



April 25, 2025

TO: Tracy Klein, Faculty Senate Chair
SUBJECT: Faculty Regent Nomination
SUBMITTED BY: Judi McDonald, Faculty Regent

MOTION:

I move that Tracy Klein, Eric Shelden, and David Turnbull be nominated to the Governor of Washington as candidates for the faculty regent position on the WSU Board of Regents, based on their success as leaders of the Faculty Senate.

HISTORY:

Prior to 2018, the University of Washington had regularly sponsored a bill with the legislature to add a faculty regent to the Board of Regents. In 2018, the bill failed yet again. At that time, Faculty Senate Chair McDonald approached President Schultz and asked if the Faculty Senate Executive could nominate a faculty member to sit as a non-voting member on the Board of Regents. He discussed it with the regents, and they agreed. From the fall of 2018 to the spring of 2022, the past chair of the Faculty Senate sat as a non-voting member of the Board of Regents.

This worked very well for us. As a member of the Senate Executive, the representative to the board had acquired skills and knowledge valued by the board and had a strong liaison with the Senate. With strong support from WSU, the bill to add a faculty regent to the Board of Regents of WSU and UW was approved.

At that time, the names of the current and recent former past-chairs were forwarded to the governor, who made the final selection.

Most public universities have a student regent on their board, but very few have a faculty regent. We are fortunate to have this representation on the Board of Regents of Washington State University.

REFERENCE:

Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws Article III Section 5: Relations with External Agencies

B. Faculty Regent

1. When prompted by the Office of the Governor, the Steering Committee will nominate three (3) to five (5) faculty to be considered by the governor of the state of Washington for the position of faculty regent. Full-time faculty and emeritus faculty are eligible for nomination.
2. The pool of nominees will include representation from at least two campus locations.
3. The chair of the Faculty Senate will submit the appropriate portfolios of each candidate to the Office of the Governor.