

**Winthrop University – Faculty Conference**  
**Friday, August 18, 2023 2:00pm**  
**Johnson Theatre**

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Call to Order (Adam Glover)
2. Approval of Minutes from April 21, 2023 Meeting
3. Remarks from the Faculty Conference Chair (Adam Glover)
4. Remarks from the President (Edward Serna)
5. Remarks from the Provost (Peter Judge)
6. Remarks from the Registrar's Office (Gina Jones)
7. Remarks from Student Affairs (Amber Slack)
8. Remarks from Facilities Management (James Grigg)
9. Reports from Faculty Conference Standing Committees
  - a. FCUP (Eric Birgbauer)
10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Announcements
13. Adjournment

## Faculty Conference Minutes 04/21/2023

(Minutes prepared by Hope Lima, Asst. Professor of Human Nutrition)

*--Meeting called to order at 2:05 PM*

*--We have met the minimum of 98 faculty conference attendees; quorum would be reached with 127 in attendance. A vote was taken to do business in the absence of a quorum and approved.*

- I. Minutes from February 24, 2023 meeting
  - a. Motion to approve minutes and minutes were passed
- II. Remarks from the Registrar, Gina Jones
  - a. Grades for grad degree candidates due by 3 PM May 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - b. Grades for undergrad degree candidates due by 9 am may 4<sup>th</sup>
  - c. All grades due by 5 PM, May 5<sup>th</sup>
  - d. Course Dog changes are in process and should be launched in the next few weeks
  - e. Students will need to complete all degree requirements to participate in graduation; this has been relaxed through COVID but is going back to being required
  - f. UU/UF grades – failing due to nonattendance/nonparticipation
- III. Remarks from Acting Chair, Dr. Alice McLaine
  - a. Update on Jennifer Jordan – she is doing really well and is hoping to teach online this summer and fall. She will continue with chemo for the next several months
  - b. Provost search update
    - i. 4 candidates came to campus
    - ii. Faculty committee had very thorough interactions with the candidates
    - iii. Turnout for in person presentations was low
  - c. Board of trustees meeting April 27/28 and certain parts of those meetings are open to attend. Will occur in DiGiorgio Center
  - d. Strategic planning process is moving forward with Berkeley research group
    - i. There is a strategic planning website: <https://www.winthrop.edu/strategic-plan/>
    - ii. Trying to do a lot of the interviews between now and May 15 due to faculty change in schedule over the summer
  - e. Thank you for all of the kindness and support; special thanks to Kimarie who has helped make the meetings smooth and Patrice for supporting the meetings as well. Special thanks to the other leadership involved with faculty conference
  - f. Academic Council Report
    - i. Really had a peaceful year
    - ii. Thank you to Dr. Michael Whitney – University Curriculum Committee and chair of academic council next year
    - iii. Most of the intense work for CUC happened in Feb/March due to coursedog implementation
    - iv. Gen Ed committee, chaired by Kelly Costner, and next year there will be a new Gen Ed director in place
    - v. Academic Council Votes
      - 1. Dropping BS in Economics
      - 2. Dropping BS in Business Admin – International Business
      - 3. BA in Integrated Marketing Communication; change from BS in Integrated Marketing Communication
      - 4. Include EDCO 505x/505 in Technology Component of Gen Ed

5. Questions about the items?

- a. No questions

6. Vote using QR code

IV. Remarks from President, Dr. Edward Serna

- a. Thank you to Alice for stepping up to the role this past semester
- b. Thanks to all of the faculty for the work this year
- c. Strategic Planning Process, Berkeley Research Group
  - i. Aiming to launch the strategic plan that is going to be able to unify the campus and community
  - ii. Update from Gary Simeral who is the chair of the strategic planning committee
    - 1. Berkeley Research Group will be leading this process
    - 2. Gave a tour of the campus and had to study the history and where the college will be going
    - 3. Aiming to have this process done through the summer
    - 4. BRG is going to be on campus next week
  - iii. Who is BRG – from the Attorney’s at BRG
    - 1. Appreciate the faculty conference, president Serna, and provost Judge, for allowing them to meet with us
    - 2. Would like to have all stakeholders involved, see this as a fluid process but will have an organized approach
    - 3. Started at UC Berkeley
    - 4. More than higher ed experts – spans other industries
    - 5. What is effective strategic planning?
      - a. Succeeds when causing meaningful change to occur
      - b. Strong bias for action
      - c. Need to be pragmatic, innovative, and yet practical
      - d. Want to bring better alignment to internal and external stakeholders
      - e. Unique opportunity to engage external stakeholders in the surrounding communities
      - f. Needs to be a transparent and open process
      - g. Build consensus around ideas, elevate important voices from all levels of the institution,
      - h. Connect ideas into action plans to drive institution’s strategic vision
      - i. Increase external partnerships
      - j. Bring clarity and focus to conversations leading to concrete plans
- 6. Process Overview
  - a. Approach, process, and design
  - b. Community engagement
  - c. Preliminary planning
  - d. Develop final strategic plan
  - e. Timeline – have a final strategic plan in early spring 2024
- 7. Data collection
  - a. Historical artifacts
  - b. Interviews and focus groups

