

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).

Topic	Status
Posted 31 Oct 2022	We received a question about why 9-month contracts start days before the academic year begins, rather than on August 1, which is when faculty, especially those with 3/3 or 4/4 leads, are prepping. Is this a university wide practice? A state policy? Is it something colleges could create their own policies on? We will find out – information will follow.
Posted 31 Oct 2022	Faculty report repeated difficulties with non-WSU participants being able to get into Zoom meetings. We are looking into it – more information will follow.
Posted 24 Oct 2022 Resource constraints and WSU value	Faculty are concerned that constrained resources (such as loss of faculty) are reducing faculty morale and having negative effects (eg see below). Faculty also raised concerns about the perceived value of a WSU degree. What can be done to halt the decline in quality (eg faculty having less time to invest in pedagogy due to more class preps and committee work because of declining faculty numbers, classroom technology, narrowing of curriculum due to lack of faculty) and increase the value of a WSU education?
Posted 25 Oct 2022 Access Center	We received a question about whether faculty can negotiate the length of time given to students to take an exam. I talked with Matthew Jeffries in the Access Center. The good news is that they have hired and are now training new staff. So, moving forward this year they should be fully staffed. Matthew recommended that if you have questions, please reach out to them.
Posted 24 Oct 2022 UCORE DIVR requirements	We received a question about when the new DIVR requirements would be available. We checked. Both the revised DIVR and the new EQJS requirements are on the UCORE website. Additional information can be found at: https://ucore.wsu.edu/equity-and-justice-frequently-asked-questions/
Posted 11 Oct 2022 Proliferation of surveys	We received a concern about the proliferation in the number of surveys faculty are asked to take. We communicated with leadership. They understand the concern and are working on solutions. More information will follow.
13 Oct 2022 Classroom tech (Pullman)	We received concerns about technology issues in Spark and Webster. We have reached out to Bill Davis and have received a response from the provost's office. (See response on the Constituent Concerns page.)

Posted 5 Oct 22 WSU PD culture (Pullman)	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 Game day parking (Pullman)	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.) We recognize the inconsistency and burden of requiring faculty, grad students, and staff to work while simultaneously not allowing parking.
Posted 30 Sept 22; 11 Oct 2022 US News & World Report Ranking	We received a concern about WSU's drop in the US News & World Report rankings. We reached out to leadership on this issue. Institutional Research conducted an analysis and produced a summary of their findings. We have added the document to the Faculty Senate website. The document includes a link to a site with more information about the factors that go into the rankings, and WSU data for those categories.
Posted 30 Sept 22; 17 Oct 22 CT continuous contracts	We received a concern about FTE reductions without notice in career-track continuous contracts. Following discussion with the provost's office, we posted a response (see Constituent Concerns).
Posted 26 April 22; 12 Sept 22; 30 Sept 22; 18 Oct 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. Senate will be discussing this issue 11/3/2022.
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; 11 Oct 2022 Professional-Graduate program conversions	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. Tammy Barry will be providing Faculty Senate with a document outlining the relevant issues.
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 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; 31 Oct 2022 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. We followed up with Stacy Pearson on 10/31/2022 and are waiting for a response.
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; 31 Oct 2022 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. We have asked for further information about this.
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 several 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; 11 Oct 2022	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 April 6, 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.