

**University Senate Newsletter**  
 First Meeting, 9 September 2024, Virtual

**Senate Chair’s Remarks:**

Chair Susan South welcomed the Senate and extended greetings to its new and returning members. Chair South thanked Immediate Past-Chair Brian Leung for his service over the past year, including serving as the liaison from the Senate to the Administration on the issue of SB202 this summer. She also praised him for the warmth, honesty, and openness that she will try to emulate. Chair South next thanked Vice-Chair Mark Zimpfer, Secretary of Faculties Joe Camp, and Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Se’Andra Johnson for joining her on this journey.

A survey was recently sent out to Senators and Advisors to determine if the Senate meeting should remain in the Zoom format. Seventy-six percent of respondents were in favor of retaining the current format. The 24% minority strongly suggested at least one in-person meeting per year. The Senate leadership will discuss this possibility with the President and Provost.

Other suggestions included: receiving documents earlier prior to the Senate meetings; the ability to pose questions to the President during the Senate meeting; receiving information on enrollment, tuition, and student housing; receiving information about hiring, particularly dream hires and clinical-track hires, receiving information about the University budget; and updates on SB202/PL113. Vice Provost Sunil Prabhakar will talk about faculty hiring today.

In addition to our Résumé of Items, Chair South wants to showcase the work of Senate Committees. She also encouraged all Senators to participate actively during the Senate meetings. She truly believes the Administration and BoT want to hear from the Senate members with a foundation of trust on all sides.

Remaining on the theme of engagement, Chair South described the benefits of shared governance and how they shape our institution. She again encouraged the Senators to be involved and to ensure the voices of their constituents are heard and that they report to their constituents on Senate activities in unit meetings.

Chair South concluded by reminding Senators that their contributions are valuable. Students look to faculty for knowledge and inspiration and need to see faculty actively shaping the environment in which they learn and grow. Chair South knows that there are not enough hours in the day to do all the things asked of faculty. She sees this reality and appreciates all the hard work Senators do for the Senate.

**Purdue President’s Remarks**

President Mung Chiang opened with thanks to Chair South, Vice-Chair Zimpfer, and Immediate Past-Chair Leung for outstanding contribution to the Senate. He thanked Professor Camp for coming out of retirement to help with the Senate. President Chiang thanked returning Senators and welcomed new Senators. He looks forward to working with everyone in the spirit highlighted by Chair South. He knows we have the best interests of the institution, especially those of our students, in our hearts.

President Chiang highlighted the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff with many records set during the 2023-2024 academic year. Details will be provided in the Senate Minutes.

1. Research Awards \$674 M
2. Philanthropic giving \$621 M, donor count 85,421
3. Faculty Awards 40, citations 435,087, books 60
4. Undergrad applicants 78,522, admissions <50%, yield >29%
5. Graduation Rate 64% 4yr and 84% 6yr
6. New degrees credentials 82
7. Online enrollment 21,200
8. Patents issued 290 and licensed 224
9. Three for three wins in national research hubs competition

**Purdue President’s Remarks, cont’d.:**

10. Largest economic development in state history \$3.9 B
11. First national championship game Men’s Basketball since 1969

President Chiang next outlined ongoing efforts to support students, faculty, and staff. Details will be provided in the Senate minutes.

1. Enrollment reduction
2. Mental health support & student experience enrichment
3. Transportation convenience and safety
4. Physical facilities construction and renovation
5. Research infrastructure investment (SPS, IT, data center, PERA)
6. Faculty mid-year raise, staff Bravo+, grad stipends, student hourly rate
7. Faculty national awards and SPARK support
8. Presidential grad fellowship. Doctoral student mentorship expansion
9. Paperwork reduction (e.g. use of AI, one fewer signature)

President Chiang described the paperwork reduction activities. Since May, 15 forms have gone through the reform process of one or multiple fewer signatures. He emphasized that the Administration is “ready and eager” to listen to Senators’ input on which forms could benefit from this process. Some of the reformed documents are listed below. Details will be provided in the Senate minutes.

1. Non-pay employee data changes.
2. Capital variances (R&R)
3. Procurement ad hoc process
4. Team Dynamics
5. Termination actions- Business Office
6. Property accounting forms
7. Voluntary support
8. Personal payments
9. Ariba purchase requisitions
10. Payee certifications and SubW9
11. Purdue online rate
12. Post award- re-budgets, no-cost extensions, residual forms, notice to proceed

President Chiang wrapped up his remarks by showing a slide of his direct reports. He suggested that it would be useful to rotate presentations to the Senate among his direct reports over the course of the year. These presentations will allow the direct reports to demonstrate their leadership and initiatives and provide the Senators with the opportunity to ask questions of them. This mechanism will provide time for all to get to know each other. For example, today’s presentation was from Dimitrios Peroulis, Sr. VP for Partnerships and Online. Prior to his presentation, Provost Patrick Wolfe presented his remarks to the Senate.

