

Faculty Senate Leadership Meeting with President Schulz & Provost Slinker

April 1, 2020 2:00 pm - <https://wsu.zoom.us/j/401512635>

Discussion and Updates

Update from 2/28/20:

1. Doug Call has been elected as Chair-Elect. Matt Hudelson has been elected as Executive Secretary. Over the summer, Matt will continue to update the Faculty Manual as well as edit the senate constitution and bylaws to reflect current practice, including defining representation from non-Pullman campuses on the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.
2. You discussed the need to more accurately report on senate activities. We have started summarizing the meetings with posts to <https://facsen.wsu.edu/category/senate-meeting-summary/>.

Discussion:

1. What are the overall financial projections in relation to revenue loss as a result of COVID-19?
 - a. Are we running revenue/cost scenarios by campus?
 - b. What are the potential financial impacts of state budget cuts to WSU operations?
 - c. Since the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act only earmarked \$14B for higher education, what portion (if any) is forecast to be distributed to Washington State, and by extension, WSU?
 - d. How can we protect the academic enterprise in the face of revenue loss? For example, overhead costs on the Pullman campus will not decline in proportion to enrollment. Can we reduce overhead expense by reducing duplication (centralization)?
 - e. What are the projected impacts associated with Student Affairs costs v. revenue have on our budget? What impact will housing and dining refunds have on our budget/reserves?
 - f. What impact will course fee refunds have on departments?
 - g. What impact will athletics costs have on our overall budget? What impact will the loss of our PAC 12 payout have on budget?
 - h. Will colleges be allowed to spend reserves to help stabilize operations or will there be a hiring freeze?
 - i. Is there a plan to expand more courses and degrees to Global to help offset decreasing revenues associated with likely on-campus decreases in enrollment? Our current situation presents WSU with an opportunity to modernize pedagogy and course delivery. From our January meeting, you requested that we move towards a completely online model for course delivery. With COVID-19, we are at that point now. How can we most effectively continue and expand this model?
 - j. Strategic enrollment management has never been more important. Do you have an update on our progress in that regard? Are we considering discounting tuition at campuses such as Everett to increase enrollment? What about Global tuition discounts to offset students impacted by COVID-19 during spring 2020? For example, if we experience increases in the

number of course withdrawals or enrollment cancellations that would extend time to degree and/or student debt load?

During this pandemic, faculty expressed concern over being disconnected from decisions impacting the operations of WSU. We recognize that crisis responses were urgent and complex. However, we request faculty senate representation on groups defining policy as we move forward. When you speak to senate on April 9th, we request an update on the points listed above.

2. Senate provided feedback (<https://facsen.wsu.edu/2020/03/09/senate-response-to-draft-plan/>) on the first draft of the strategic plan. This feedback was gathered from many meetings, email exchanges, and phone calls that were outside of survey data collection. In order to allay the perception that faculty feedback is merely symbolic, we request you reply to the concerns and suggestions brought forth by the faculty. We remained concerned on the lack of faculty voice in the planning process, especially as a subsequent draft was prepared prior to our report.
3. Will you provide an update on the status and timing of the provost search? Faculty are interested in knowing the number of candidates and process for Zoom interviews.
4. The report from the Roles and Responsibilities task force will be delayed. How will this impact the formation of the subsequent EP29 committee, which is connected to the provost search as well as system operations?