

Questions

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| The premise and regulation proposed in Indiana SB 202 fundamentally contradict student survey data at Purdue and the principles of academic freedom. What exact initiatives or channels has Purdue administration offered to “listen to the feedback from faculty, staff, students and alumni”? What has been “effectively communicated” to the Indiana General Assembly? Given the concerns about the bill and Purdue’s “quiet” approach, what does the administration plan to do to restore the urgently needed trust between faculty, staff, and students and the Purdue administration for effective university operations? | | 2 |
| Would you please clarify for faculty and students exactly how you are working to improve SB202 and specifically what measures will be implemented to protect academic freedom? | | 2 |
| Hiring and Promotion..... | 2 | |
| The Provost’s Office has been very slow in approving formal offers to candidates, even after verbal offers have been made. This is negatively affecting the ability to recruit faculty and creating a lot of negative perceptions of Purdue. Will there be any steps taken to address this? | | 2 |
| On 19 February, Provost Wolfe announced that faculty who are promoted will be eligible for up to a 5% promotion bump at the discretion of their department head. Does this mean that faculty who are promoted will not receive any automatic and standard pay raises tied to promotion? | | 3 |
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| The shortage of housing in Greater Lafayette is making it impossible for some visiting scholars, including those from the developing world, to find affordable temporary housing. This is leading to much shorter visits by the scholars, and may lead to complete cancellation of visits. Visiting scholars are a great resource to the University, and the University provides visiting scholars great experiential learning and research opportunities. What can we do to alleviate the need for visiting scholars’ housing? | | 3 |
| There are parking signs that say “Undergraduates Only” on third floor of University Street parking lot, but the spots are often unused, while faculty with A passes must search for spots further away. Could these spots be returned to general use? | | 3 |
| Relatedly, undergraduates are able to qualify for A passes when they work 20-40 hours / week. They often do so in the summer, and then are able to keep the passes for the academic year when they are working fewer than 20 hours a week or not working at all. Perhaps A passes to undergraduates given out in May/ June should expire at the start of the Fall semester..... | | 3 |

Indiana SB 202

The premise and regulation proposed in Indiana SB 202 fundamentally contradict student survey data at Purdue and the principles of academic freedom. What exact initiatives or channels has Purdue administration offered to “listen to the feedback from faculty, staff, students and alumni”? What has been “effectively communicated” to the Indiana General Assembly? Given the concerns about the bill and Purdue’s “quiet” approach, what does the administration plan to do to restore the urgently needed trust between faculty, staff, and students and the Purdue administration for effective university operations?

<see below>

Would you please clarify for faculty and students exactly how you are working to improve SB202 and specifically what measures will be implemented to protect academic freedom?

We continue to listen to Senate feedback (including the currently open Qualtrics survey recently distributed by Senate Chair Leung) and are awaiting direction from our Board of Trustees given the passage of SB 202 into law.

As stated to all in our message of 3/27 reaffirming academic freedom and faculty tenure:

Our own university has long been an institution that consistently “walks the walk” in freedom of speech and freedom of inquiry. Furthermore, many of the provisions do not impact what Purdue has been doing already, e.g., the institution being a home for critics but not a critic itself, incorporating free speech programs into student orientation, not requiring personal statements of support for political ideologies, and protecting the right of individuals to criticize the government or the university.

We also reaffirm the following two commitments as foundational to the generation and dissemination of knowledge through free inquiry:

1. Academic freedom, a core value of our university, will continue to be ensured at Purdue for all faculty and for all students, and continue to be protected as strongly as in any American university. Unlike many other institutions that headed down convenient yet slippery slopes in recent years and months, this university has not been in, and will not get into, the business of censoring controversial speech, chilling unfashionable viewpoints, canceling campus events, suspending faculty or fellows, or issuing endless institutional public statements on social-political issues. We will continue our use of long-established channels to receive and assess student feedback, and will continue to operate our campus as neither a “surveillance state” nor an “echo chamber” but as a bastion of individual freedom to doubt, debate, and dissent.

2. Faculty tenure will continue at Purdue, especially now that recognition of public university tenure is codified in state law. The Board of Trustees, as has always been the case, will continue to cast the final vote on tenure cases. Periodic review after tenure, also not new here, will continue with a low-overhead process. It will be proposed to the Board of Trustees that post-tenure review at Purdue West Lafayette be formally delegated by the Board of Trustees to the university’s chief academic officer and the Academic Deans Council. With this delegation, and as has long been true in granting tenure at Purdue, only very rarely will a review be directly assessed by the Board of Trustees. Faculty, across all ranks and tracks, are the backbone of the university, and Purdue will continue to grow our support for faculty success.

Hiring and Promotion

The Provost’s Office has been very slow in approving formal offers to candidates, even after verbal offers have been made. This is negatively affecting the ability to recruit faculty and creating a lot of negative perceptions of Purdue. Will there be any steps taken to address this?

Offers are contingent on Provost approval as has always been the case at Purdue. Understanding that this is not an automatic “rubber stamp” will help colleagues involved in the hiring process to avoid inadvertently creating any negative impression with candidates. Faculty will have already seen several recent Dream Hires featured in Purdue Today. In these cases, as in every case, the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs reviews candidates for hiring, and deans are aware that the earlier the Office of the Provost is looped in, the sooner the review process can be completed. Offer checklists to maximize the efficiency of this process have been shared with deans, associate deans, and department heads, to whom further questions may be directed.

On 19 February, Provost Wolfe announced that faculty who are promoted will be eligible for up to a 5% promotion bump at the discretion of their department head. Does this mean that faculty who are promoted will not receive any **automatic and standard** pay raises tied to promotion?

This up to 5% is additional to the current (automatic and standard) pay raise tied to promotion. Deans and heads will have latitude to propose up to an additional 5% for exceptionally strong promotion cases showing outstanding promise and evidence of continued achievement.

Housing and Parking

The shortage of housing in Greater Lafayette is making it impossible for some visiting scholars, including those from the developing world, to find affordable temporary housing. This is leading to much shorter visits by the scholars, and may lead to complete cancellation of visits. Visiting scholars are a great resource to the University, and the University provides visiting scholars great experiential learning and research opportunities. What can we do to alleviate the need for visiting scholars’ housing?

We recognize this issue and share the goal of wanting to maximize the quality and number of scholars who can visit Purdue, and are actively exploring options for short-term faculty housing for visiting scholars.

There are parking signs that say “Undergraduates Only” on third floor of University Street parking lot, but the spots are often unused, while faculty with A passes must search for spots further away. Could these spots be returned to general use?

There are no signs in University Garage that state “Undergraduates Only.” In case the question is referring to the “University Garage (UG) Reserve Permit Only” signs: These reserved spaces exist in University Street Garage, Wood Street Garage, and Pierce Street Lot. The number of spaces is evaluated annually. These spaces are sold at the Reserved price of \$1,000 per space annually and they are currently sold out.

Relatedly, undergraduates are able to qualify for A passes when they work 20-40 hours / week. They often do so in the summer, and then are able to keep the passes for the academic year when they are working fewer than 20 hours a week or not working at all. Perhaps A passes to undergraduates given out in May/ June should expire at the start of the Fall semester.

Regardless of purchase date, Parking permits expire August 15th of each year. Parking recently reviewed and updated the Student A/B exception application.