Office of the Provost

Faculty Senate Meeting
Preliminary Draft

Meeting Specifics		
Purpose	**Frequency**	
Regularly Scheduled	Bi-weekly	
Date	**Time**	**Location**
September 14, 2026	3:00-5:00 p.m.	Classroom Building Rm. 328
Faculty Senate		
☒ **Chair:** Hoch, Hanna	☐ **Design:** VACANT	☒ **Honors:** Wells, Matt
☒ **Provost Liaison:** Harper, Christine	☐ **Design:** O'Bryan, Mark	☒ **Honors:** Roberts, Sherelle
☒ **Trustee:** Petrone, Karen	☒ **Education:** Bennett, Stephanie	☒ **Libraries:** Weig, Eric
☒ **Trustee:** Vanderford, Nathan	☒ **Education:** Cormier, Marc	☒ **Libraries:** McDonnell, Andrew
☒ **Agriculture, Food & Environment:** Rentfrow, Gregg	☐ **Engineering:** Rankin, Stephen	☒ **Medicine:** Akpunonu, Peter
☐ **Agriculture, Food & Environment:** Teets, Nicholas	☒ **Engineering:** Poovathingal, Savio	☒ **Medicine:** Thibault, Olivier
☒ **Arts & Sciences:** Voss, Steve	☒ **Fine Arts:** Alley, Becky	☒ **Nursing:** Clemmons, Jill
☒ **Arts & Sciences:** Samers, Michael	☒ **Fine Arts:** Kerns, Bradley	☒ **Nursing:** Falls, Candace
☒ **Business & Economics:** Chait, Jon	☒ **Graduate School:** Butler, J.S.	☒ **Pharmacy:** Freeman, Trish
☒ **Business & Economics:** Vincent, Leslie	☒ **Graduate School:** Montgomery, Kathleen	☒ **Pharmacy:** Bauer, Bjoern
☒ **Communication & Information:** Tai, Zixue	☒ **Health Sciences:** Vanderford, Cheryl	☐ **Public Health:** Haynes, Erin
☒ **Communication & Information:** Pilny, Andy	☐ **Health Sciences:** Metzler-Wilson, Kristen	☒ **Public Health:** Ingram, Richard
☒ **Dentistry:** Dominguez Fernandez, Enif	☒ **Law:** Lowry, Christy	☒ **Social Work:** Jones, Aubrey
☒ **Dentistry:** Wiemann, Alfred	☒ **Law:** Murray, Michael	☒ **Social Work:** Ratliff, Stephanie
Standing Guests and Visitors		
☒ DiPaola, Bob	☒ Harmon, Camille	☐ Thomas, Rebecca
☐ Jasinski, Jana	☐ Frisby, Brandi	☒ Schmidt, Julie
☒ **Visitor:** Jones, Davy	☒ **Visitor:** Emily Bergeron	☒ **Visitor:** Fraga, Jesse
☒ **Visitor:** Harper, Carl	☒ **Visitor:** Ray, Ann	☒ **Visitor:** England, Zach
☒ **Visitor:** Gibbons, Thomas	☒ **Visitor:** Alpaca, Kiana	☐ **Visitor:**

Agenda Item	Presenter/Facilitator
Roll Call | Approval of the Minutes 10 min	H. Hoch
Opening Remarks | Updates | Announcements 10 min	H. Hoch
Provost Updates and Consultation 20 min	B. DiPaola/ C. Harper
Title Series Ad Hoc Committee Updates 20 min	L. Vincent/ J. Hoch
Shared Governance Committee Updates 5 min	B. Alley
Faculty Senate Communication Plan Discussion 20 min	H. Hoch
Faculty Trustee Updates 5 min	K. Petrone/ N. Vanderford
Call for Agenda Items	H. Hoch
Next Meeting September 28 | 3:00-5:00 p.m. | White Hall Classroom Building Rm. 328	

Minutes	
Agenda Item: Roll Call | Approval of the Minutes	**Presenter: H. Hoch**

- H. Hoch called the meeting to order at 3:00p.m.
- Faculty Senate went through roll call.
- August 31 meeting minutes were approved.

