖ Studlien-Webb, Gretchen | Present |
| ❖ Lawton, Bessie     | Present | ❖ Tennille, Julie         | Present |
| ❖ Lightner, Sarah    | Present | ❖ Wade, Michelle          | Present |
| ❖ Mandel, Deborah    | Proxy   | ❖ Wiest, Julie            | Present |
| ❖ Metz, Stacie       | Present | ❖ Wilbur, Veronica        | Present |

### Representatives

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| ❖ Adjunct Faculty Representative: Bill Sawyer                      | Present |
| ❖ Adjunct Faculty Representative: Priya Selvarathinam              | Present |
| ❖ APSCUF Representative: Bessie Lawton                             | Present |
| ❖ Student Government Association Representative: Sarah Leszczewski | Absent  |
| ❖ Graduate Student Association Representative:                     | Absent  |
| ❖ ROTC Representative:   | Absent  |

### Senate Proxies

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| ❖ Edelblute, Heather | Absent  |
| ❖ Howard, Rick       | Present |
| ❖ Kaulback, Michelle | Present |

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| ❖ Mohajeri, Orkideh | Present                                |
| ❖ O'Brien, Lia      | Present                                |
| ❖ Owens, Jackie     | Present, proxy for Debi Mandel         |
| ❖ Patriarca, Ashley | Present, proxy for Eirini Panagiotidou |
| ❖ Tully, Greg       | Absent                                 |
| ❖ Whidden, Melissa  | Present                                |

### Guests In Attendance

Naomie Nyanungo, Angela Guerriero, Maria Van Liew, Lynn Klingensmith, Marcos Campillo-Fenoll, Liam Lair, Jen Bacon, Mareile Koenig, Maria Cabrera, Amy Baker

## Agenda

### Welcome to Senators, Proxies, and Guests

### Senate Business and Announcements

1. Approval of minutes from Faculty Senate meeting on February 10, 2023. Bill Sawyer motions to approve, Kurt seconds. Minutes approved by all present.
2. Julie Wiest: Megan Jerabek is looking for representatives for an advisory board on Banner, and for the "Change Agent Network." If you are interested I will pass your name on. Simon: I can serve on the advisory board.
3. Meetings with President Fiorentino and Interim Provost Osgood
  - a. Julie Wiest: We asked about the burdensome research practices; Stevie joined us at the Provost meeting to share. Jeff Osgood was grateful for this information and asked for details, and we will follow up.
  - b. Julie: Jeff said 16,663 is the projected enrollment, with an incoming class of around 3K. He said we will not need to make budget cuts. Chris said this is 1K fewer than our peak, and therefore \$10 million less. Student housing is way over capacity and many students cannot find affordable housing. They are looking at solutions, and they are looking at a five-year deal somewhere, which will be enough time to get a new residence hall built. They are communicating to students more explicitly that there are no guarantees of housing. There is still a lot of demand from students.
  - c. Julie: Jeff said that Laurie believes there is a path forward without retrenchment, through reductions in temporary faculty and retirements. Penn West will have a president search next year. Jeff said that "there is not a snowball's chance in hell" that Laurie will apply for that job. Chris says Laurie found millions of dollars of savings for Penn West, and had to cancel many classes, but has reworked the schedules from scratch to prevent that from happening again. Her position is still being held here according to Chris. The Chancellor has been talking about ramping up non-credit offerings, but Chris does not think this would help the system much.
  - d. Julie: We asked Jeff about the GetInclusive training; Jeff did not know where the information is going, but we will follow up.
  - e. Julie: They showed more awareness of ChatGPT, but still did not have much to say; Jeff said CAPC will need to address this as a matter of academic policy.
  - f. Julie: We asked about administrative staffing. The Registrar's search has closed. Vice President of Student Affairs interviews have been held. The Research and Creative

Activity search is moving forward. Chris said that adding staff is difficult, and are looking to contract out for dining and custodial because they are difficult to fill under AFSCME schedule.

