

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

September 4, 2024

### Meeting(s) Report

The faculty senate executive committee met once in August (Wednesday, 08.21) during our regularly scheduled meeting time from 3:00-5:00 PM. The meeting minutes from June 20, 2024, were unanimously approved. At the meeting, executive committee reports and standing committee reports were presented as information, the details are recorded in the meeting minutes. No motions were made at the XC meeting.

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

1. Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity 2024 Strategic Plan. Kevyn Merten, Associate Vice President, Research (EVPRI), and Cindi Logsdon (Professor, Nursing) shared a draft of the 2024 research plan for feedback. XC members complemented the team on plan's comprehensiveness and inclusiveness. Suggestions were made to address the unevenness in the emphasis on centers or institutes as drivers of collaborative, multi-disciplinary research/funding as opposed to individual/unit-based approaches, even though the national trend is toward centers or institutes as engines for large-scale funding and investigations. There was discussion on (re)claiming RIF and how to include the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) research. In addition to editorial suggestions for clarification, there was a recommendation made to better gain support and increase faculty "buy-in" is hold town hall meetings upon release. XC recommended a presentation before the faculty senate.
2. Proposed Revision to the Major Program GPA. Gail DePuy, Senior Vice Provost, presented a proposal to the XC for consideration on the removal of the major program GPA because the current system cannot calculate the major program GPA automatically. She presented two options: (1) remove the program GPA and use the cumulative GPA (evidence was presented that there wasn't significant difference between cumulative and program major GPAs) and (2) allow programs to develop and implement a system for calculating major GPAs. SGA supports the removal of the major program GPA. XC members raised concerns and questions such as: What is the virtue of having a program GPA? What are the practicalities of having a system that can automatically calculate the major program GPA? Will the proposed change affect program rigor? What does the program degree mean in terms of performance and competency? Is the GPA tied the competency in the major or overall? DePuy will address these concerns. XC recommended a presentation before the faculty senate.
3. Nominations for (Co-)Chair for the Faculty Grievance Committee (FGC). According to the Redbook, the faculty senate must nominate individuals to the provost for consideration. Sherri Wallace, vice-chair, presented a list of persons who are active, effective members of the faculty grievance committee to the XC for consideration. Based on their performance and past conversations with Melissa Laning, who is stepping down as co-chair of the FGC, and after discussion with the XC, three persons of five persons were selected for nomination. Each nominee was asked and agreed to serve, if chosen. The nominees were: Angel Clemons (Professor, Libraries), Jason Jaggars (Associate Professor, CEHD), and Adrian Lauf (Associate Professor, Engineering).

*Respectfully submitted,*

Dr. Sherri L. Wallace, Vice Chair