



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate

Senate Snapshot

Faculty Senate Meeting – Dec. 7, 2023

Did You Know... Much of the work of the Faculty Senate is completed by its councils. There are seven councils: Academic & Information Technology, Campus Planning & Finance, Graduate Studies, International Education, Research Policies, and Undergraduate Education. You can learn more at [this link](#).

Remarks from Faculty Senate President Sarah Summy

- **GENERAL ELECTION:** The Faculty Senate has launched its bi-annual general election to seat its next president and vice president who will take office as of May 1, 2024. Nominations for president and vice president will be due on 26 January.
- **PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS:** The Faculty Senate is soliciting departments to submit their Presidential Scholar for the 15 March event to be held in Heritage Hall from 4 to 6 p.m.
- **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

- **COMMENCEMENT**: On Saturday, 16 December 2023, more than 1,200 degrees will be conferred, including two honorary degrees. There will be three ceremonies at 9 a.m., noon, and 3 p.m. at Miller Auditorium.
- **25 YEAR CLUB**: 40 inductees were celebrated and recognized, and special recognition to a 50-year faculty member, Bob White, professor in Industrial and Entrepreneurial Engineering and Engineering Management.

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

- **FACULTY GRANTS**: the Office of the Provost received more than 60 proposals for Incubator and Accelerator Grants from nine academic units. The proposals total more than 500 pages, and the committee will review them and issue the awards in January
- **TAIWAN MBA PROGRAM**: The Provost traveled to Taiwan with members of the Haworth College of Business and the Haenicke Institute of Global Education last month to attend graduation ceremonies for the WMU Haworth College of Business Taiwan MBA program. There have been more than 70 graduates so far.
- **KALAMAZOO VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**: WMU celebrated a significant milestone of the collaboration with Kalamazoo Valley Community College by formalizing the partnership through marking the signing of over 50 program-level agreements.
- **SPECIAL EVENT**: Lunch with the Provost – two dates remain, Feb. 8 and April 5, where faculty can gather to share ideas with the provost.

Informational Items

- **CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL**: LuMarie Guth, secretary of the CPFC, provided an update on the council's activities.
- **DISABILITY SERVICES for STUDENTS**: Director Jayne Fraley-Burgett provided an update regarding testing accommodations.

- [ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT:](#) Vice President for Development and Executive Director of WMU Foundation Kristen DeVries provided the annual development report.

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.