- g. Julie: We asked about the student town hall. Chris said the main issues brought up were housing and security on campus. Two students have been hit by cars. They also asked about safety on the Philadelphia campus. There were also complaints about dining and backed up shuttles.
  - h. Julie: We asked about Borough relations; Chris said relations remain good, and they are discussing coordinating how to address sexual assaults that occur off campus. There is also talk about a SEPTA train to West Chester.
4. Senate Constitution updates – discussion and vote
- a. Julie Wiest: No senators had questions or proposed changes. Are there questions or comments about the proposed revised constitution? Jackie: I have had no chance to look at it—my week after Spring Break has been so full. I'd like to give thoughtful comments—is there a possibility of an extension? Ronnie: I'm not sure what has changed. Julie: I thought I had sent the old version, as well as one with tracked changes. Tara: The tracked changes one is the easiest one to look at if you want to see what is different. Israel: Exec has looked at this—Julie has done a fantastic job leading this process. Maybe it would help to explain why we're doing this now. 95% are updates to make the document reflect what Senate actually does at this point in time. Julie: The current constitution doesn't represent at all what we do, and the revised constitution just brings them in line. The existing constitution encroaches on the CBA and CAPC, and simply isn't at all what we do. Simon: Can you focus on the stuff that isn't just updated language?
  - b. Julie: There's been tension from APSCUF from how we've described ourselves in the past; Margaret Ervin approves of this revised version. The listing of duties now is in line with how we really function. It now includes language about meeting regularly with the President and Executive Vice President. We added liaisons to the section on committees, revised the standing committees to reflect what we actually do. Bessie: We tried to encapsulate how we are different from other shared governance bodies. This doesn't mean we can't talk about concerns covered by other bodies—we can bring these concerns to the appropriate bodies. Julie: We added language about the Open Forums.
  - c. Julie: What are thoughts on taking a vote today? Dan Cherry: I feel more prepared to vote. Bill: This explanation has been helpful. Ronnie: I move that we approve this revised Constitution. Simon: Seconded. Julie: I've prepared a poll. Only elected Senators and proxies who are specifically proxying today for an elected Senator may vote. Julie: Poll results are 94% yea, 6% abstain. So revisions have passed Senate. Israel: I want to acknowledge your leadership on this. It has been a very long time since we've had an updated constitution. This now reflects what we are actually doing and expresses what Senate is.
5. Announcements
- a. University Libraries updates – Senator Gary Childs

- i. Gary: If you are writing for an American Chemical Society publication, we've been working with PALCI to enable open access publishing at no cost. We are setting up processes to help with publishing in open access format.
  - ii. Gary: We have a [Bicycle Lending Library](#)—they can now be checked out from the Library! There are 28 Trek bicycles with helmets. We are running maintenance workshops. Michael Burns helps with this. There's a Kinesiology class that checks out all the bicycles for some class meetings.
- b. To appear on the ballot for next meeting's Executive Committee elections, email nominations to [jwiest@wcupa.edu](mailto:jwiest@wcupa.edu) and [isanz-sanchez@wcupa.edu](mailto:isanz-sanchez@wcupa.edu) **by 5pm Tuesday, April 25.**

Dr. H. Naomie Nyanungo, Associate Provost for Learning & Teaching Innovation

1. Naomie: I'm here to tell you about my role and get your input. We're establishing a new center (that has not been named yet) that will serve as a central space for faculty to share and receive support for evidence-based teaching practices. We now have a central infrastructure for this which includes ODLI, TLAC (CELT, Faculty Mentoring, and NFO). The work is to promote student retention and reduce equity gaps.
2. Naomie: When we say "innovative" it sounds like only new things, but we are supporting other things too. We have some upcoming initiatives. We are continuing the Equitable Course Design initiative. We will have a roadshow led by Jordan Schugar; he may be presenting at the next Senate meeting. There will also be a workshop at the end of April to help faculty to apply UDL to make courses more inclusive. In Fall 2023 we will roll out two new initiatives. One will be an updated version of the Online Faculty Development program; it will be more flexible and customizable for your teaching context (e.g. synchronous versus asynchronous courses). New Faculty Orientation is going to be changed from a four-day format to a more intensive two-day format with additional programs for a semester-long orientation. The other is PETAL (Program for Excellence in Teaching and Learning), which is the new first-year faculty course in pedagogy. All incoming faculty will receive an AWA in the Spring 2024 to participate in this program.
3. Naomie: I've been talking with people around the university and asking what we should prioritize. I've heard a lot of interest around inclusive and equitable teaching (such as accommodation requests), student engagement, technology-based strategies (particularly standardized D2L experience for students), instructional modalities (defining them and identifying best practices), and assessment and feedback. Are there other ideas you would like to share?
  - a. [In chat] Heather Schugar: I have some concerns about standardizing D2L formatting - especially if we are not breaking down undergraduate vs masters vs doctoral education. Our students never leave our department, so the decisions we make as a department are consistent and aren't necessarily needed to align with the format of the university... Julie Wiest: I agree with Heather. I don't want standardization, just more general exposure to D2L and its tools, especially for the newer students. Ashley: I agree with Heather, too. I sometimes create "choose-your-own-adventure" style assignments to permit students to customize their learning. That structure doesn't necessarily mesh well with standardization.