Agenda Item: Opening Remarks | Updates | Announcements	**Presenter: H. Hoch**

- H. Hoch provided opening remarks to the Faculty Senate.
  - H. Hoch requested to amend the agenda to increase the time allotted for the faculty trustees update to 15 minutes and move the faculty trustees update after the provost updates and consultation agenda item.
    - The motion to amend the agenda to increase the time allotted for the faculty trustees update to 15 minutes and move the faculty trustees update after the provost updates and consultation agenda item was approved.
  - H. Hoch thanked the Faculty Senate for providing nominations for the President's Council. The following faculty will be shared with the Office of the Provost.
    - Non-Faculty Senator Nominations
      - Jessica Barfield
      - Gabe Dadi
      - Abbie Latimer
      - Doug Oyler
      - Travis Thomas
    - Faculty Senator Nominations
      - Aubrey Jones
      - Mike Murray
      - Sherelle Roberts
      - Cheryl Vanderford
      - Al Wiemann
  - H. Hoch stated that she was asked to further define an emergency when a Faculty Senator is requesting to attend a meeting via video conferencing. H. Hoch reiterated the value of in-person attendance while acknowledging that emergencies arise. H. Hoch stated that she doesn't want to put a strict definition around an emergency. H. Hoch will continue to handle those requests on a case-by-case basis and reminded the Faculty Senate that they must keep their cameras on while participating via video conferencing.
  - H. Hoch provided the following reminders of upcoming events.
    - UK Remembers- the Staff Senate will host UK Remembers September 21-25, inviting faculty, staff and students to honor UK community members who have passed away in the last year. You can submit a remembrance online. A special remembrance event will be held on September 23 from 10:00am-noon at the library walkway. During the in-person event, attendees may place a card in honor of someone they wish to remember.
    - Crisis Relief in Situations Involving Staff and Faculty (CRISIS) Program provides temporary financial assistance to University of Kentucky employees experiencing personal hardship. The program is primarily funded by staff and faculty donations. For more information on the CRISIS program, visit staffsenate.uky.edu/crisis.
    - The Shared Governance Social will be held on October 6 at 2:00pm in Woodward Hall located in the Gatton College of Business and Economics. The social will allow the shared governance bodies to connect, engage, and network.

Agenda Item: Provost Updates and Consultation	**Presenter: B. DiPaola/C. Harper**

