

# **UNIVERSITY SENATE REPORT**

**Prepared by Cheryl Cooky, Ph.D.  
University Senate Chair  
for  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
June, 14 2019**

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# **2019-20 SENATE CHAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Cheryl Cooky, Ph.D.**

**School of Interdisciplinary  
Studies**

**College of Liberal Arts**

**Research interests: girls'  
women's participation in sport;  
media coverage of sport; sport  
as a socio-cultural  
phenomenon; Title IX/ gender  
equity in sports**



# UPDATES FROM APRIL SENATE MEETING

- Education Policy Committee and Student Affairs Committee: Tasked by Steering Committee after January Senate meeting to consider President Daniels Civics Literacy concerns and report to SC in advance of the April Meeting.
  - No report was provided by either committee to the SC prior to the April Steering Committee meetings. Senate members (Cooky, Jeff Rhodes, Robyn Malo) decided to draft resolution.
  - SAC drafted resolution post-SC deadline (Carroll recommended merging documents; SAC, EPC, Senate members invited to edit)
- Resolution 18-12: Establishment of Special Committee on Civics Literacy and Engagement
  - Suspension of Rules (to allow vote, requires 2/3)
  - Resolution did not pass (short 3-4 votes) however, majority of Senators were in favor

# **CIVICS LITERACY**

- March 2019: Natalie Carroll (2018-19 Chair) commissioned campus-wide survey, Town Hall in response to President Daniels January 2019 Senate remarks
- Results of survey compiled by Phil Vanfossen
  - Briefings delivered to Pres. Daniels, Carroll and Cooky

# CIVICS LITERACY

- N= 2014 (1081 undergraduate students)
- *Is Civics literacy Purdue's responsibility?*
  - 55% of UND; 52% of Faculty Agree/ Strongly Agree
- *Current Students demonstrate sufficient understanding of Civics?*
  - 36.5% UND; 29.5% Faculty Agree/ Strongly Agree
  - 40% UND; 47.5% Faculty "Don't Know/ No opinion, neutral"

Data compiled by Phil Vanfossen, Ph.D.

# CIVICS LITERACY

- Challenges/ Questions:
  - Rationale
    - Need to demonstrate Purdue students do not have requisite literacy (from SAC); data-driven rationale
  - Graduation requirement
    - Senate/ Faculty will need to be convinced this will benefit Purdue students
  - International Students
    - Faculty do not want exemption, UND/ GRAD mixed
  - Goals/ Outcomes:
    - How is civics literacy defined/ conceptualized?
    - What do we want students to know? And why?
    - Assessment (pretest→ determines curriculum--> post-test)
  - Part of the UCC?: Civics literacy = information literacy
    - Tap into existing courses; possible development of new courses

# **CIVICS LITERACY**

- Next steps:
  - Summer 2019:
    - Working with OIRAE to assess incoming students using existing valid, reliable instruments to measure civics literacy
    - Senate Chair/Vice Chair meetings with stakeholders
  - Fall 2019:
    - Re-introduce Resolution 18-12 as 19-1?
    - Other options to be considered pending outcomes (OIRAE data, meetings, etc.)



**THANK YOU**

# **CURRENT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREE**

- The completion, either by resident course work, as directed credit, or by credit accepted from another institution, of the plan of study underlying the degree.
- Resident study at Purdue University for at least two semesters and the enrollment in and completion of at least 32 semester hours of coursework required and approved for the completion of the degree. These courses are expected to be at least junior-level courses.
- Registration, either in residence or absentia, as a candidate for the desired degree during the semester (or summer session) immediately preceding its conferment.
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 shall be required for graduation.
- The demonstration of satisfactory knowledge of the English language, with particular reference to composition and spelling.

# UNIVERSITY SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

- ***Advisory Committee:*** "***The*** Advisory Committee shall meet on call of the Chairperson of the Senate, the President, the Board of Trustees, or at the request of any three members of the committee, to advise regarding any matter of concern to the faculty."
- ***Steering Committee:*** Proposes the agenda, including arranging for speakers; Refers proposals to the appropriate Standing or Faculty committee
- ***Educational Policy Committee:*** Improving instruction, curriculum standards, grades & grading, honors programs; General academic organization; Interdepartmental and inter-institutional research and education programs
- ***Equity and Diversity Committee:*** Equity and Diversity Committee: The Senate's Equity and Diversity Committee shall provide guidance in all aspects of climate, recruitment, retention, inclusion, and equal opportunities for access and success.

# UNIVERSITY SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

- ***Faculty Affairs Committee:*** Faculty Affairs Committee: Concerned with all matters which pertain primarily to the responsibilities, rights, privileges, opportunities, and welfare of the faculty, collectively and as individuals.
- ***Nominating Committee:*** Solicits volunteers from the faculty and nominate elective members for all Senate committees
- ***University Resources Policy Committee:*** Planning optimal utilization of the University physical facilities and nonacademic planning of architecture, landscaping, and parking; Studies of staff needs, utilization, and planning; Interdepartmental cooperation of facilities and staff utilization
- ***Student Affairs Committee:*** Concerned with matters having to do with the general social, cultural, and practical welfare of all students of the University. Non-classroom matters (i.e., counseling, scholarships, health, living conditions)

# **SENATE VICE- CHAIR AND STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Deborah Nichols, Ph.D.**

**Human Development & Family  
Studies**

**College of Health & Human  
Sciences**

**Research interests:** Early childhood, television, digital media, cognition, attention, comprehension, executive function, language and literacy development, social behavior, parenting, representational abilities, at-risk children and families, poverty, intervention, STEM education



# **EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Howard Sypher, Ph.D.**

**Brian Lamb School of  
Communications**

**College of Liberal Arts**

**Research interests:  
Communication and new  
technology; impact of  
technology on  
organizational settings**



# **EQUITY AND DIVERSITY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Audrey Ruple, Ph.D.**

**Comparative Biology**

**College of Veterinary  
Medicine**

**Research interests:**

Comparative Oncology; One  
Health Education; Companion  
Animal Epidemiology; and  
Biosecurity and Infection  
Control





# **FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Linda Prokopy, Ph.D.**

**Forestry and Natural  
Resources**

**College of Agriculture**

**Research interests:** how to encourage more people to become engaged in environmentally friendly behaviors to address climate change, land use, and water pollution





# **NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Fred Berry, Ph.D.**

**School of Engineering  
Technology**

**Polytechnic Institute**

**Research interests:** semantic analysis of capstone-corpus; capstone education; using writing and communication assignments to improve the teaching of engineering design; and developing a flexible mobile studio pedagogy using the Mobile Studio Instrumentation Board



# **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**Randy Rapp, Ph.D.**

**Polytechnic Institute**

**Research interests:**

Disaster restoration and  
reconstruction  
management; Construction  
contract management



# **STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**TBA**

**Election results pending**