4. Simon: It seems like we are going to rely on large lecture hall formats. Lecture isn't all that effective. Could we get more training on how to effectively engage conversation in this sort of format?
5. Ronnie: People don't like mandatory things, but could there be mandatory orientation for students to D2L? Before students enrolled in an online course, they would have gone through some basic experiences with D2L? Naomie: I think this is covered in FYE. Ronnie: I only teach graduate students, so I'm coming from a different place. Julie Wiest: Sometimes I get brand new students in my online introduction class, at the same time as they are in FYE, so I second that.
6. Selen: What do you mean by accommodations—what role will you be playing distinct from OSSD? Naomie: We will partner with them to create resources for faculty, including co-facilitated workshops. OSSD are the experts, so we are going to make sure resources are available for faculty.
7. Michelle Kaulback: In Nursing we have larger classrooms with fixed seating, which is not useful for collaborative learning space. Anderson Hall has more of those spaces. But when classes are scheduled I'm not sure this is taken into account.
8. Naomie: I have heard that faculty are overwhelmed, and it is difficult to access faculty development opportunities. It seems like the same people participate in the same things. We can develop great programs, but if people cannot participate this won't help. What can we do to encourage people to participate? Jackie Hodes: "Badging" or a certificate might motivate some people for tenure and promotion. Stevie: Monetary compensation is another possible incentive. Jim Brenner: Even if you had tiers, where some have completed say three programs, this is a way of quantifying their participation in professional teaching development.
  - a. [In chat] Ashley: One possibility might be (if you aren't already) to offer publication activities associated with these resources - that would directly benefit faculty who are preparing for tenure or promotion. Dan Cherry: My biggest concern is time - if we place a lot of importance on participating in these programs, but don't find ways to open up more time (AWA or something) for busy faculty, then it will greatly increase the strain on faculty.
9. Naomie: If you have other ideas, please contact me!

Lynn Klingensmith, Director for Equity and Compliance

1. Lynn: I've been at WCU for about 20 years. I want to explain what our office is and how we may be helpful to you. I'm also Title IX and ADA coordinator, and work with partners in Student Affairs, HR, Labor Relations, Residence Life, Public Safety, and OSSD. David Thomas and I are in regular contact. My unit falls within the Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Tracey Robinson is supervisor. We work closely on matters of inclusion. Hiram Martinez has left; he was the key person insuring that trainings and educational opportunities are posted and advertised. My assistant directors are what are left of this unit. We are responsible for responding to issues relating to discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct. It has come to pass this year as a result of changes to Title IX in 2020 we are subject to the same policy definitions and process as students. The legislatures did not stop to think what happens after reports are made—how does that interact with CBAs? These are new issues.
2. Lynn: There is a reporting mechanism where you can share incidents or observations you have made on campus. It is really important that you report, as we don't know how to address things unless we have information you report as a partner. I wish I could say my job is boring—we are

very busy! We are always trying to educate and increase awareness and enhance values that correlate with our campus mission. I can't do this work without partners like you.

