

Meeting Specifics		
Purpose	Frequency	
Regularly Scheduled	Bi-weekly	
Date	Time	Location
September 28, 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: Palmer, Aiyub	☒ 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:	☐ Visitor:
☐ Visitor: Barnhart, Sheila	☐ Visitor:	☐ Visitor:

Agenda Item	Presenter/Facilitator
Roll Call Approval of the Minutes 5 min	H. Hoch
Opening Remarks Updates Announcements 10 min	H. Hoch
Provost Updates and Consultation 25 min	B. DiPaola/ C. Harper
Faculty Senate Standing Committee Discussion - Shared Governance Committee 20 min	H. Hoch
Title Series Ad Hoc Committee Updates 5 min	H. Hoch
Shared Governance Committee Updates 5 min	B. Alley
Faculty Trustee Updates 15 min	K. Petrone/ N. Vanderford
Call for Agenda Items	H. Hoch
Next Meeting October 12 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 welcomed A. Palmer the new Faculty Senator from the College of Arts and Sciences.
 - H. Hoch reminded the Faculty Senate of the October 6 Shared Governance Social. The social will be held from 2:00-4:00pm in Woodward Hall in the Gatton Business and Economics Building.
 - H. Hoch asked that the Faculty Senate fill out the form she sent out for the Faculty Senate directory.

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 from the Board of Trustees meeting. B. DiPaola thanked the faculty trustees and asked K. Petrone to say a few words about HB 490.
 - K. Petrone shared that the HB 490 policy that went forward to the Board as ASACR 1 was exactly what the HB 490 working group put forward. ASACR 1 passed at the September 18 Board meeting.
 - B. DiPaola shared that they had a great place to start when addressing HB 490 thanks to the Faculty Senate soliciting input and representing their colleges. The Faculty Senate created something that had meaningful recommendations that were feasible. The Office of the Provost was able to use that information as a starting point. He would like to use this process of collaboration moving forward. If there had been a change to the document after it left the HB 490 working group, B. DiPaola would have shared that with H. Hoch to convey it back to the Faculty Senate.
 - In response to a request from the Faculty Senate to address the Graduate School, B. DiPaola shared that the Graduate School hasn't gone away. The Office of the Provost had to respond quickly to ensure that they were taking care of the students, faculty, and staff supported by the Graduate School. The Graduate School has evolved to be more administrative shifting decision making locally to the colleges and moving student activities under the Office for Student Success. B. DiPaola shared that no decisions have been made on how the Office of the Provost is moving forward with the Graduate School and that he would like to get input from the Faculty Senate. B. DiPaola asked J. Jasinski and B. Frisby to respond to any specific questions from the Faculty Senate.
 - J. Jasinski reminded the Faculty Senate that they came to a meeting last year to discuss changes and updates. Those updates were centered around bettering processes and procedures in the Graduate School and removing barriers. J. Jasinski shared that they will be holding the first ever Graduate Programs Fair on October 13. The fair offers prospective graduate students who are already at UK an opportunity to learn more about graduate programs, connect with program representatives and explore opportunities for advanced study. The Graduate School has focused on how they support students, including online populations and B. Frisby shared an example that the Graduate School engaged with donors to start awarding fellowships that had not been awarded in years. They have created working groups and collaborated with faculty, staff and Directors of Graduate Studies (DGS) to listen and act where there was an opportunity for progress. J. Jasinski shared that they are working with ITS to create an online platform to replace GRADS. The online platform will have built in workflows reducing the need to process forms via email or PDF. The Graduate School has GradResearch Live coming up on November 4. This will be the first time that the Graduate School tries to include a way for online graduate students to present. J. Jasinski shared that the Graduate School will need faculty judges for several upcoming competitions. J. Jasinski

stated that the Graduate School would like to hear from the Faculty Senate about things that need to be addressed.

