



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate

Senate Snapshot

Faculty Senate Meeting – Oct. 5, 2023

Did You Know... All Faculty Senate meetings, including council and committee meetings, are open to all faculty. You can find the schedule of events at [this link](#).

Remarks from Faculty Senate President Sarah Summy

- **SPECIAL ELECTION:** A Faculty Senate Vice President special election is underway. To cast your vote prior to the close of the election at 5 p.m. on Oct. 20 [login](#).
- **MEMORANDA OF ACTION:** The Administration approved two Memoranda of Action over the summer:
 - [MOA-20/03: WMU Syllabus Requirements](#)
 - [MOA-21/04: Revision of Accelerated Graduate Degree Program](#)
- **AD HOC COMMITTEES:** Recently, the Faculty Senate Executive Board seated two new Ad Hoc committees for work on the Senate initiatives for the 2023-24 academic year:
 - [Artificial Intelligence](#)
 - [Centers and Institutes](#)
- **FACULTY FEES:** The Faculty Senate is once again asking for support in the form of an annual voluntary \$25 faculty fee. Faculty are encouraged to make contributions at one of two online options:
 - Follow [this link](#) to make a credit card payment
 - Follow [this link](#) to authorize a one-time payroll deduction.

Remarks from WMU President Edward Montgomery

- **FALL AWARDS CELEBRATION:** Held Friday, Sept. 29, the celebration recognized the University's finest, including awards for exceptional teaching, service, longtime and emerging scholar work.
- **GRADUATION RATE:** WMU has posted its highest six-year graduation rate in the last 25 years. The year-over-year improvement was 2.7 percentage points. While the graduation rate is close to exceeding the best WMU has ever done, it remains below the national average.

Remarks from Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Julian Vasquez Heilig

- **SPECIAL EVENTS:**
 - [Counselors Brunch](#)
 - [Honors Open House](#)
 - [Student Appreciation Scholarship Event](#)
 - [Artificial Intelligence Panel](#)

Informational Items

- **EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION:** Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Julian Vasquez Heilig and Vice President for Marketing and Strategic Communication Tony Proudfoot provided details of the Strategic Plan's Academic Excellence Objective 2.
- **CURRICULUM CHANGES:** Lisa DeChano-Cook provided important changes in the curriculum process.

These notes are informal communications provided as a convenience for Senators and others to communicate with their constituencies in a timely fashion. They are not intended as a substitute for meeting minutes and hold no more value or standing, other than as an individual's recollection of events.