3. Gary: What is the best resource to share with our constituents to stay abreast of Title IX updates? Lynn: Our [website](#), including the sexual harassment policy and Title IX information. Updates are not likely within the next year. Gary: This is helpful; there are governmental resources out there that are hard to decipher.
4. Liam: Is there any long term plan to create confidential resource spaces, like the Counseling Center? Other institutions have been able to do this. Lynn: We've never closed that conversation. There's a lot of conversation we're continuing to have. We want to figure out the best way to insure the university responds to notice of behavior falling under the policies. We get about 200 reports per year, something where some harm was experienced. 95% of the time most complainants just want support. There's a small percentage of cases that go through the police or an investigation. The most we've done in a year is probably six; they can be long and retraumatizing, so to take that path the person has to be in a space to be able to do it.
5. Julie Wiest: Can you clarify faculty responsibility? Lynn: If a student shares with you an incident where they have been harmed in some sexually-related way, doesn't matter their sex or gender identity, then it falls within this box. This includes sexual exploitation, which is happening prominently now. Students using social media may exchange private photos and then are exploited with this. One student was extorted for \$3500, and often the police cannot backtrace the source. We've had six or seven cases this year, higher than last year or the year before. This is disturbing. The exceptions for reporting include the student shares a statement in class in discussion when they were (say) in high school, or in a writing assignment that they were sexually assaulted, or they share this in the course of research you are conducting, those are not reportable. But: you should not leave that student unattended to. Our website is a valuable resource you can share with the student. It is important to empower the student to make a choice about what they want to do with their experience.
6. Julie Wiest: How involved are you in conduct off-campus? Lynn: We decided to make this part of our policy because most instances occur off-campus.
7. Julie Wiest: Is there liability faculty should be concerned about with regard to reporting? Lynn: As a lawyer I will say there has only been one case in my eight years where something reported was actually false. That means everything that gets reported is not automatically rising to the level of the policy. Your report is just one piece of information, and it isn't until after investigation and fact-finding we have all the pieces of the puzzle. The student may be upset that information has been shared, but it is important to let the student know you are doing this. Please don't be formal in explaining to students that you must share information; the student selected you for a reason, so being kind and compassionate will go a long way. When you make a report the student is under no obligation to respond to our efforts to reach out. You can tell students that they do not have to respond, though the information may be something they can use down the road.
8. Liam: I also need to report even if I know another faculty member has reported? Lynn: Yes!
9. Meg: I can imagine a student discloses sexual assault even if they don't realize this is what they are sharing. They could be frustrated if I said I had to report this. I'm in social work, and this is not trauma-informed practice. Lynn: For those faculty with expertise with this, responding as an employee as opposed to a social worker...sometimes students tell us things and they seem not

upset about it, everyone responds to trauma in a different way...emphasize that there are resources that they may not need now but will need at a later time. Some faculty tell students that they have to pass on information because there are needs that the faculty member themselves will not be able to meet. Again, students do not have to respond. In dating violence cases, those are very challenging. More often than not victims in those situations do not respond, but I keep them on my radar and check in with them every now and then.

Dr. Jen Bacon, Interim Deputy Provost

1. Jen: I shared a similar presentation at the Council of Chairs. There are some things that are coming. PASSHE has decided that all institutions in the system need to use the same student information system, Banner. The part most relevant to faculty is about scheduling. We'll be moving Fall 2024 into Banner. The schedule will be built for an entire academic year rather than by semester. This will help students to see what's coming and plan for it. This will make for fewer mistakes. This will help us with planning for course schedules for spring semesters. The scheduling platform is called CLSS (pronounced "Class"). This is an opportunity to think about how we go about scheduling. We will start working on this in August and September. The interface is easier, and it gives more analytic tools to see how we are scheduling and where there are spots of higher density (for WCU in general, Tuesday and Thursday afternoon). Faculty are interested in moving to a four-day schedule, which we can't do, but we can work on plans that help students make better progress toward their degree. Most things work well with two-day, 75 min. slots. If we don't end classes at some common times it makes it hard for students to schedule classes. For example, studio art classes are longer, but students need to get to other classes too. We're trying to figure out a schedule that has more common times—the fact that we're meeting here at 3:00pm on a Friday afternoon is evidence that we don't have a lot of these.
2. Matt Pierlott: Do we know if we'd have the same number of time slots, and does this put pressure on room scheduling? Jen: What I showed you is a twenty-slot schedule (we currently have a 21-slot schedule); the Registrar thinks we can do this. The new tools will help us to use our schedule more efficiently.
3. Kurt: Are there tools for handling prerequisites, or students who do not pass prerequisite courses? Jen: I'm sure the Registrar has thought about that, but I will take that back to them. This is not about students registering a year out, though. Students might be able to put future courses in a "shopping cart" that we could look at, though they are not registering for them at that point.
4. Jim Brenner: I wonder if a three-hour time slot at 4:25pm is good for undergrads, but not for grads. That's what we're seeing in our department. Jen: Our proposed model has a 5:00pm start; but once we get into evening there are fewer room scheduling challenges.
5. Julie Wiest: Meg Mraz is the Senator on the working group for this, so you can contact her as well.

