

**University Senate Newsletter**

Second Meeting, 17 October 2022, Virtual

**Senate Chair's Remarks:**

Chair Brady urged Senators to think about how to best use the expertise they have access to on campus in bringing forward proposals. She offered congratulations to our seven colleagues who received named/distinguished appointments at the 7 October Board of Trustees meeting. She underscored the importance of supporting students, faculty, and staff who have been impacted by the tragic event that took place in in McCutcheon Hall. She invoked the mid-semester stress that all faculty, staff, and advisors feel in working with students as they navigate their midterms and begin work on spring course selection at the same time. As a gesture of encouragement, she played a recitation of a version of "Success" / "To Laugh Often and Much" (Bessie A. Stanley, 1906; often attributed to Emerson).

*To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you lived. This is to have succeeded.*

**Purdue President's Remarks:**

President Daniels shared some results of Purdue's report on campus free speech. The survey of all undergraduate students at all Indiana public universities was conducted by ICHE in compliance with Indiana House Bill 1549 (passed in 2022). Purdue West Lafayette's ca. 11,000 (34%) responses represent 60% of the total responses collected statewide across all seven public universities. Ideological breakdowns by academic units were provided and are available on the Senate website. In general, most (81%) Purdue students believe they are free to express themselves on campus and that Purdue values free speech. On all points, Purdue scored higher in these measures than other Indiana Universities.

There are some opportunities for improvement in addressing the perception that liberal views are more welcome in the classroom, in exposing students to scholarly ideas from a diversity of viewpoints, and in teaching students about appropriate ways to respond to speech.

**Purdue President's Remarks (continued):**

Nearly half of students felt that shouting down speakers or trying to prevent them from speaking was "always" or "sometimes acceptable," and 19% of students indicated that using violence to "stop a speech, protest, or rally" might be acceptable, whereas President Daniels argued the answer should have been "never acceptable." This was addressed in the Fall 2022 Boiler Gold Rush. Faculty who want more information on the results or dataset are welcome to inquire for it.

Answers to pre-submitted questions will be posted in writing to the Senate website shortly.

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

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

**Documents for Action – Passed**

- Senate Document 22-06 Nominee for the Educational Policy Committee
- Senate Document 22-07 Nominee for the Steering Committee

**Documents for Action – Failed**

- N/A

**Documents for Discussion**

- Senate Document 22-08 Addressing the Negative Impact of Indiana Senate Bill 1 on Purdue Students, Staff, and Faculty

**For Information**

- Equity Task Force Update (Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. John Gates)
- Report of the Athletic Affairs Committee (Professor Kathy Abrahamson)

**University Senate Website:**

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

[www.purdue.edu/senate/](http://www.purdue.edu/senate/)

**Standing Committees**

**Educational Policy Committee**, Eric Kvam,  
[kvam@purdue.edu](mailto:kvam@purdue.edu)

**Equity and Diversity Committee**, Denise Whitford,  
[dwhitford@Purdue.edu](mailto:dwhitford@Purdue.edu)

**Faculty Affairs Committee**, Eric N. Waltenburg,  
[ewaltenb@purdue.edu](mailto:ewaltenb@purdue.edu)

- Working on a document spelling out Senators' rights and responsibilities

**Nominating Committee**, Robert Nowack,  
[nowack@purdue.edu](mailto:nowack@purdue.edu)

- The Nominating Committee continues to fill vacancies that occur in Standing and Faculty Committees

**Steering Committee**, Libby Richards,  
[erichards@purdue.edu](mailto: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](mailto:retrovir@purdue.edu)

- Improved Responses to Reports of Sexual Misconduct
- Protecting Student Privacy/Recording Accommodations
- Purdue Student Government Resolution 21-69 Resolution in Support of Editable Gender-Inclusive Options Amongst Purdue Affiliated Websites

**University Resource Policy Committee**, Yuan Yao,  
[yao1@purdue.edu](mailto: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

**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.

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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](#).