

Summary of ongoing Faculty Senate, Steering Committee and Executive Committee discussions and activities. The order of these entries is not ranked temporally or by priority. Please send corrections or additions to the Faculty Senate (FS) Chair, Christine Horne*, chorne@wsu.edu. FS blogs: <https://facsen.wsu.edu/current-blog-posts/>. Dates indicate when the record (row) was last updated (red represents most recent changes since the table was last sent to the Steering Committee and/or to the senators). superseded

Topic	Status
Posted 5 Oct 22	We received a concern about culture in the WSU Police Departments following resignations over the summer. We communicated with Chief Gary Jenkins and wrote a blog post. (See the 10/5/2022 blog post)
Posted 5 Oct 22;	We received a concern about parking on game day for people involved in teaching evening classes. We reached out to Chris Boyan at Transportation Services who recommended that faculty with specific issues contact them to discuss. (See response on the Constituent Concerns page.)
Posted 30 Sept 22	We received a concern about WSU's drop in the US News & World Report rankings. We have reached out to leadership on this issue. Institutional Research is investigating (as they have access to the relevant data). We are waiting to hear from them. More information will follow.
Posted 30 Sept 22	We received a concern about FTE reductions without notice in career-track continuous contracts. We have reached out to the provost's office. More information will follow.
Posted 26 April 22; 12 Sept 22; 30 Sept 22 Follow up suspension of Academic Policy 38b	On Dec 9 th 2021, Faculty Senate approved a request by the Provost to temporarily suspend Academic Policy 38b with the goal of employing "high touch mechanisms" to retain failing students during spring 2022. Faculty Senate has received a report on the outcome of this effort, and a request to extend the suspension into the 22-23 academic year. Steering discussed the request with Bill Davis on 29 Sept 22.
Posted 24 June 22; 30 Sept 22 Athletic debt	At the end of the 2022 fiscal year, the WSU Collegiate Athletics has a \$75 million standing debt to WSU. During the first senate meeting in fall 2022, President Schulz identified three parts to the Athletics budget plan: (1) moving the program from deficit spending (completed), (2) building a reserve account for future unanticipated expenses (planning now), and (3) long-term servicing of institutional debt. Schulz is optimistic about the forthcoming media contract. To hear Schulz's comments, see the 9/2022 faculty senate mtg: https://facsen.wsu.edu/live-stream-recordings/
Posted 7 April 22 Assign FAC to develop guidelines for selecting Faculty Regent nominees.	With the approval of Faculty Senate on 7 April 2022, the Faculty Affairs Committee will develop a procedure for selecting future nominees for this position (these are 3-year appointments so we the next nomination process will occur spring semester 2025). FAC will propose the new procedure for Faculty Senate approval during the 2022-23 academic year.



Posted 7 April 22 Need to update MOU between Faculty Senate and Provost's Office	Faculty Senate will work with the Provost's Office to develop a procedure for reclassifying graduate programs into professional programs and vice versa. Ideally, this will be completed during fall 2022 in conjunction with the new Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education, Tammy Barry.
Posted 6 April 22 Why can't faculty with <12-mo appointments have their paychecks distributed on a 12-mo basis?	Chair Call met with Matt Skinner, Senior Associate Vice President, Finance and Administration, on April 4 th to learn more about this issue. A senate blog with more information was posted on April 6 th . Follow up information for how faculty can manage this division of funds through Workday will be available this summer
Posted 15 Feb 22; 8 Mar 22; 6 Apr 22; 24 June; 12 Sept 22 Faculty salary equity program	The provost is developing a faculty salary equity program to address issues with equity, salary compression, etc. Faculty Exec learned more about this program during a leadership meeting on April 6 th and during the Faculty Senate presentation on April 7 th . A procedure for implementing salary increases has been drafted. Implementation began fall 2022.
Posted 5 April 22 SB 5854 enacted changes to ethics rules for faculty	During the summer, Chair Call will consult with the WSU AG Office to determine how changes from SB 5854 affect faculty. We anticipate using a senate blog to share our findings with senators.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 24 Mar 22; 24 Jun; 12 Sept 22 How has WSU been spending COVID-19 relief funds?	Vice President for finance and administration Stacy Pearson is preparing a written report that will be disseminated to the Faculty Senate. A report will be available in October 2022.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 22 Feb 22; 8 Mar 22; 12 Sept 22 Professional leave for career track	The FAC motivation document for career-track professional leave was presented to the president and provost on 22 Feb 22. FAC is working on draft language for the <i>Faculty</i> Manual and chair Call, FAC Chair Judi McDonald, and chair elect Christine Horne met with Senior Vice Provost Laura Hill on March 29 th to discuss options for moving forward. We are gathering information. Further discussions will follow.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 8 Mar 22 Perennial use of one-year employment contracts for career-track faculty	Exec initiated a discussion with the president and provost about the potential that some units may be repeatedly using one-year employment contracts for career-track faculty, with commensurate challenges and uncertainties for these valued members of our faculty. Provost Chilton provided an update on this effort at the meeting with Exec on March 8 th . Based on data from Workday, approximately 40% of career-track faculty are currently on one-year contracts. The next task is to determine how these contracts are distributed relative to time in position, college and unit. Further discussions will follow.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 10 Mar 22; 12 Sept 22 L&I mandated increases in the overtime pay threshold	Rising OT thresholds threaten the research competitiveness of WA institutions of higher education. FS Exec raised this issue with the President. WSU worked on this but was not able to

	change the thresholds. Moving forward efforts will be made to educate faculty regarding how to stay in compliance.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 22 Feb 22; 12 Sept 22 New accreditation rules from NWCCU	NWCCU has released a number of rule changes for accreditation, mostly precipitated by the US Department of Education. Only two changes have implications for Faculty Senate: (1) Exec worked with Vice Provost Bill Davis to develop a proposal for implementation. More information will be forthcoming; (2) Imposing a new substantial change policy. We anticipate that the second item will undergo some changes before FS needs to address this issue.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 22 Jun Pullman Strategic Planning Committee	The Pullman Strategic Planning Committee is working on a campus-specific planning document. The full committee met in May and document preparation is in progress.
Posted 15 Feb 22; 12 Sept 22 Addressing land grant revenue expenditures, tuition for indigenous students, and reparations generally	Last year, exec raised the issue of land grant expenditures with the president and provost. Please see the Feb 15 th FS blog. Since then faculty have asked about the possibility of free tuition for indigenous students. WSU and other universities in the state are interested in this issue and are working collaboratively and with the legislature. WSU is also exploring other reparations related possibilities. Zoe Higheagle Strong will be providing an update spring 2023.
Posted 22 Feb 22: Gender-neutral terms in the <i>Faculty Manual</i>	Current binary language in the <i>Faculty Manual</i> needs to be updated to reflect gender- and binary-neutral language. Initial review of this idea is underway through FAC.
	https://news.wsu.edu/news/2022/03/10/wsu-leadership-provides-more-information-on-march-12-masking-changes/?utm_source=WSUNews-newsletter&utm_campaign=wsunewsnewsletter&utm_medium=email

*Christine Horne assumes all responsibility for any errors in of omission or errors of wording and content for this document.