Liaison Reports

1. ADA Committee – Senator Matt Pierlott – Matt: There's training for HR in accessibility. It came to light that some folks who ask for accommodations have received less than what they were entitled to. There is a link to more information if you have colleagues who are not getting accommodations they need.

2. ADA Digital Accessibility Committee – Senator Dan Forbes
3. Alumni Association – Adjunct Faculty Representative Bill Sawyer
4. APSCUF Exec Representative – Senators Bessie Lawton – Bessie: M&D is next week. A lot of time was spent on the new Title IX rules and its relation to article 42; this has not been resolved. APSCUF filed a grievance against administration for retrenchment of adjuncts this spring.
5. Budget Review Committee – Senator Kurt Kolasinski – It has finally met for the first time in a long time! There’s been no tuition increase for five years, and this is not likely to change in the future. We got \$19 million more in base appropriations; \$12 million are being held back in anticipation of changes in the new contract. Fees can be increased, and there have been questions about high-cost programs might need higher fees. There are a lot of staff positions unfilled.
6. Sustainability Advisory Council – Senator Kurt Kolasinski
7. Campus Climate Intervention Team – Senator Simon Ruchti
8. Council for Diversity, Inclusion, and Academic Excellence – Senator Ronnie Wilbur
9. Faculty Mentoring Committee – Senator Vipanchi Mishra
10. IS&T and LMS Advisory Committees – Senator Dan Forbes
11. LGBTQIA+ University Caucus – Senator Julie Tennille – Julie: Liam Lair is stepping down, and the Caucus is looking for a new co-chair. You can nominate or self-nominate. There is also need for a new staff co-chair. You can use [the form for nominations](#).
12. Military Veterans Coordinating Committee – No current liaison
13. Multicultural Faculty Commission – Senator Meg Panichelli
14. Namesake Committee – Senator Simon Ruchti – Our goal was to have a recommendation to the administration in the next few weeks, but this is slow going because there has been debate.
15. Philadelphia Campus – Senator Meg Panichelli
16. President’s Commission on the Status of Women – Senator Michelle Wade – We were invited to Cabinet to share caregiving survey results; we got bumped and this will be rescheduled.
17. Scheduling Alternatives Working Group – Senator Meg Mraz
18. Strategic Plan – Senator Heather Schugar
19. Student Government Association – Sarah Leszczewski
20. Search committees:
  - a. Associate Provost for Research and Creative Activity – Senator Kurt Kolasinski
  - b. Executive Director and Registrar – Senator Simon Ruchti
  - c. Vice President for Student Affairs – Senator Jackie Hodes

#### Committee Reports

1. Faculty Welfare/Ethics – Senators Matt Pierlott (co-chair), Ronnie Wilbur (co-chair), Tara Guerriero, Erin Hill, Mary Houser, Bessie Lawton, Eirini Panagiotidou, Meg Mraz, Stacie Metz, Esther Smidt, Michelle Wade
2. Student Welfare – Senators Selen Razon (co-chair), Dan Cherry (co-chair), Rachel Daltry, Dan Forbes, Jackie Hodes, Jim Brenner, Meg Panichelli, Simon Ruchti – Selen: There are still pressing issues with housing and counseling for students.
3. Membership & Elections – Senator Israel Sanz-Sánchez (chair)
4. Communications – Senator Erin Hill (chair)

5. Research and Creative Activities – Senators Matt Saboe (co-chair), Stevie Grassetti (co-chair), Bill Sawyer, Gary Childs, Laquana Cooke, Debi Mandel, Heather Schugar, Israel Sanz-Sánchez, Sarah Lightner, Innhwa Park, Gretchen Studlien-Webb, Julie Tennille, Tienran Chen

## Faculty Senate Executive Committee

- ❖ President – Senator Julie Wiest
- ❖ Vice President – Senator Israel Sanz-Sánchez
- ❖ Recording Secretary – Senator Dan Forbes
- ❖ Corresponding Secretary – Senator Erin Hill
- ❖ At-Large Members – Senators Kurt Kolasinski and Julie Tennille
- ❖ Immediate Past President – Senator Bessie Lawton
- ❖ Past Presidents – Senators Jim Brenner and Heather Schugar

## Senate Meetings 2022-23

### Fall 2022

(all meetings via Zoom)

