

Winthrop University – Faculty Conference
Friday, February 28, 2025
2:00pm
Whitton Auditorium

Agenda

1. Welcome and Call to Order (Adam Glover)
2. Approval of Minutes from the November 22, 2024 Meeting (Appendix B)
3. Report from the Faculty Conference Chair (Adam Glover)
4. Report from the President (Edward Serna)
5. Report from the Provost (Sebastian van Delden)
6. Update from Finance and Business Affairs (Kevin Butler and Jenni Lewis)
7. Reports from Faculty Conference Standing Committees
 - a. FCUP (Eric Birgbauer – link to [FCUP Reports](#))
 - b. Academic Council (Cody Walters)
8. Faculty Conference Elections (see appendix A)
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Announcements
12. Adjournment

Note: Quorum (35% of Faculty Conference membership faculty) is 107 faculty members. The minimum attendance required to do business (20% of Faculty Conference membership) is 61 faculty members. In the absence of a quorum, a vote of 75% of those present is required to conduct business.

**Appendix A: Faculty Conference Elections – Spring 2025
For terms beginning Fall 2025**

Chair, Faculty Conference

2 year term, tenured faculty, Adam Glover is eligible to run for a second term

Academic Conduct

2 year term, replace Trent Kull (CAS)

- Kathryn Kohl (CAS)
- Stacy Martin (CESHS)
- Karen Monahan (CAS)

Academic Council

3 year term, replace Zach Abernathy (CAS)

- Timea Fernandez (CAS)
- Nicholas Moellman (CBT)
- Mike Sickels (CAS)

AFTP

3 year term, tenured faculty, replace Marshal Jones (CESHS)

- Jeremy Mims (CVPA)
- Cara Peters (CBT)
- Elke Schneider (CESHS)

DSU Advisory Board

3 year term, replace Jason Tselentis (CVPA)

- Evan Dewey (CAS)
- Hannah Richards (CBT)
- Samsara Soto (CAS)
- Dave Vawter (CESHS)

Faculty Personnel

3 year term, tenured faculty, replace Frank Pullano (CAS)

- Ponn Maheswaranathan (CAS)
- Kristen Wunderlich (CVPA)

Rules

3 year term, replace Valerie Jepson (CAS)

- Kevin Parker (CBT)

Appendix B: Minutes from meeting on 11.22.2024

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Friday, November 22, 2024

2:00pm Whitton Auditorium

Faculty Conference Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Ozust, Associate Professor of Dance

We do not have quorum. Vote to do business in absence of a quorum.

1. Welcome and Call to Order (Adam Glover)
2. Approval of Minutes from the October 4 Meeting (Appendix A)
 - a. Motion to approve Minutes from October 4, 2024 Meeting
 - b. Minutes approved
3. Report of the Faculty Conference Chair (Adam Glover)
 - a. BOT met on Oct 23-24, 2024.
 - i. Implementation of 12 initiatives of Phase 1 of Strategic Plan
 - ii. Approved resolution authorizing the administration to acquire Courtyard
 - b. Faculty Liaison Report
 - i. Reported on work by FCUP
 - ii. Faculty participation in CFO search
 - iii. Involvement on University Budget committee
 - iv. Plan to begin review of the General Education Program
 - c. Honor Dr. Melford Wilson and his recent passing, moment of reflection
4. Remarks from the President (Edward Serna)
 - a. Unable to attend, no report
5. Remarks from Faculty Athletics Representative (Prepared by Stacy Martin, delivered by Adam Glover)
 - a. Position required by NCAA, functions as liaison between faculty and athletics
 - b. Student athlete avg GPA 3.34, graduation success rate is 91%
 - c. Presented statistics found in Gambling in Sports study by NCAA Research
 - i. Online gambling site – Draft Kings, FanDuel
 - ii. Regulatory trends – SC does not have legalized betting
 - iii. Types of bets: prop bets, and proxy bets
 1. Athletes unwilling to alter game play may face harassment
 - iv. NCAA working on harm prevention, education, and advocacy
 - v. What can Winthrop do about this?
 1. This is a community issue, not an athlete issue.
 2. EPIC Global Solutions will be on our campus in the spring
 3. See something, say something
 4. Have a policy about gambling for faculty and staff? This is in early stages of discussion.
 - d. Celebrate Success: Esports and Cornhole
 - i. Esports playing on a professional level, but not in NCAA

- ii. Only college team competing in Challenge League
 - iii. 16 new students in the spring
 - iv. Cornhole playing professional level
 - e. Academic Challenges
 - i. Holding students accountable: coaches require 2.5 GPA to travel
 - ii. Don't have travel notices
 - iii. Dependent on sponsors, so sometimes don't have much notice of travel
 - f. Volleyball team is #2 in Big South Conference
 - g. Any questions, contact Dr. Stacy Martin
- 6. Update from Printing Services (Jill Stuckey)
 - a. Replacement copiers

Q: Will copiers still give us access to fax?

