

## Executive Committee (XC) Report to the University of Louisville Faculty Senate

October 2, 2024

### Meeting(s) Report

The faculty senate executive committee met twice in September (Wednesday, 09.18 and 09.25) during our regularly scheduled meeting time from 3:00-5:00 PM. The meeting minutes from August 21, 2024, were unanimously approved. At both meetings, executive committee reports, and standing committee reports were presented as information, the details are recorded in the meeting minutes. No motions were made.

### **Discussion Items & Guest Reports:**

1. Centers and Institutes (C&I) Guidelines and Procedures (September 18, 2024). Sherri Wallace, Senate Vice Chair, opened the floor for discussion on the material distributed for feedback by Provost Bradley and Vice Provost Bob Goldstein. There was consensus among the XC that the proposed approval and review processes outlined in the new guidelines and procedures **should not circumvent nor diminish independent reviews by the faculty senate standing committees—Academic Programs Committee (APC) and Planning and Budget Committee (P&BC)**. APC conducts a thorough review of the academic quality, integrity, and overall program and the impact on faculty load and production. P&BC conducts a vital financial review of program profitability/liability, and the effects on faculty load and production. Both standing committees together provide the necessary, internal “checks and balances” and oversight by vetting all academic components connected to centers and institutes to protect the integrity of affiliated faculty and mission/quality of the academic programs. In keeping with the spirit of collaboration and shared governance, recommendations from both the APC and P&BC are submitted to the full faculty senate for final approval before submission to upper administration.

Additional recommendations: The Office of Community Engagement should also have seat on the proposed Executive Council with the EVPUP, EVPRI, EVPHA to bring the broader community lens and impact to the final approval process. The proposed four (4) faculty senate members selected for the proposed review committee **should not replace the independent reviews by the faculty senate APC or P&BC standing committees**. Representation on the proposed review committee needs non-STEM units (E.g., A&S, Business, CEHD, Music). Administrative centers should also have BOT approval.

Questions to consider: When can the BOT intervene in the (approval) process? What happens when the approval process fails? Adverse case studies need more consideration.

2. Finance and Budget Overview (September 25, 2024). Jill Mullaney, Interim VP for Budget and Finance and David Schultz, Vice Provost for Finance and Strategic Initiatives, presented the new budget offices and budget models. The budget officers—the VPBF, VPFSI, and EVPHA—will work together and independently to manage and oversee the distribution of general funds, gifts, endowments, and grants within their respective offices. (The EVPHA oversees the ULP/Clinical funds.) Additionally, an advisory committee, with representation from SGA, staff and faculty senates, academic unit deans and vice provosts and presidents with student, operation and research emphases, will work with the three officers to bring campus voices/perspectives to the budget process. The aim is to bring transparency to the overall process and align the budget to financial incentives and strategic initiatives that connect to the competitive state performance funding model. The end goal is to ensure that more funds flow into and remain within academic units—no more sweeping by Central at the end of the fiscal year! The presentation and conversation will continue at the next XC meeting in October.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Dr. Sherri L. Wallace, Vice Chair