- The Faculty Senate discussed the Graduate School Updates. That discussion included the reduction in DGS meetings with the Graduate School, who they should contact with issues or questions, a disconnect in communication between faculty and the Graduate School, funding limitations for students on grants or fellowships taking their QE in the summer, the Department of Homeland Securities amendment from duration of status to an admission for a fixed time period and staffing around electronic thesis and dissertations.
- B. Frisby and J. Jasinski responded to the questions and concerns from the Faculty Senate by sharing that DGS are meeting with the Graduate School once a semester and they hold additional meetings, if requested by the DGS. They also created additional communication through a resource hub in TEAMS, the DGS 411 newsletter, and including DGS on all communication that goes out to students from the Graduate School. The shift in meeting cadence is modeled after undergraduate academics where they have seen success in having the associate deans meet once a month with leadership and have their associate deans meet with the DUS on a regular basis. J. Jasinski stated that more decisions are being made locally. The University is setting the basic structure and allowing the program faculty to make decisions. This ensures unnecessarily bottlenecking from occurring delaying student progression. J. Jasinski shared that faculty are welcome to continue to reach out to her directly with issues or questions. In reference to funding limitations for students on grants or fellowships taking their QE in the summer, J. Jasinski stated that this is a standard practice based on benchmarking. They understand the financial aspect, but that needs to remain separate from academic policy. J. Jasinski shared that there is funding available for students on fellowships that don't cover all tuition. J. Jasinski stated that faculty who have questions regarding the Department of Homeland Securities amendment from duration of status to admission for a fixed time period should reach out to the International Center. The amended regulation will have an impact on all graduate programs in the United States and not just programs at the University of Kentucky. J. Jasinski shared that the staffing issue around the electronic thesis and dissertations has been resolved. That office is now back to being fully staffed.
- C. Harper provided a few additional updates to the Faculty Senate. C. Harper will send out a proposed new undergraduate certificate for the Faculty Senate to review after today's meeting. C. Harper shared that there will be a change in the academic calendar effective beginning the 2027-2028 academic year. The Office of Student Success worked with the Student Government Association president to review feedback and data on fall break and how it lined up with the Thanksgiving holiday. The Office of Student Success audited a substantial number of courses that were supposed to meet in person during the week of Thanksgiving; 85% of those courses did not meet. As a result, the University is moving fall break to the beginning of the week of Thanksgiving.

Agenda Item: Faculty Senate Standing Committee
Discussion - Shared Governance Committee

Presenter: H. Hoch

- H. Hoch provided context for the Faculty Senate standing committee discussion. The Faculty Senate will review each standing committee based on guiding questions. The first committee they are going to look at is the Shared Governance Committee.
 - Are the committee duties sufficiently clear, or are there areas where responsibilities overlap or create confusion with other committees?
 - The Faculty Senate discussed whether some of the initiatives assigned to the committee are focused on the committee's duties, whether there is room to pass some initiatives off so that the committee can focus more on the duties outlined in the charge, and whether a framework should be created to help the committee decide whether an initiative is within the scope of their charge.
 - The SGC will draft a framework to help the committee decide whether an initiative is within the scope of their charge and bring it back to the Faculty Senate for discussion.
 - Are there responsibilities the Senate should address more proactively through this committee?

▪ The Faculty Senate discussion included whether the SGC should be the voice of the faculty by bringing attention to and elevating issues that are not getting attention. Gathering information from constituents to bring forward and how to be more effective in the committee's communication. ○ How well do the duties of this committee allow us to respond to emerging issues facing faculty and the university? ▪ The Faculty Senate discussed bringing forward challenges that faculty are facing and how the SGC should respond to things quickly. ○ How can this committee better serve as a mechanism for hearing and elevating faculty concerns? ▪ The Faculty Senate discussed setting up biweekly committee meetings to allow Senators and faculty to provide feedback, utilizing the Faculty Senate newsletter to reach constituents, and providing clear guidance to faculty on how to raise concerns to the Faculty Senate. ○ Is the size of the committee appropriate for the work they are expected to accomplish? ▪ The Faculty Senate discussion included that there is always room for more participation on the committee.	
Agenda Item: Title Series Ad Hoc Committee Update	Presenter: H. Hoch
• H. Hoch provided updates from the Title Series Ad Hoc Committee. ○ The committee is finalizing the report. 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.	
Agenda Item: Shared Governance Committee Updates	Presenter: B. Alley
• There were no updates from the Shared Governance Committee.	
Agenda Item: Faculty Trustee Updates	Presenter: K. Petrone/N. Vanderford
• K. Petrone provided updates from the Faculty Trustees. ○ The Board had a first reading of the proposed revisions to Governing Regulation (GR) II, relating to college dean appointments. ○ The Board accepted many charitable gifts, one of which resulted in the renaming of the Department of Psychology to the Richard M. and Catherine J. Rothfuss Department of Psychology. ○ K. Petrone commended B. DiPaola on the engagement and dialogue with the Faculty Senate around the University's response to HB 490. ○ The Board will meet off campus for the October meeting.	
Agenda Item: From the Floor	Presenter: Faculty Senate
• None were added.	
Agenda Item: Call for Agenda Items	Presenter: H. Hoch
• None were added.	
Other Information	
Adjournment	
• Meeting adjourned at 4:17p.m.	
Next Meeting	
• October 12 3:00-5:00 p.m. White Hall Classroom Building Rm. 328	

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