A: We contacted everyone who currently has a fax card in the machine and asked if they want it in the future. So, it depends on the area.

Q: Does this also include copiers for student use?

A: It does not affect those at this time. If you have students that need to copy on the departmental machines, I'm working with admins on that.

Q: Is there a timeline?

A: It is going to take 2 weeks.

Q: Will there be a schedule as to when they're going to be done?

A: There will be, but it has not been established yet.

Q: Is the cost per copy changing?

A: It's staying the same and paper is being included. You may not be used to paying for color printing. If you manage a budget and you see that color printing is going way up, we can look at who's doing it. We can set limits and lots of controls we can put into place if we need to.

Q: For those that have multiple accounts, right now I have to type in a code. Is that how it's going to work?

A: You'll get into the machine and then choose from a dropdown menu which budget number you want to use.

Q: Will you still be able to print to the copier from your computer?

A: Yes. The code will all be the same.

Q: The Mac functions were far more complicated than for windows. Is there a difference?

A: Yes, there is a different process, but they assure me they'll both work fine.

- 7. Update from IT (Patrice Bruneau)
 - a. Data from Phishing Campaign in September.
 - i. Don't just delete phishing emails, forward to IT service desk
 - b. Removal of office printers
 - i. Cost cutting measure
 - c. New ID cards
 - i. You don't need a card for new printers, but having a card is very convenient
 - ii. New color scheme for employee cards

- d. Zoom renewal
 - i. Cost cutting measures – we need to seriously look at dropping Zoom.
 - ii. Students do have access to Teams, they just don't have access to the calendar
- e. Phone system testing in process, hopefully a decision in January
- f. Acceptable Use Policy, we're close on this
- g. Experience (New Wingspan), making a lot of progress

Q: How do we overcome use of Teams with external audiences? How do we manage those meetings?

A: It works the same way as Zoom.

Q: I have this problem once a month. If someone else at another university sends me a team link and I try to connect with them, I can't.

A: If you run teams as a web browser it will work. It's more efficient through the browser. If you're logged in, you're probably logged in on the app.

Q: Will student organizations be able to schedule meetings with Teams?

A: No. The students are on a different system altogether. My goal is to pull everyone under Microsoft at some point.

Q: Do the new ids have a mag stripe?

A: They do.

Q: Whatever we decide, can we please have faculty training videos?

A: Yes.

Q: Will there be exceptions for the desktop printers?

A: I don't know. I don't know if there will be an appeals process.

Q: If we get rid of desktop printers, what's the process if I need to print out labels?

A: We're not going to take label printers, but the new copiers should be able to handle labels.

Q: If the closest printer is a floor away, will they have lower priority for removal?

A: We haven't made a plan yet, but I assume some of criteria will be proximity.

Q: Did you say we're no longer using Comporium for phones?

A: Yes. The issue with Comporium is that they're not on state contract.

Q: Will students receive training for Teams?

A: Yes

Q: If someone brings they're own printers, you're not going to take those, right?

A: No, we won't take personal property.

Q: If someone is travelling abroad, what are the procedures?

A: This only applies if you're taking your Winthrop laptop, and if you're using campus specific pages. Send an email to the help desk and tell them where you'll be and the dates, and we'll open the VPN for those dates. Every other country is blocked except for the dates you send.

Q: For the planning process for the desktop printers, are there considerations for if departments already have toner, to be sustainable and not waste supplies?

A: We will repurpose printers, but I don't know what will happen if you have the supplies.

Q: Following up on that. We paid for the supplies out of budgets, and budgets are tight. We usually have one ready to go, so I would like to be reimbursed for that.

A: I like that idea, but that's a good question. I don't know what we'll do with that yet. If I can recommend something, do not order more supplies.

Q: How long has this been in the planning? Our department just bought a \$700 printer 2 months ago.

A: How did they let you order this? I don't know. Good question.

Q: Speaking from a SACS perspective, we are required to have two workrooms with printers. We just bought printers, so keep that in mind so we can hold on to some.

A: Yes, I'm sure we'll keep some printers.

Q: It was mentioned that there was going to be more training for new classroom technology. In some cases it's not the training, we just need the technology to work. Do you have a status update on that, when we're going to be able to get documentation or changes to classroom technology that's not working?

A: They're not finished installing the new tech, so I'm assuming that it will all fall into place once the contractors are done. We can tell the contractors to come to a training in a specific room with trouble technology.

Q: Could you give an estimate as to when the new virtual reality lab will be ready to pilot?

A: We're very close.

