

University Senate Newsletter
Fifth Meeting, 19 February 2024, Virtual**Senate Chair's Remarks:**

Chair Brian Leung stated that he would not make further remarks on SB 202. He explained that he had asked Senators to gather and share faculty responses to the proposal with him, and that he had compiled a report from this information and discussed it with both Purdue administration and the [Intercampus Faculty Council](#). His [report and accompanying statement](#) were available on the [Senate's website](#). However, responses to SB 202 continued to come in; he added that a recent response had framed the question for him in a new way that he wished to share: Figuratively speaking, a person wants you to buy a spoiled orange on the grounds than the next person coming along has an even more spoiled orange. The right response in such a case is to decline to buy the orange, and to try to enlist the first orange seller to help you resist the second.

Chair Leung thanked all the Senators and constituents who had reached out and responded by offering truly thoughtful analysis. He expressed his opinion that the operations of our University Senate are a public example of civic literacy. He also gave kudos to the faculty, staff, and students from across the state who had traveled to the capitol as private citizens to express their political views.

On a related note, Chair Leung suggested that the work done over SB 202 offered an opportunity for a reminder: Senators should remind ourselves that one of our most vital functions and core responsibilities is to consult with constituents in advance of and following every Senate meeting. (For example, by distributing this very newsletter!) Attendance and votes are important. The news media and other organizations do not and cannot speak for the University Senate—this is why the Senator's role as a direct communicator to constituents is so important.

Chair Leung said he wished to conclude on a hopeful note: what each of us might do to de-escalate the outrage arms race that is eating us alive. Political actors, media, and even our most cherished non-profits may engage in outrage culture. Still, we can ask our politicians to stand down. We can decline to read media coverage meant only to feed anger. We can donate only to groups that stand for compassion over rage. In these ways, we at Purdue can be role models for the rest of the nation.

Finally, he voiced his appreciation for our February snow. A slow melt is good for the trees and makes for a vibrant spring.

Purdue President's Remarks:

President Mung Chiang shared that [Forbes](#) recently ranked Purdue among the very top large university employers in the U.S.

President Chiang revisited the issue of daycare and early childhood education and pre- and after-school care, the shortage of which he says is bottlenecking productivity. He stated that a survey will shortly come out to quantify the demand for such facilities. We already know anecdotally there are many families with unmet care needs, and that staffing issues do not permit full utilization of the physical facilities already available.

The president relayed that he had had lunch with the leaders of PSG and PGSG. Both conversations highlighted the importance of mental health awareness. He said that Purdue has allocated a higher budget to CAPS, which is now fully staffed, and so it is important for students to know these resources are available for them.

Purdue President's Remarks, cont.:

Chiang added that Purdue is also working to increase the supply of safe, reliable transportation for grad students living off campus.

CFO and Treasurer Chris Ruhl announced that his office was looking for suggestions to understand pain points in bureaucratic paperwork and processes across the educational enterprise. They hoped to further streamline procedures that require multiple rounds of signatures on the same piece, for example. Chair Leung suggested having the Senate help collect responses, as they may get quite a few.

Provost Patrick Wolfe sent a big thank you to new head of HR Amy Boyle for her work improving signature modality on hires. He then announced that this year, faculty who are promoted will receive the merit pool amount plus up to an additional 5%. The new policy is intended to provide increased flexibility for department heads to reward outstanding performers.

