

THE FACULTY GOVERNANCE SPECTATOR

Convocation

Curriculum Deadlines

The deadlines for curricular items was emailed to all faculty and are posted on the Senate website: <http://senate.sonoma.edu/memberships-and-meeting-dates/epc>

All curricular forms now live on the Curriculum Guide! <http://web.sonoma.edu/aa/curriculumguide/formsrouting.html>

Resolutions Spring 2018

[Faculty Role in Commencement](#)

[Honoring Carmen Works](#)

GE Revision

Website to follow the GE Revision process: ge.sonoma.edu/

The tentative timeline for the GE proposal is that it will be at the Senate by late November.

Stay tuned!

The 2018 University Convocation was held on August 17th. Faculty Chair Laura A. Watt started the event. Her speech is posted to the Senate website: <http://senate.sonoma.edu/dr-laura-watts-convocation-speech-2018>

Live jazz played in the foyer of Weill Hall. We heard positive and upbeat talks from the President, Provost, Staff Rep, and CFA. Presentations were made by the recipients of the Excellence in Teaching Award and the Excellence in Scholarship Award.



First Senate Meeting

The first Senate meeting was held on August 30. We received a presentation on the University Budget from Laura Lupei. We saw how the budget was changing from last year to this year, heard a preview of the cuts coming to all divisions, and learned more about the initiative to move towards an all funds budget. Laura's power point presentation is available on the Senate website: <http://senate.sonoma.edu/forms> - go to the bottom of the page.

Additionally, we had an update on the Stevenson Hall Remodel from Christopher Dinno. Many permanent moves will be made as this project goes forward, including a one-stop resource area for faculty on the first floor of Salazar. The move out for Stevenson is scheduled for Summer of 2020 and the move back is scheduled for 2022.



Senate hears report on Graduate Studies Surveys

Two surveys, targeting graduate faculty and graduate students, were composed and piloted by the Graduate Studies Subcommittee in the Fall of 2017.

- 72 graduate faculty completed the survey.
- 219 graduate students completed the survey.

Faculty state that graduate programs are largely invisible, under-appreciated, and under-funded on campus. They endorse increased funding as critically needed for both students and faculty. Faculty suggestions include examination of compensation, WTU assignments, release time, research funding, and teaching funding. An administrative structure and high-level personnel that have access to resources and funding allocations for graduate program needs are vital.

Students are very satisfied with their experience in their graduate program. They are neutral to slightly dissatisfied with the financial support for their graduate work. They are strongly confident of completing the degree and describe faculty mentorship and support as critical to completing the degree. While many graduate students feel invisible on campus, many also feel supported.

Your Senators

We want to hear from all faculty about business before the Senate. Get to know your Senators and give them feedback or ask them to let you know what’s happening in the Senate. You can see all the members of the Senate on the Senate website: <http://senate.sonoma.edu/memberships-and-meeting-dates/academic-senate>. It will be especially important this year for good communication between faculty and their Senators as we move towards revising our general education program.



Your Senate Leadership



Carmen Works, Past Chair; Laura A. Watt, Chair; Melinda Milligan, Vice Chair

Your Senate leadership meets with the President and Provost on a regular basis. They attend the President’s Budget Advisory Council and numerous other committees and functions.

We welcome new Chairs to faculty governance committees:

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| Mark Perri, APARC | Laura Krier, UPRS |
| Rita Premo, FSAC | Mackenzie Zippay, Scholarship |
| Edward Lyon, FSSP | Colleen Mahoney, S&F |

Don’t know our acronyms? <http://senate.sonoma.edu/governance/resources/acronyms>