

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

University Senate Report

**Julio Ramirez, Senate Chair, Kettelhut Professor of Civil
and Construction Engineering, Purdue/WL**

**Dianne Little, Senate Vice-Chair, Assoc. Prof., Basic
Medical Sciences, Purdue/WL**

Purdue University Board of Trustees

October 9, 2026

2026-2027 University Senate Priorities

- I. Success and expansion of the Indianapolis Campus.
- II. Opportunities and challenges raised by AI and its incorporation into the curriculum.
- III. Improving the lines of communication with the Purdue Administration and improving the speed and efficiency of the work of the Senate.

2026-2027 University Senate Priorities

Success and expansion of the Indianapolis Campus

- Purdue in Indianapolis senators and faculty suggested a “solutions oriented” climate survey, “what is working and what needs work”. With support of the Provost Office organized meetings **to plan climate survey to administer to faculty with split departments** (Indianapolis/West Lafayette). Currently in design phase. Scope is the Now, but a second drop will be the Future. Challenge is lack of **a robust census** of the target population of the Survey. **Timeline:**
 - (i) Design Phase: Oct - Dec 2026
 - (ii) Release Phase: Jan – Feb 2027
 - (iii) Focus Groups Phase and Final Report Submission: Mar – Jun 2027
- **Invited:** Anne Weiss (Assist. Director Assessment, Institutional Data Analytics+ Assessment, Purdue/WL ; David M Umulis (Senior Vice-Provost Purdue/Indy); Owura Kuffuor (Survey and Measurement Methods Lead, Institutional Data Analytics+ Assessment, Purdue/WL); Dianne Little (Senate Vice-Chair, Assoc. Prof., Basic Medical Sciences, Purdue/WL); Christian Rogers (Assoc. Prof., Applied & Creative Computing – Purdue/Indy); Likun Zhu (Prof. ME – Purdue/Indy); Julio Ramirez (Senate Chair, Kettelhut Professor of Civil and Construction Engineering, Purdue/WL); and Joseph Wallace (Prof. BioMed Eng.. Purdue/Indy)

2026-2027 University Senate Priorities

Opportunities and challenges raised by AI and its incorporation into the curriculum

- **Office of the Provost for Teaching and Learning web page with *Guidance on the Use of AI in Teaching and Learning***
- **Encouraging faculty to be transparent in their syllabus language**

- **Students use:**

Levels of use, competence, and attitude towards it are highly variable.

Senate Educational Policy Committee forming a subcommittee with Haley Oliver (Senior Vice Provost for Academic & Student Success, Purdue/WL) to address negative feedback from students that think that AI is a “bad thing”, with some discussion about mental health. Following up with CAPS, are they seeing themes or trends on this matter emerging.

Graduate students are using it to improve writing, do coding, analysis, etc.; whereas undergraduate students mostly to conduct searches, check/solve problems, and write. Some courses are implementing it in the flow of the course work.

- **Faculty use in curriculum: (i) Design; and (ii) Communication**

2026-2027 University Senate Priorities

Improve communication with PU Admin. and speed and efficiency of Senate work

- **Actions:**

Regular e-mail communication and monthly meetings of Vice-Chair Little and Chair Ramirez with Provost Wolfe, Executive Vice Provost Prabhakar and Chiefs of Staff Frigo and Klingerman.

Monthly meetings of Senate Chair and Vice-Chair with Chairs of Senate Standing Committees to address existing and emerging items such as AI in the curriculum, Transportation and Accessibility, COACHE survey, Dream Hiring Process, Student Visa Concerns, Health Insurance, Post-Tenure Review and other.

Monthly meetings of the Senate Steering Committee and a newly formed Chairs of Senate Standing Committees, and Advisory Committee. Chiefs of Staff for the Provost and President Offices have been invited to attend ex-officio the meetings of the Advisory Committees.

Standing offer to meet as needed with Interim President Daniels.

THANK YOU