

University Senate Newsletter
First Meeting, 14 September 2026, Virtual

Senate Chair's Remarks:

Chair Julio Ramirez welcomed the Senate members on behalf of Vice-Chair Dianne Little, Past Chair Mark Zimpfer, and himself to the first meeting of the academic year. He then shared four priorities for the University Senate for this upcoming year:

- The success and expansion of the Indianapolis Campus.
- The opportunities and challenges raised by A.I. and its incorporation into the curriculum.
- Improving the lines of communication with the Purdue Administration and improving the speed and efficiency of the work of the Senate. We propose to do this by strengthening the Senate's operational structure and improving communication and coordination among the Chairs of the Senate Standing Committees.
- Explore ways that pedestrian and operator safety can be maximized in alignment with existing Micromobility and Electric or Motor-Powered Vehicle regulations.

These priorities have been shared with the Board of Trustees, President Daniels, and Provost Wolfe.

Senate leadership envisions this academic year as full of opportunities:

- Providing advice to the Administration on ways to improve childcare on campus.
- Providing advice on healthcare for employees.
- Helping our students, staff, and faculty navigate Federal Immigration updates.

The members of Senate leadership are enthusiastic about working with President Daniels, Provost Wolfe, and the Purdue Administration to continue to build on the academic successes of Purdue University and to work towards an environment of productive collaboration that empowers faculty and staff to contribute to their fullest potential to achieve the vision and mission of Purdue University. We emphasize our dedication and commitment to the educational objectives of Purdue University and the general welfare of those involved in these educational processes. Senate leadership will work expeditiously and efficiently to achieve these goals.

Purdue President's Remarks

President Daniels thanked Chair Ramirez for his remarks and for the great relationship they have already established. He noted that on his fourth day after returning, he met with Chair Ramirez and Vice-Chair Little as it was one of the first things he wanted to do upon his return. President Daniels looks forward to maintaining open communication with the Senate during the time he serves as President. He pledged that the current stint as President will be temporary and that the Trustees are actively searching for the next President. He is assisting them in this search.

He thanked the Senate and the 2,500+ members of the Purdue Community who have taken time to register their thoughts about the next President on the open portal. The most commonly cited traits mentioned by the respondents were:

- An excellent, open, and transparent communicator
- An individual with financial acumen
- An individual with experience leading a complex organization

The Trustees have taken these characteristics into account as they search for the next President.

Purdue President's Remarks (cont.)

President Daniels highlighted several items of significance for the university:

- 10,173 undergraduates were enrolled on the West Lafayette campus and 645 were enrolled in Indianapolis. This class has the highest standardized test scores in Purdue history. Counting the students enrolled on the regional campuses and in Purdue Global, the total is over 111,000 students for this academic year. We also have an all-time high of 13,344 graduate students who are enrolled.
- President Daniels acknowledged that there have been many questions surrounding the COACHE survey and that it was finally been posted in August. A detailed briefing will be given to the Faculty Affairs Committee at an upcoming meeting. President Daniels noted some of the highlights and lowlights of the COACHE results that were reported. He found the report to be sobering, but there were positive elements.
- President Daniels expressed appreciation for Chair Ramirez' remarks about the Indianapolis campus as there are great opportunities for Purdue and our students on that campus. With the help of faculty leadership, new programs and courses can be added that will attract students. There is great interest among businesses and non-profits in Indianapolis for our high-quality students to serve internships and as future employees.
- Upon his return, President Daniels found that there was confusion concerning Purdue's agreement with Google. It is now understood that there will be great flexibility with the use of tools that will be accommodated by the Google platform.
- The A.I. competency requirement for graduation must now be made real. To that end, departments and colleges are working on requirements that are tailored and individualized for faculty, or departments, or colleges.
- Another aspect of A.I. is the opportunity to use it to enable organizations such as Purdue to become more productive, more efficient, and to spend less time on operational administrative tasks and more time on academics to support the academic mission. Purdue has been a little slow in utilizing A.I. in this manner, but we will make real efforts to become more efficient and cost-effective in services that support the teaching and research missions of Purdue.

*** Status of Legislation ***

Documents for Action – Consent Agenda- Approved

- Senate Document 26-01 Nominee for Advisor to the Faculty Affairs Committee
- Senate Document 26-02 Nominee for the Educational Policy Committee
- Senate Document 26-03 Nominee for the University Resources Policy Committee
- Senate Document 26-04 Nominee for the Student Affairs Committee

For Discussion

- No documents received.

For Information

- Strategy for Purdue Indianapolis Campus
- Public Safety and Transportation Enforcement Initiatives
- Annual Report from the Athletic Affairs Committee

Memorial Resolutions

- Arnold Tubis
- William S. Cleveland
- Lawrence G. Brown

University Senate Website

Please visit the Senate website for copies of Documents, Reports, Slides, etc. www.purdue.edu/senate/

Standing Committees

Steering Committee, Lisa Bosman, lbosman@purdue.edu

1. Soliciting reports and informational session in response to faculty and committee requests

Advisory Committee, Julio Ramirez, senate-chair@purdue.edu

Nominating Committee, Damon Lisch, dlisch@purdue.edu and Seema Mattoo, smattoo@purdue.edu

1. Managing committee vacancies
2. Evaluating and balancing numbers, disposition, and experience of Senators for equitable representation and task assignments.

Educational Policy Committee, Julia Chester jcheste@purdue.edu, Vincent Duffy, duffy@purdue.edu

1. Cooperation with UCC including considering new & review of existing FLOs
2. Critical thinking and AI
3. Retention and 4-year/6-year graduation rates; student Visa allowances
4. Student success; Bursar policy on refunds of tuition and fees
5. Communication with Faculty Committees reporting to EPC including AO
6. Review of experiences related to the new Syllabus tool in BrightSpace

Community Connection Committee, Brian Dilkes, bdilkes@purdue.edu and Rua Williams rmwilliams@purdue.edu

Faculty Affairs Committee, Janet Alsop, jalsup@purdue.edu, and Stephen Cameron, cameros@purdue.edu

1. Promotion and tenure process
2. Annual reviews and post-tenure reviews (IC 21-39.5-2-2 and IC 21-38-3.5)
3. COACHE survey

Student Affairs Committee, Christian Rogers, rogerscb@purdue.edu

University Resource Policy Committee, Tae Hong Park, thp@purdue.edu

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** (TBD)
- **Athletic Affairs** ([Kyle Haynes](#), Political Science)
- **Budget Interpretation, Evaluation, & Review** (TBD)
- **Faculty Compensation and Benefits** ([Melanie Fox](#), Economics)
- **Grade Appeals** ([Ryan Reeves](#), Polytechnic Statewide)
- **Library Committee** ([Sylvie Brouder](#), Agronomy)
- **Parking and Traffic** ([Peter Celeste](#), Disability Resource Center)
- **Readmission and Academic Renewal** ([Megan Dorton](#), Sr. Associate Director of Admissions and [Kathi Ferrero](#), Sr. Asst Director of Admissions)
- **Staff Appeal Board for Traffic Regulations** ([Stephanie Winder](#), MaPSAC)
- **Undergraduate Curriculum Council** ([Françoise Brosseau-Lapré](#), Health and Human Sciences)
- **Sustainability** ([Michael Johnston](#), English)
- **Visual Arts and Design** ([Barbara Young](#), Design, Art, and Performance)

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](#).