- B. DiPaola and C. Harper provided updates from the Office of the Provost.
    - B. DiPaola shared an update on HB 490 emphasizing the commitment from the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost to work together to establish a proposed policy responding to HB 490 that will move forward to the Board of Trustees this week. B. DiPaola provided a summary of the timeline and events that informed the final recommendation.
        - The Faculty Senate provided their thoughts and recommendations in a survey administered by the Shared Governance Committee in 2026.
        - The Faculty Senate further discussed their recommendations at the Faculty Senate retreat on August 24, allowing the Shared Governance Committee to prepare a recommendation to present for consideration at the August 31 Faculty Senate meeting.
        - Provost DiPaola met with H. Hoch to discuss that recommendation.
        - The Shared Governance Committee presented the formal Faculty Senate recommendation on HB 490 at the August 31 Faculty Senate meeting. The formal recommendation was accepted by the Faculty Senate and provided to the Office of the Provost.
        - B. DiPaola recommended that the Office of the Provost host a HB 490 working group on September 2. The working group included the Faculty Senate chair, volunteer Faculty Senators, the Office of the Provost, and representatives from the Office of the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration. H. Hoch solicited volunteers from the Faculty Senate to participate in the HB 490 working group. At the request of the faculty trustees, H. Hoch allowed K. Petrone and N. Vanderford to be present during the HB 490 working group discussions. B. DiPaola stated that the working group worked efficiently and collaboratively in their approach to ensure the recommendation satisfied the requirements for HB 490 while respecting academic programs and faculty in terms of importance to the institution and to the state of Kentucky.
        - The final recommendation on HB 490, which was a product of the input, feedback, and partnership between the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost was shared with the University for review prior to going to the Board of Trustees as a formal recommendation at the September 17-18 Board meeting.
            - The Faculty Senate discussed the update on HB 490. That discussion emphasized the patient, inclusive, and systematic approach that was taken during the HB 490 working group.
    - H. Hoch requested a motion to add 10 minutes to the provost updates and consultation agenda item to allow the discussion to continue.
        - The motion to add 10 minutes to the provost updates and consultation agenda item was approved.
    - B. DiPaola shared additional information on the college dean search update that he provided at the August 31 Faculty Senate meeting. He indicated that he gave a few examples of upcoming college dean searches and didn't intend to exclude any searches. B. DiPaola will provide an update on college dean searches at a future Faculty Senate meeting.
    - C. Harper responded to requests from the Faculty Senate for updates on the Graduate School and minimum course enrollment.
        - The Office of the Provost will ask J. Jasinski and B. Frisby to attend a Faculty Senate meeting to address questions on the Graduate School. C. Harper asked that the Faculty Senate provide questions in advance of their attendance. C. Harper shared that the DGS manual is almost finished and will be going out soon.
        - Minimum course enrollment thresholds are not an institution wide policy at the University of Kentucky. There are three colleges that utilize a minimum enrollment threshold. Those colleges all use and define that threshold differently. It is common amongst benchmark SEC institutions to have a minimum course enrollment threshold. C. Harper asked that faculty go back to their

college deans to address specific questions or concerns, as the minimum course enrollment threshold is college specific.

Agenda Item: Faculty Trustee Updates	**Presenter: K. Petrone/N. Vanderford**

- K. Petrone and N. Vanderford provided updates from the Faculty Trustees.
    - The Faculty Trustees emphasized that the process of responding to HB 490 was a collaborative, rigorous process that worked well.
    - K. Petrone reminded the Faculty Senate that the upcoming Board meeting will be held at the University of Louisville September 17-18. In response to a request from the Faculty Trustees, the University of Kentucky will be live streaming the Board meeting from the E. Britt Brockman, M.D. Senate Chamber in the Gatton Student Center on main campus in Lexington. To petition to speak, you must be present at the Board meeting in Louisville.
    - The Faculty Trustees stated that they will continue to ask that on-campus constituents have access to Board meetings when they are not held on main campus in Lexington.

Agenda Item: Title Series Ad Hoc Committee Updates	**Presenter: L. Vincent/J. Hoch**

- H. Hoch provided an update from the Title Series Ad Hoc Committee.
    - H. Hoch shared the next phase and a timeline to wrap up the work on the title series project. The ad-hoc committee will meet on September 16 where they will be asked to work in pairs to review the current AR and the survey data that was collected. Utilizing a worksheet mechanism, the ad-hoc committee will provide recommendations that will go into a draft proposal that will be shared with the full ad-hoc committee by September 28. The draft report will go to the Faculty Senate for a first read on October 5 with a full discussion at the October 12 Faculty Senate meeting. During the time between October 5-12, H. Hoch will solicit feedback from the college deans. The ad-hoc committee will incorporate the edits and feedback into a final proposal that will be shared on October 23 ahead of the October 26 Faculty Senate meeting.

