

University Senate Newsletter

Third Meeting, 21 November 2022, Virtual

Senate Chair's Remarks:

Chair Colleen Brady formally thanked President Daniels on behalf of the Senate, and all the Senates of the past ten years, for his service to the University; she hoped he would enjoy MitchFest. She also thanked President-Elect Chiang, and said the Senate was looking forward to working with him in the new year. She thanked Provost Jay Akridge for his years of service to the faculty, staff, and students in Purdue, and his faithful engagement with the many diverse voices in our community.

She reminded all those present that an open internal search to name the next Provost was ongoing, and called for nominations of qualified individuals to be sent to [her](#) or to [Amy Boyle](#). The last [listening session](#) for faculty and staff re: the Provost Search would be on Tuesday 22 November.

Purdue President's Remarks:

President Mitch Daniels opened his [remarks](#) by thanking the Senate, and recollecting that his relationship with the Senate had begun even before his official appointment as President.

He noted that our application pool has hit a high once again; the projected final number is in excess of 70,000. While this is positive, it means we will not be able to offer places to a larger proportion of the applicants than ever in our history.

He then reminded the Senate of some of the key collaborations that Purdue's administration and the Senate had worked on in past years: the Child Care Task Force (2013); the Ad Hoc Panel to Evaluate Security (2014); the addition of ABA therapy for autism to insurance coverage (2015); the Student Growth Task Force (2013-15); the Purdue Smoking Policy (2016); the IT policy for non-academic uses of bandwidth in classrooms (2018); and the COVID-19 pandemic response (2020-21).

He addressed an ongoing issue that he hoped the Senate would continue to work on: the critical thinking skills of Purdue undergraduates. Beginning in 2013, and rooted in the work of Senate and faculty committees, the Student Intellectual Growth Task Force had administered three different tests to try to measure the critical thinking growth among Purdue undergraduates. The test being used since 2017, the [California Critical Thinking Skills Test](#) (CCTST), has now been administered to a full cohort across their Purdue careers. This is not a content or a knowledge test, but a measurement of whether students can read a short passage and answer deductive or analytical questions attached to it. Sample questions were provided.

Purdue President's Remarks (continued):

Purdue graduates are advancing from "moderate" critical thinkers as first-year students to become "strong" thinkers by senior year, but President Daniels felt there was no reason they should not be at the highest, "superior" level. He encouraged the Senate to consider how to increase the investment of seniors in taking the test, how to make Purdue's critical thinking objectives more explicit, and to think of ways to improve faculty instruction in critical thinking.

He also noted that, in response to Senate questions, it has been recommended to Chancellor Frank Dooley that the civics literacy requirement be applied to Purdue Global students.

President-Elect Mung Chiang also briefly addressed the Senate, stating how deeply humbled, honored, and excited he had been by the listening sessions he has attended with the Purdue community, and that he looked forward to working with the Senate beginning in January.

***** Status of Legislation *****

(SD 22-xx: Senate Document year-item)

Documents for Action - Passed

- Senate Document 22-05 Endorsement of the Authorship of Scholarly Works Standard
- Senate Document 22-08 Addressing the Negative Impact of Indiana Senate Bill 1 on Purdue Students, Staff, and Faculty
- Senate Document 22-09 Reapportionment of the University Senate
- Senate Document 22-11 University Senate Commendation for Jay Akridge in Recognition of His Distinguished Service to the Community
- Senate Document 22-14 Resolution Calling for the Maintenance of a Bureau of Motor Vehicles License Branch in West Lafayette

Documents for Discussion

- Senate Document 22-10 The University Senate's Right to Direct Communication with the Faculty

For Information

- [Libraries Report and Open Access Publishing](#)

University Senate Website:

Please visit the Senate website for copies of Documents, Reports, Slides, etc.

www.purdue.edu/senate/

Standing Committees

Educational Policy Committee, Eric Kvam,
kvam@purdue.edu

- Proposal for a new Embedded Learning Outcome Focused on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Academic Regulations Update for Academic Probation and Deficiency
- Revising academic regulations to drop the WF and associated direct grades
- Revising academic regulations for stylistic consistency