**\*\*\* Status of Legislation \*\*\***

**No Documents were presented for Discussion or for Action.**

**For Information**

- Annual Report from the Athletic Affairs Committee
- Hiring and Recruitment

**University Senate Website**

Please visit the Senate website for copies of Documents, Reports, Slides, etc.  
[www.purdue.edu/senate/](http://www.purdue.edu/senate/)

## Standing Committees

**Educational Policy Committee**, Howard E. Sypher, [hsypher@purdue.edu](mailto:hsypher@purdue.edu)

1. Assessing what AI regulations are needed
2. Considering ways to improve the Grade Appeal process
3. Updating MEAPS language as per SB22-08
4. Reviewing Graduate School renaming and reorganization

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee**, Brian Dilkes, [bdilkes@purdue.edu](mailto:bdilkes@purdue.edu) and Geraldine Friedman, [friedman@purdue.edu](mailto:friedman@purdue.edu)

1. The second reading of the SWANA declaration

**Faculty Affairs Committee**, Anish Vanaik, [avanaik@purdue.edu](mailto:avanaik@purdue.edu) and Françoise Brosseau-Lapr , [fbrossea@purdue.edu](mailto:fbrossea@purdue.edu)

1. Assessment of Recent Changes in P&T Process
2. Lecturers Advisory Board presence on University Senate
3. Working with SUFIE on guidelines
4. Lecturers Advisory Board presence on University Senate

**Nominating Committee**, Damon Lisch, [dlish@purdue.edu](mailto:dlish@purdue.edu) and Seema Mattoo, [smattoo@purdue.edu](mailto:smattoo@purdue.edu)

1. Managing new committee vacancies
2. Evaluating and balancing numbers, disposition and experience of Senators for equitable representation and task assignments

**Steering Committee**, Libby Richards, [erichards@purdue.edu](mailto:erichards@purdue.edu)

1. Soliciting reports and informational sessions in response to faculty and committee requests

**Student Affairs Committee**, Abigail S. Engelberth, [aengelbe@purdue.edu](mailto:aengelbe@purdue.edu)

1. Class Size

**University Resource Policy Committee**, Lori Hoagland, [lhoaglan@purdue.edu](mailto:lhoaglan@purdue.edu)

1. Parking regulations and appeals process
2. Issues around Bicycle Parking

## Faculty Committees

Members are any tenured/tenure-track, clinical, & prof. faculty who volunteer. Please respond to the call for volunteers issued in January or contact the relevant committee chairs directly if you are interested in serving.

- **Academic Organization** ([Mark Wilson](#), Aeronautics and Astronautics / EPC)
- **Academic Progress and Records** (TBD)
- **Athletic Affairs** ([Chip Blatchley](#), Civil Engineering)
- **Budget Interpretation, Evaluation, & Review** ([George Zhou](#), Civil Engineering)
- **Faculty Compensation and Benefits** ([Laura B. Hawkins](#), School of Nursing / FAC)
- **Grade Appeals** ([Ryan Reeves](#), Polytechnic Statewide)
- **Library Committee** ([Alexander Francis](#), ULC Chair, Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences)
- **Parking and Traffic** ([Josh Widhalm](#), Horticulture & Landscape Architecture)
- **Scholastic Delinquencies and Readmissions** ([Megan Dorton](#), Sr. Assoc. Director of Admissions)
- **Staff Appeal Board for Traffic Regulations** ([Stephanie Winder](#), MaPSAC / URPC)
- **Undergraduate Curriculum Council** ([Andres Vargas](#), Daniels School of Business)
- **Sustainability** ([Michael Johnston](#), English / URPC and [Amanda Darbyshire](#), Veterinary Clinical Sciences)
- **Visual Arts and Design** ([Laura Bittner](#), Design, Art, and Performance / URPC)

Contact the committee chairs (listed above) for more information.

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Most of the work of the University Senate happens in committees. Standing Committees are composed of Senate members and university advisors. Faculty committees are composed of faculty members and often have non-faculty liaisons. Recommendations from committees come to the full Senate for consideration and vote.

**Charge of the Purdue University Senate:** The University Senate is the governing body of the faculty, subject to the authority of the Board of Trustees and in consultation with the President, it has the power and responsibility to propose or to adopt policies, regulations and procedures intended to achieve the educational objectives of Purdue University and the general welfare of those involved in these educational processes. The University Senate follows the *American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* and our [Bylaws](#).