Agenda Item: Shared Governance Committee Updates	**Presenter: B. Alley**

- B. Alley provided an update from the Shared Governance Committee (SGC).
    - B. Alley reiterated that working with the Office of the Provost on the proposed policy to respond to HB 490 was a positive experience. B. Alley reminded the Faculty Senate that they played an important role in initiating feedback from their constituents on HB 490 in Spring 2026, as they felt a responsibility to represent the faculty.
    - B. Alley shared that the Faculty Senate did not meet quorum on the Qualtrics survey on the draft Administrative Regulations (ARs) feedback. B. Alley emphasized that this was a missed opportunity for the Faculty Senate. The process for the Faculty Senate to review and provide feedback on draft ARs was established in consultation with the Office of the Provost a year and half ago to quickly respond to the University's request for community feedback.
        - The Faculty Senate solicits feedback from their constituents and shares those responses in a shared document.
        - The SGC summarizes that feedback into a document that is presented to the Faculty Senate for approval.
        - If approved by the Faculty Senate, the document is included in the Faculty Senate meeting minutes and submitted on behalf of the Faculty Senate by the Office of the Provost.
        - Once the AR is promulgated, C. Harper shares information on any changes that may have been made after the draft AR went out for community feedback.
    - The Faculty Senate discussed the process of approving the draft AR feedback. That discussion included how they have previously discussed and voted on the draft AR feedback, and how that process can be adjusted moving forward to ensure that there is quorum when voting.

Agenda Item: Faculty Senate Communication Plan	**Presenter: H. Hoch**

- H. Hoch discussed the Faculty Senate Communication Plan
    - At the Faculty Senate retreat, T. Freeman led a group that discussed creating a communication plan for the Faculty Senate that would allow senators to perform their duties and gather feedback from their constituents. Based on that feedback, H. Hoch shared the following priorities for the Faculty Senate communication plan.
        - Flexibility in how they represent and communicate regularly with the faculty in their colleges. H. Hoch asked the Faculty Senate to think about how to operationalize the various ways that senators are communicating with their colleagues.
        - Support from the Office of the Provost that is conveyed to the college deans. H. Hoch stated that the Office of the Provost has shared their support. H. Hoch asked that the senators who made this recommendation provide specifics so that they can be detailed in their request.
        - Faculty Senate newsletters that are concise, quick reads tailored to specific colleges. H. Hoch would like to better understand what that would look like and get a consensus from the Faculty Senate.
    - B. Alley reminded the Faculty Senate of the conversations that they had last year around the Faculty Senate communication plan. At the time, the Faculty Senate supported having communication come from the Faculty Senate chair, summarizing action items while referencing the Faculty Senate meeting minutes, and giving faculty the opportunity to get in touch with the college senators.
    - H. Hoch continued the discussion on recommendations for the Faculty Senate communication plan.
        - Create an anonymous comment box on the webpage for faculty to provide feedback, questions, and propose agenda items.
        - Include Faculty Senator bios and photos in the online directory.
        - Have the Faculty Senate chair attend the provost town halls with individual colleges. H. Hoch asked that the Faculty Senators attend their college provost town halls this year. The Provost Office will acknowledge the senators during those town halls.
        - Having senators attend new faculty orientations.
    - H. Hoch shared that office hours to collect proposed agenda items did not come up during the communication plan discussion. H. Hoch asked senators who are attending regular faculty meetings to bring agenda items back to the Faculty Senate that can be proposed at a meeting during the call for agenda items or to send requests for agenda items directly to her.

Agenda Item: From the Floor	**Presenter: Faculty Senate**

- T. Freeman reminded the Faculty Senate that UK Research is hosting a town hall on September 21 from 4:00-5:00pm in the W.T. Young Auditorium. To learn more or submit questions prior to the event on topics impacting UK Research, visit the UK Research webpage.

Agenda Item: Call for Agenda Items	**Presenter: H. Hoch**

- B. Alley asked to discuss the Faculty Senate standing committees and how they will be run this year.
    - H. Hoch shared that she would like to discuss the Faculty Senate standing committees at the September 28 Faculty Senate meeting.

Other Information	
Adjournment	

- Meeting adjourned at 4:35p.m.

Next Meeting	
• September 28 | 3:00-5:00 p.m. | White Hall Classroom Building Rm. 328	