



Senate Snapshot

Faculty Senate Oct. 1, 2020, Virtual Meeting

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 than an individual's recollection of events.

Remarks from Faculty Senate President Marilyn Kritzman

- At the last meeting, the Senate took action on [MOA-20/07: Revision to the Organizational Changes of Academic Units](#), item 6 to invite faculty voice during discussion of recommendations regarding program reorganization and elimination. Additional questions were raised regarding item 4-inclusion of documentation; and item 7-review by the Senate. A complete review of the document reveals that item 4 is covered under items 7 and 8. Regarding item 7, all proposals are first vetted through each college curriculum committee, which fall within the purview of the college dean. It is hoped that full discussion occurs there. Please remember that any recommendation from the Senate is just that, a recommendation. All decisions rest with the administration.
- Faculty Senate staff member, Suzanne Davenport, was recognized for her 41 years of service in anticipation of her retirement on Oct. 31 2020.

Remarks from WMU President Edward Montgomery

- The following faculty were congratulated on receiving [WMU Named Term-limited Professorships](#):
 - Uptul Attanayake, associate professor of Civil and Construction Engineering

- Ann Chapleau, professor of Occupational Therapy
- Matt Reeves, associate professor of Geological and Environmental Sciences

Remarks from Vice Provost for Budget and Personnel Christopher Cheatham

- Fall 2020 enrollment update that can be reviewed on the Institutional Research [Interactive Dashboards](#).
- The spring 2020 registration calendar was slightly changed to allow more time for faculty to make decisions about instructional method and still provide a two-week viewable window before registration goes live.

Action and Informational Items

- The final [report](#) of the Faculty Senate [Ad Hoc Committee on Interdisciplinary Academic Studies](#) was provided.
- Vice President for Government Relations Jeff Breneman provided a highlight of the [WeTalk](#) initiative.
- Amendments to the Faculty Senate [Constitution](#) and [Bylaws](#) were approved.
- WMU athletes' academic accomplishments were provided by the [WMU Athletic Board Report](#) of the 2019-20 chair, Lisa DeChano-Cook.
- Reminder of [MOA-19/04](#): *Creation of Student Attendance Expectation Policy*, which includes expectations for faculty when addressing short-term military obligations. WMU has over 200 students currently serving in some capacity in the military. Several are actively serving due to the COVID-19 response mission.