8. Update from Registrar (Gina Jones)
 - a. Reminders about grade deadlines
 - b. New grading instructions on the Records and Reg website
 - c. Spring transfer admissions: in progress work with those students is already being displayed in Wingspan.
 - i. The grade will read PT (pending transfer) until they get their final grade at their previous institution
9. FCUP (Eric Birgbauer)
 - a. Concern regarding paperwork processing for international faculty
 - i. Met with Leigh Poole
 1. Winthrop sponsors faculty after their first semester
 2. Winthrop uses two immigration attorneys
 3. Recommendations for increased communications with international faculty
 4. Reported recommendations to Provost
 - ii. Elimination of scantrons vs Blackboard
 1. Issues with exam integrity, academic dishonesty, student privacy, tech issues, testing environment, managing BB system, etc.
 2. Currently there are 11 people that use scantrons, so they are not going to purchase a new machine
 - iii. Tenure clock paused for having children
 1. Already in process with Provost
 2. Policy proposed for major life event, not just a child
 3. Faculty would apply for such a delay
 - iv. In Process
 1. Issues with communication in facilities issues
 2. Required meetings before August 16

3. Compensation and hiring of Directors
4. Compensation guidelines for supervising internships

Q: Life event: did you say spring 2025 is when that's coming in?

A: He hopes to have the policy in place sometime in the spring, but it won't go into effect until Fall of 2025 because it will have to be vetted and go through the approval process.

Q: If there is a faculty member that wants to apply, who should they email?

A: Email Sebastian.

Comment: I do think there have been special considerations in the past.

Q: How long is the pause? Will that vary by case?

A: Right now, the tenure policy says you can apply for a leave of absence, but I want to change it to a pause of the tenure clock. I would like it make it as broad and diverse as possible. In the current draft you can do a 1-2 year change to your clock.

10. Academic Council (Cody Walters)
 - a. Vote to approve MUST 308 for Gen Ed: motion carries
 - b. 42 course action items were approved
 - c. AC approved one new concentration: Youth Impact, motion carries
 - d. Three micro-certificate in GIS, motion carries
 - e. Had some discussion of the S/U policy, and we're going to talk about it more in the spring when we have some data
11. Rules (Lauren Kohut)
 - a. Vote on proposed changes to the Bylaws: account for the micro-certificates, motion carries
12. Remarks from the Provost (Sebastian van Delden)
 - a. New Instructor to Senior Instructor promotion process
 - i. 13 candidates 2024-25
 - b. Policies under review
 - i. Non-blueprint course policy
 - ii. Extension of tenure clock policy
 - c. Academic Affairs Strategic Plan Initiatives
 - i. AI and EdD degrees were approved
 - ii. Criminal Justice, Supply Chain, and Game Design applications are up
 - d. Risepoint applications, hope to get 10 students
 - e. Honors College Updates
 - i. 2 Honor's College Leadership Council members secured
 - ii. Inaugural Honors Recruiting Weekend, Feb 21
 - iii. Curriculum nearing completion for shared governance review process
 - iv. By-laws in progress
 - v. Honors Center renovation underway: in Courtyard
 - f. Student Evaluations of Learning
 - i. New instrument proposed started fall 2025 to mitigate bias in evaluations, focuses on learning
 - ii. All course evaluations administered centrally with watermark
 1. One consistent evaluation software for students
 2. Students see all their evals in one place on Blackboard

3. Blackboard will prompt students to complete evals
4. Shared with FCUP, ALC, and others. Looking for feedback.
- iii. Prior Efforts for Promotion, revisited
 1. Put language in the promotion policy to codify that prior artifacts can't be used in Winthrop T&P process
- iv. Assessment Committee Restructured
 1. Data reporting must happen every year. But the review work will happen every other year.
 2. Reduces the size to 16 members
- v. Gen-ed Task Force Formed
 1. Research best practices in gen ed and gather feedback on Winthrop's gen ed program
 2. Report out by May 2025
- vi. Presented What if... Survey Results
 1. Much of this depends on funding
 2. We'll continue to think about it and have these conversations

Q: Concern about splitting the CAS. What percentage of those who approved the idea of splitting are actually from the college? It could be scary to separate the Arts and Humanities considering the current climate in the legislature. Is there a plan for consensus from the CAS, or is this going to proceed no matter how the people in CAS feel?

A: Sometimes being part of an institution but not directly impacted allows you to see the bigger picture, so that's why everyone's opinion is important. There's no firm number where we need faculty to vote. My biggest problem is financial. Another college is expensive, so at this point, it's all academic in nature. The concept of humanities being on the chopping block, I don't agree that creating a separate college would make it easier to cut.

Q: In terms of new platform for teaching evaluations, is the idea that for those folks in the transitory state of those evaluations, are those going to be treated fairly equitably since we're using a new instrument or is that more of the details that will be worked out at the college level?

A: There will be a shift where, the T&P portfolios, for example, would have a mixture of old instrument and new instrument results, and so that's where the guidance that we're working on would help a faculty member figure out how to explain it all in their portfolio.

Q: What will CBE enrollment in the fall will be?

A: No, we're just following general projection we had originally.

13. Old Business, none
14. New Business, none
15. Announcements
 - a. QEP annual update and Open House
 - b. Programming teams competed and came in 3rd and 5th
 - c. Commencement, Dec 14th 11am
 - d. CDI hosting an event and need donated magazines
 - e. Next FC meeting, Feb 28th 2025
 - f. Grad faculty meeting after

16. Adjournment, 4:09 pm