- ❖ Friday, September 9, 3-5pm
- ❖ Friday, October 14, 3-5pm
- ❖ (Open Forum) Monday, October 31, 2-3pm
- ❖ Friday, December 9, 3-5pm

### Spring 2023

(all meetings via Zoom)

- ❖ Friday, February 10, 3-5pm
- ❖ (Open Forum) Thursday, March 2, 2-3pm
- ❖ Friday, March 24, 3-5pm
- ❖ Friday, April 28, 3-5pm

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Membership & Elections** (Israel Sanz-Sánchez)

No report

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### **Communications** (Erin Hill)

No report

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### **Faculty Welfare** (Matt Pierlott & Ronnie Wilbur)

No new report.

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### **Student Welfare** (Selen Razon & Dan Cherry)

**(1) Psychological concerns related to events at MSU:** Students experience high levels of fear and anxiety about campus safety, security issues, and timeliness of public safety response. How can we make students feel safe and secure? WCU safe app? Increasing students' awareness?

**Townhall response:** Safe app, Alice training, the increased presence of police officers in and out of buildings, reinforcing card access to buildings.

**(2) General psychological concerns:** Increased presence of therapy dogs help. Getting seen at the counseling center still takes too long. There is perhaps a need for hiring more counselors. Parents also get involved to get their voices heard. Counseling Center continues to see students in significant distress. Seems like our students are really struggling and having difficulty getting and attending class. We are hearing from students that haven't been in class in weeks.

**Townhall response:** Students are usually seen within a week at the counseling center. They need to use the waitlist.

**(3) COVID-19-related concerns:** Improvement regarding accommodations and documentation related to COVID-19

**(4) Campus life-related concerns:** Ongoing housing issues. Students are still on the waitlist for housing. Rental is very high around the campus. Campus shuttle buses still don't stop at all designated stops. We need to make sure to complete the survey.

**(5) Cleanliness-related concerns:** There are improvements around campus and within eating spaces. Students get more active with sustainability efforts. Students think about possibly starting a GreenFund-not yet clearly defined what it will look like.

**(6) Navigate:** Senate could discuss the best ways to use navigate, and how to teach it to others. Designating a super user in each department could be an idea.

**(7) Diversity training issue:** Students got an e-mail for training. The language came off as mandatory. Partnering with faculty for encouragement from faculty could have worked better.

**(8) Discrimination:** Case of antisemitism. Dealt by professors through the navigate, student success system.

**(9) Library tools:** E-reserves were tried for a new course. The software is being used and helps make the text more searchable and potentially more accessible. Print is larger than it used to be based on single experience/use.

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**Research & Creative Activity** (Stevie Grasseti & Matt Saboe)

Please complete the Faculty Research Survey and spread the word:  
[https://wcupa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_daK7j4CLCN3XsY6](https://wcupa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_daK7j4CLCN3XsY6)

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**LIAISON REPORTS**

**APSCUF Exec Rep** (Bessie Lawton)  
Report given in meeting

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**Alumni Association** (Bill Sawyer)  
No report

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**Budget Review Committee** (Kurt Kolasinski)  
Report given in meeting

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**Sustainability Advisory Council** (Kurt Kolasinski)  
No report

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**Campus Climate Intervention Team** (Simon Ruchti)  
We are in the process of scheduling our next meeting.

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**Council for Diversity, Inclusion, and Academic Excellence** (Ronnie Wilbur)  
There has been no meetings this spring, in the process of scheduling one

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**ADA Committee** (Matt Pierlott)  
The ADA Subcommittee on Accessible Campus Processes met on March 7. Working to assess accessibility of HR resources. Wants to highlight **Askjan.org** (JAN = Job Accommodation Network; a federal website about accommodations for employees and employers on disability practices), as some employees find internal information misleading.

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**Digital Accessibility Committee** (Dan Forbes & Matt Pierlott)

No report; committee has not met since last semester. The proposed WCU accessibility website is still not active.

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**IS&T and LMS Advisory Committees** (Dan Forbes)

LMS Advisory Committee has still not met this academic year. IS&T Faculty Advisory Committee will next meet April 14, 2023.

