

**University Senate Newsletter**  
Sixth Meeting, 18 March 2024, Virtual**Senate Chair's Remarks:**

Chair Brian Leung hoped that many Senators had enjoyed a restorative spring break, and conveyed that we are all grateful to those who stayed on campus to keep things running. He noted the great fortune that the #1 ranked Purdue Men's Basketball Team will start its March Madness journey in Indianapolis this year. And he reflected that many in our community are excited about the return of commercial air service to Purdue's airport, extending kudos to those who stood up that project—as well as to those many Purdue faculty and students who were studying and doing research in the area of climate science.

He said that over the break, he had received a good question: why doesn't the Senate spend more time celebrating faculty achievements? His answer was that the Senate is a deliberative body; while we are excited about the achievements of Purdue University, our mandate is legislative.

Chair Leung reminded all Senators that the Qualtrics survey regarding the implementation of SB 202 [now [SEA 202](#)] was due on Thursday, 21 March. Each Senator was urged to gather responses from their constituents and submit them to leadership via the survey.

Finally, Chair Leung observed that that day was our first one back from spring break. During the break, it had been hard to miss the national level of distrust apparent just about everywhere—at LAX, for example, he'd overheard someone explain that the National Park system is a secret plan to secure valuable minerals for the rich. Distrust has become our national currency. This distrust, he said, has been on display on all sides of the debate over SB 202: its opponents, proponents, and the neutral probably all think of themselves as trustworthy people.

He argued that we can make sure we have a culture of trust in our own house here in Purdue University. How might shared governance at this moment work to build and demonstrate earned trust? We can start by not merely assuming our own trustworthiness, and instead earning it anew, setting aside distrust and combativeness as default modes. Meanwhile, the AAUP and NAACP continue to remain vigilant nationally over proposals like SEA 202. That debate is not over.

The implementation of SEA 202 is going to be an intense platform for trust building, but it is present and not going away. Chair Leung argued the Senate and the Board of Trustees are up to the task of collaboration and communication, and moving forward in a way to ensure that our worst fears will not be manifested. He promised that he would attend the Senate meeting on 24 March 2025, the 1-year anniversary of this meeting, as the ex officio immediate past chair, and was hoping not to look like a fool for trusting to the possibilities of shared governance within our house.

**Purdue President's Remarks**

President Mung Chiang echoed Chair Leung's note about Purdue's Airport, adding that if people do not buy tickets for the new flights to Chicago's O'Hare Airport, that service could disappear—as it had once before, 20 years ago. He also registered the community's enthusiasm for the construction of the new Amelia Earhart Terminal.

**Purdue President's Remarks, cont'd.:**

He expressed confidence that this year will be different to the last few years in the men's basketball tournament, and voiced sympathy for the mental and physical stress of our student athletes.

President Chiang returned to the recent university-wide childcare survey. The childcare shortage was to be addressed via a multi-phase response. Phase 1 meant using all existing physical capacity; Phase 2 might mean expanding that physical capacity.

The President reminded the Senate of the new administrative goal of trying to reduce one signature per form in internal paperwork processes, under the guidance of CFO Chris Ruhl.

Finally, he reminded the community that during the 8 April solar eclipse, the path of totality would travel through Indiana. Many students wished to be able to attend a watch event, and faculty were strongly urged to consider not scheduling exams or mandatory labs that afternoon.

Following President Chiang's remarks, Daniel Hasler and David Umulis presented an update on Purdue University Indianapolis and responded to several questions. The [PIN slides](#) are available on the [Senate website](#).

**\*\*\* Status of Legislation \*\*\*****Election Items – all committee slates were ratified**

- **Senate Document 23-27** Nominations for Senate Vice Chair  
*Mark Zimpfer was elected Senate Vice Chair*
- **Senate Document 23-30** Nominees for the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee
- **Senate Document 23-31** Nominees for the Steering Committee
- **Senate Document 23-32** Nominees for the Educational Policy Committee
- **Senate Document 23-33** Nominees for the Faculty Affairs Committee
- **Senate Document 23-34** Nominees for the Nominating Committee
- **Senate Document 23-36** Nominees for the Student Affairs Committee
- **Senate Document 23-37** Nominees for the University Resources Policy Committee
- **Senate Document 23-38** Nominees for Advisors to Senate

**Documents for Action – passed**

- **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 23-28** University Senate Quorum Standard

**Documents for Discussion**

- **Senate Document 23-29** Modifications to Streamline and Clarify the Grade Appeals Process
- **Senate Document 23-35** Senate Representation for Purdue in Indianapolis (PIN) Faculty
- **Senate Document 23-39** Resolution in Support of a Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA) Cultural Center

**For Information (see Senate website)**

- [Questions and Administrative Responses](#)
- [Disability Resource Center and Testing Services](#)

**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)

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

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee**, Brian Dilkes, [bdilkes@purdue.edu](mailto:bdilkes@purdue.edu) and Geraldine Friedman, [friedman@purdue.edu](mailto: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](mailto:avanaik@purdue.edu) and Françoise Brosseau-Lapr , [fbrossea@purdue.edu](mailto:fbrossea@purdue.edu)

- Assessment of Recent Changes in P&T Process
- Lecturers Advisory Board presence on University Senate
- [Indiana SEA 202](#)
- Working with SUFIE on guidelines

**Nominating Committee**, Richard D. Mattes, [mattes@purdue.edu](mailto: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, [richards@purdue.edu](mailto:richards@purdue.edu)

- Soliciting reports and informational sessions in response to faculty and committee requests
- Reviewing senate representation of MAPSAC and CASAC
- Distributing PSG and PGSG proposals to the appropriate senate committees for review and feedback

**Student Affairs Committee**, David Sanders, [retrovir@purdue.edu](mailto:retrovir@purdue.edu)

- Graduate Student Compensation

**University Resource Policy Committee**, Lori Hoagland, [lhoaglan@purdue.edu](mailto: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.

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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](#).