Equity and Diversity Committee, Denise Whitford,
dwhitford@Purdue.edu

- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Accessibility
- Student Course Evaluations
- Provost Recruitment
- New Senator workshops
- Embedded learning outcome focused on DEI; co-sponsored by the Educational Policy Committee (University Core Curriculum)

Faculty Affairs Committee, Eric N. Waltenburg,
ewaltenb@purdue.edu

- Document addressing Senator Rights and Responsibilities

Nominating Committee, Robert Nowack,
nowack@purdue.edu

- The Nominating Committee continues to fill vacancies that occur in Standing and Faculty Committees.
- Preparing committee membership survey for spring distribution.

Steering Committee, Libby Richards,
erichards@purdue.edu

- Soliciting reports and informational sessions in response to faculty and committee requests.
- Coordinating items between committees and between the PSG/PGSG and Senate Standing Committees: includes a proposal to address the university's response to faculty members with respect to tragedies such as the murder of Varun Manish Chheda.

Student Affairs Committee, David Sanders,
retrovir@purdue.edu

- Improved Responses to Reports of Sexual Misconduct
- Protecting Student Privacy/Recording Accommodations
- Purdue Student Senate Resolution 21-69 "Resolution in Support of Editable Gender-Inclusive Options Amongst Purdue Affiliated Websites"
- The Office of the Provost has changed the requirement for faculty to undergo Gramm-Leach-Bliley (GLBA) certification for student mentoring

University Resource Policy Committee, Yuan Yao,
yao1@purdue.edu

- Revising SD 21-31 on the investments of the endowment relating to fossil fuels and carbon negative renewable technologies.
- Developing a Senate Document about Purdue being carbon neutral by 2030.
- Developing a Senate Document about joining the Greater Lafayette Climate Action Plan.
- Purdue campus classroom lighting enhancement initiative undertaken by BIER.

Faculty Committees

Members are any tenured/tenure-track, clinical & prof. faculty who volunteer. Please watch for the call for volunteers every January.

- **Academic Organization** ([Sally Bane](#), Aeronautics and Astronautics / EPC)
- **Academic Progress and Records** ([Lei Wang](#), EAPS / EPC)
- **Athletic Affairs** ([Kathleen Abrahamson](#), Nursing / SAC)
- **Budget Interpretation, Evaluation, & Review** ([Victor Chen](#), CGT/ URPC)
- **Faculty Compensation and Benefits** ([Mireille Boutin](#), Electrical and Computer Engineering / FAC)
- **Grade Appeals** ([Jonathan Sweet](#), Bands and Orchestras / FAC)
- **Library Committee** ([Sylvie Brouder](#), Agronomy / URPC)
- **Parking and Traffic** ([Joel Ebarb](#), Design, Art, and Performance / URPC)
- **Scholastic Delinquencies and Readmissions** ([Megan Dorton](#), Sr. Assoc Director of Admissions / EPC)
- **Staff Appeal Board for Traffic Regulations** ([Melissa Hay](#), CSSAC / URPC)
- **Student Excellent** ([Li Qiao](#), Aeronautics & Astronautics / EPC)
- **Undergraduate Curriculum Council** ([Karen Marais](#), Engineering / EPC)
- **Sustainability** ([Alice Pawley](#), Engineering Education / URPC)
- **Visual Arts and Design** ([Laura Bittner](#), Design, Art, and Performance/ URPC)

Contact the committee chair (listed) for more information.

Most of the work of the University Senate happens in committee. Standing Committees are composed of Senate members and university advisors. Faculty committees are composed of faculty members and often have non-faculty liaisons. Recommendations from committees come to the full Senate for consideration and vote.

Charge of the Purdue University Senate: The University Senate is the governing body of the faculty, subject to the authority of the Board of Trustees and in consultation with the President, it has the power and responsibility to propose or to adopt policies, regulations and procedures intended to achieve the educational objectives of Purdue University and the general welfare of those involved in these educational processes. The University Senate follows the *American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* and our [Bylaws](#).