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**Faculty Mentoring Committee** (Vipanchi Mishra)

No report

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**LGBTQA+ University Caucus** (Julie Tennille)

**EVENTS we are co-sponsoring [see attached fliers]: BLOCK GENDER-JUSTICE CONFERENCE**

Opening for **Faculty Co-chair**. This is a two-year term, and if you are interested, please fill out [this nomination form](#). As a caucus, we always try to have at least one co-chair identify as LGBTQIA+, so please keep that in mind if you are self-nominating or nominating someone else! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Beth or me!

**Subcommittee Updates!**

- a. Subcommittee Updates and New Membership
  - i. *Health Insurance/Health Center*
    1. Co-chairs: Chrissy Riccardo (she/her), Kelsey Organ (she/her)
      - a. The student survey has been finalized and approved in collaboration with the Student Health Center, and it will be sent out in the next week or so!
  - ii. *Vendor Non-Discrimination*
    1. Co-chairs: Nicole Bobbert (she/her)
      - a. This committee is continuing to do research, and has set up meetings with key stakeholders to explore specific ways we can begin to include non-discrimination clauses in external contracts!!
  - iii. *Faculty Training Group*
    1. Co-chairs: Erin Hipple (they/them) & Lesley Siegel (she/her)
      - a. This committee is doing one final push to collect resources and then will move within the next month to begin looking through and organizing everything.
  - iv. *Inclusive Language: pronouns & non-gender/gender inclusive language stuff*
    1. [Pronoun Guide](#)
    2. Co-chairs: Tess Benser (they/them), Jules Walls (they/them)
      - a. This committee is re-assessing the best way to move forward. As a group, we've hit some barriers in terms of making some of the changes we want to see, so the

co-chairs are meeting with Beth and Liam in the next two weeks to consider the best way forward. In relation to the preferred name policy, Liam is working on setting up a meeting with Megan Jarabek, Tracy Robinson, and members of this subcommittee to share thoughts on what we understand to be a good way forward in terms of that particular policy.

v. *Budget & Appropriations*

1. Co-chair: Leigh Robinson (he/him) & Katrina Kelley (she/her)

a. We are starting to spend some of our allotted budget::

- i. We are official Co-Sponsors of the Gender Justice Conference
- ii. We are co-sponsoring and organizing the BLOCK film screening (see attached flier)
- iii. We are purchasing a tablecloth with the WCU logo and our name to use for tabling events to spread the word about the caucus
- iv. We are planning a Caucus get-together at the end of April where snacks and beverages will be provided. All are welcome to join us! More info to follow.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Wednesday, April 5 at 2pm [in person option: Anderson 304]
- Thursday, May 4 at 3pm [in person option: Mitchell 107]

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**Multicultural Faculty Commission** (Meg Panichelli)

No report

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**Namesake Committee** (Simon Ruchti)

We have been meeting regularly and reviewing documents, including statements submitted by faculty. We hope to have a recommendation for admin in a month.

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**Philadelphia campus** (Meg Panichelli)

No report

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**President's Commission on the Status of Women** (Michelle Wade)

We have been invited to Cabinet to present the results of the Caregiving Report, but we got bumped and are waiting to be rescheduled. The Student and Community Engagement Committee is having a panel called "Navigating Life after Graduation" on April 12th from 5-6:30 in Philips Autograph Library. This committee also arranged two internships with stipends, one at Home of the Sparrow and one at Tailor Made Life. The Facilities Committee is working with students to provide free menstrual projects across campus. The Women's Visibility Committee is working on a plaque that will have the name of the 150 most influential women of WCU. The Women of Color Recruitment and Retention Committee is working on their end of year event.

**Strategic Plan** (Heather Schugar)  
Has not met.

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**Ad-hoc reps:**

**Executive Director & Registrar search** (Simon Ruchti)

We interviewed another candidate last month. Announcement about this is coming soon about the status of this search.

**Associate Provost for Research & Creative Activity search** (Kurt Kolasinski)

No report

**Vice President for Student Affairs search** (Jackie Hodes)

We conducted twelve screening interviews this week. Campus interviews will be held the week of April 17.

**Scheduling alternatives working group** (Meg Mraz)

Work of this committee started on 3/10/23. Our charge is to look at scheduling patterns and make recommendations related to possible meeting patterns with consideration to the benefits various patterns can have on student/ faculty/ University functions. Specifically, the committee will look at crafting recommendations for full year course building and compliance management. Any and all perspectives and insights are welcomed by Meg Mraz ([mmraz@wcupa.edu](mailto:mmraz@wcupa.edu)) to be presented for consideration to the committee.