***** Status of Legislation *******Documents for Action – passed**

- [Senate Document 23-17](#) Statement about the Use of AI (general consent)
- [Senate Document 23-18](#) Resolution Establishing the Record of Juneteenth on the Purdue University Academic Calendar (general consent)
- [Senate Document 23-19](#) Update to Senate Parliamentary Authority (unanimous vote 85:0)
- [Senate Document 23-23](#) Regarding Indiana Senate Bill SB 202 (Amended) (94% affirmative vote 81:5)

Documents for Discussion

- [Senate Document 23-20](#) Amendment to MEAPS policy (SD21-12) to clarify applicability
- [Senate Document 23-21](#) Bylaws Revision re: Student Affairs Committee
- [Senate Document 23-24](#) PSG Resolution 23-02: Acres Campus Safety Initiative (with URPC)
- [Senate Document 23-25](#) PSG Resolution 22-69: Disabled Community Ad Hoc Action Plan (with URPC)
- [Senate Document 23-26](#) PSG Resolution 22-71: Resolution to Adopt a Bee Campus Certification, Increase Presence of Native Plants (with URPC)
- [Senate Document 23-27](#) Nominations for Senate Vice Chair
- [Senate Document 23-28](#) University Senate Quorum Standard

For Information (see Senate website)

- [Questions and Administrative Responses](#)
- [EVPR SUFIE Pipeline](#)

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

- Assessing what AI regulations are needed
- Considering ways to improve the Grade Appeal process
- Updating MEAPS language as per SB22-08
- Juneteenth holiday recognition

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, Brian Dilkes, bdilkes@purdue.edu and Geraldine Friedman, friedman@purdue.edu

- DEI efforts in the wake of the SFFA v. Harvard and SFFA v. UNC decision
- Student proposal for a center for students from western Asia and North Africa

Faculty Affairs Committee, Anish Vanaik, avanaik@purdue.edu and Françoise Brosseau-Lapr e, fbrossea@purdue.edu

- Assessment of Recent Changes in P&T Process
- Request for MaPSAC and CSSAC to have voting members on Senate
- Lecturers Advisory Board presence on University Senate
- [Indiana SB 202](#)

Nominating Committee, Richard D. Mattes, mattes@purdue.edu

- Managing new committee vacancies
- Studying the number and disposition of Senate advisors
- Preparing nominations for Senate Vice Chair

Steering Committee, Libby Richards, erichards@purdue.edu

- Monitoring faculty affair processes at Purdue Indianapolis
- Soliciting reports and informational sessions in response to faculty and committee requests
- Requested FAC to review recent administrative changes to promotion and tenure process
- Requested FAC to review Senate apportionment in consideration of lecturers, MAPSAC, CASAC, Purdue Global, Purdue Indy
- Distributing PSG and PGSG proposals to the appropriate senate committees for review and feedback

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

- Graduate Student Compensation
- Juneteenth Holiday Recognition

University Resource Policy Committee, Lori Hoagland, lhoaglan@purdue.edu

- Sustainability Committee proposed reorganization
- Parking regulations and appeals process

Faculty Committees

Members are any tenured/tenure-track, clinical, & prof. faculty who volunteer. Please respond to the call for volunteers issued in January or contact the relevant committee chairs directly if you are interested in serving.

- **Academic Organization** ([Mark Wilson](#), Aeronautics and Astronautics / EPC)
- **Academic Progress and Records** ([Lei Wang](#), EAPS / EPC)
- **Athletic Affairs** ([Kip Williams](#), Psychological Sciences/Steering)
- **Budget Interpretation, Evaluation, & Review** ([Victor Chen](#), CGT/URPC and [George Zhou](#), Civil Engineering)
- **Faculty Compensation and Benefits** ([Laura B. Hawkins](#), School of Nursing / FAC)
- **Grade Appeals** ([Rebecca Johnson](#), Visual and Performing Arts)
- **Library Committee** ([Alexander Francis](#), ULC Chair, Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences)
- **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** ([Stephanie Winder](#), MaPSAC / URPC)
- **Undergraduate Curriculum Council** ([Chad Brown](#), Veterinary Medicine / EPC)
- **Sustainability** ([Michael Johnston](#), English / URPC)
- **Visual Arts and Design** ([Laura Bittner](#), Design, Art, and Performance / URPC)

Contact the committee chairs (listed above) for more information.

Most of the work of the University Senate happens in committees. 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](#).