



# WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

*Faculty Line #259*  
*January 23, 2025*

Faculty Office

104/106 Health Sci Bldg.  
[facultyoffice@wright.edu](mailto:facultyoffice@wright.edu)

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to Spring 2025! I hope that you had an enjoyable winter break and were able to get some rest and relaxation.

## **Leadership Changes**

With the sudden shift in leadership of the Provost's office, announced just before winter break, many of us are beginning this semester with a degree of uncertainty. Indeed, we have had many leadership changes in recent years, and this turnover can be very disconcerting. I welcome our Acting Provost, Dr. Jim Denniston, and hope that his appointment can bring a stability to the university that we have not seen in recent years. Be assured that the Faculty Senate is a steadfast voice of support for our faculty.

## **Shared Governance**

In recent years shared governance has been at risk. While academic policy has been traditionally formulated by the Faculty Senate in collaboration with the Provost's office (see Policies 1020 and 2010), there has been a gradual erosion of these rights lately. During the fall semester 2024, two academic policies (2330 and 5080) were abruptly removed from shared governance, and your Faculty Senate Executive Committee (EC) fought behind the scenes to have shared governance successfully restored. We will remain vigilant against any further diminutization of your rights.

## **Teaching Loads**

Faculty teaching loads have continued to be a source of contention between the faculty and administration. Given the abrupt implementation of the new policy last year and its dramatic increase over the previous teaching load agreement, in conjunction with the increase in non-teaching duties, the EC is on your side. We drafted a detailed set of recommendations in response to the summer revision of the policy, but unfortunately, none of these suggestions were implemented. While I was writing this newsletter, the Acting Provost posted yet another revision to the policy. The EC is reviewing these revisions, and we invite your feedback. You can provide feedback directly to the university, to me, to any one of your representatives, or to the Faculty Office ([facultyoffice@wright.edu](mailto:facultyoffice@wright.edu)). Note that we have envelopes outside of the Faculty Office at 104 Health Sci Bldg. for anonymous feedback. Whatever feedback we receive will be assembled and presented to the Acting Provost in an anonymous fashion.

## **Student Evaluation of Instruction**

Student evaluations are very important for all faculty members and have implications for annual evaluation, tenure, and promotion. The Provost's office has been working on a new set of questions for student evaluations and a different way to deliver them. The EC reviewed the new form and determined that it needed more work. On your behalf, the EC requested that testing of the new evaluation form be postponed until spring 2025. We have collected input from faculty members and are assembling the feedback for presentation to the Acting Provost.

### **Faculty Senate Elections**

Nominations for Faculty President and Vice President opened on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. Senator nominations open on February 10<sup>th</sup>. All nominations close at 5 p.m. on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The voting period will be March 11-14<sup>th</sup>. Elections are part of your voice at Wright State. We urge you to participate.

### **Core Implementation**

We are making good progress on the Core implementation. Our Core Oversight Committee reviewed 166 course proposals for transition to new Core. Ninety-six courses were moved from the old Core to the new Core (92.5% Ohio Transfer 36 qualified). Two new courses were added to the Core, and six first-year seminar courses were added. Important deadlines:

#### **February 1, 2025**

- Deadline for Course Modifications or Deactivations to make the AY25-26 catalog
- Deadline for New courses to make the AY25-26 catalog (for courses included in the Core)
- Deadline for changes to be made to the Graduation Planning Strategy (GPS) for Core courses

#### **April 1, 2025**

- Deadline for any type of program change
- Deadline for New courses to make the AY25-26 catalog (for courses NOT included in the Core)

#### *Draft Catalog Check*

All departments should review the 2025-2026 DRAFT catalog at <https://catalog.wright.edu/> and send any non-curricular updates to [wsu-registrar@wright.edu](mailto:wsu-registrar@wright.edu) by **April 1, 2025**.

#### *Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) Submission Dates*

Remaining submission dates to the UCC that would allow a chance to meet the April 1, 2025, are **February 11 and March 11**. Note that the UCC is not the last step of the approval process, so submission to the UCC by these dates *does not* ensure that your proposal will make it through the process in time. Please check the “Steps to Approval” for your individual proposals.

#### *Spring Faculty Senate Meetings*

To facilitate the anticipated high volume of proposals, the Faculty Senate will meet twice per month in spring 2025 with every other meeting being virtual for review of curricular items only. The Faculty Senate votes on curricular items at every Senate meeting. Deadlines for items to be brought to the Senate floor are as follows:

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ▪ January 31, 2025  | ▪ March 21, 2025 |
| ▪ February 14, 2025 | ▪ April 4, 2025  |
| ▪ March 7, 2025     | ▪ April 18, 2025 |

The first Faculty Senate meeting of the new academic year is **Monday, January 27, 2025**, at 2:30 p.m. in the Endeavor Room of the Student Union (E156).

Sincerely,  
Dawn Wooley  
Faculty President  
[dawn.wooley@wright.edu](mailto:dawn.wooley@wright.edu)

Open Office Hours at 104 Health Sci Bldg  
Wednesdays 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
Fridays 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.  
Exceptions noted on the calendar next to the door