- c. Internal/external stakeholders survey
      - d. Market analysis
    - 8. Potential pitfalls
      - a. Develop a plan simply for plans sake
      - b. Not understanding the environment
      - c. Partial leadership commitment
      - d. Not having the right people involved
      - e. Not developing an adaptable plan
      - f. Unwillingness or inability to sense, shift, and seize
      - g. Ignoring reality, facts, and assumptions
      - h. No accountability or follow through
      - i. Unrealistic goals or lack of focus and resources
    - 9. Immediate action items
      - a. BRG to circulate faculty conference mini questionnaire
      - b. BRG team in Rock Hill
      - c. Conduct interviews, focus groups, and surveys
    - 10. Anonymous emails can be sent to [survey@winthrop.edu](mailto:survey@winthrop.edu)
      - a. Only the BRG team has access to this email
      - b. Would love to get thoughts/comments/feedback
      - c. Conversations/communications will be kept confidential
  - d. Open the floor for questions for BRG
    - i. Margaret Gillikin: When will the Faculty focus group be?
      - 1. Wednesday is the goal, but will happen at some point next week
    - ii. Jason Selentes – is that your direct phone line?
      - 1. Yes
    - iii. Lisa Cohler – on the planning group for strategic plan at previous job, question about the “realistic goals” – need for accountability. We have a lot of deferred maintenance, staffing shortages, building concerns, etc. Some of what we need to do is to “clean out the fridge before we renovate the kitchen” – are we planning on doing that?
      - 1. We have to be mindful about what needs to be done. Perhaps part of it is educating. Deferred maintenance is top of mind right now. May need to modernize facilities. But also may need to consider is curriculum up to par, today’s workforce is looking beyond academic achievements, etc.
  - e. Gray Associates Update – Dr. Judge
    - i. Last Monday there was a meeting with all department chairs to introduce to the gray’s tool
    - ii. Another meeting on May 8/9 with Gray to help do more program analytics
- V. Remarks from Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Peter Judge
- a. Faculty Awards
    - i. Jane Thomas – Distinguished Professor
    - ii. O. Jennifer Dixon-McKnight – Outstanding Junior Professor
    - iii. Tracy Griggs – Jane LaRoche Graduate Faculty Award
  - b. Endowed Professors
    - i. Adriana Cordis – William Grief Professorship
    - ii. Sarah English – Thompson Scholar

- c. Research Council Grants have been awarded for both individual research and student researchers
- d. Competency Based Education
  - i. Thank you to the team who put on the information sessions & thanks to those who attended
  - ii. Moving along well on this process
- e. Year End Reflections
  - i. AQ training – summer and fall registration is now open, you can apply for those courses
    - 1. Taking one course meets recertification requirements for online teaching
  - ii. Tenure and promotion process
    - 1. Dr. Judge has received the recommendations, given his recommendations to the president, and this will go to the board next week to inform of decisions
    - 2. A little behind the stated timeline, but all people applying can see the documents that have been posted thus far
    - 3. Hopefully will have decisions before leaving in May
  - iii. Thank you for the goodwill and the way that you've made this job challenging and educational for me
    - 1. There are amazing things happening at Winthrop

#### VI. Reports from Standing Committees

- a. FCUP – Amanda Hiner
  - i. Addressed 16 faculty submitted issues; 12 are closed/resolved, 4 in progress
  - ii. One submitted on April 18 will be addressed in fall 2023
  - iii. Created FCUP SharePoint site (linked to faculty conference website) and it has been populated with committee, agendas, meeting notes, reports, supporting documents, and an “issue log”
  - iv. 4/3/23 meeting with president
    - 1. Update on campus communication issue
    - 2. Codification of Processes and Procedures Concerning Faculty Searches
    - 3. Thank you for filling out the communication survey
      - a. Results are going to be compiled and shared in a report on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023
      - b. FCUP will encourage strategic planning process to include campus communication in the planning process
- b. FCUL – Malayka Klimchak
  - i. Training Calendar has been worked on this year
  - ii. Tenure and promotion – question about withdrawal timing
  - iii. Visitor parking – faculty bringing visitors to campus
  - iv. Considering adjusting the committee size for next year
- c. Faculty Personnel Committee – Cara Peters
  - i. Processed 28 cases for tenure and promotion this year
  - ii. 24 promotion/14 tenure
  - iii. The files were impressive and showed good work happening on campus
  - iv. Thank you to everyone who served on the committee
- d. Committee on Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Promotion – Jo Koster

- i. No cases thus far, hoping there will still be no cases when president report comes out

VII. Review of Faculty Conference Candidates for University Committees

- a. Will receive an email with a ballot to vote
- b. Will use rank order every candidate that is on your ballot
- c. Openings: faculty conference chair/faculty representative to the board of trustees
  - i. No nominations from the floor
- d. Academic Conduct
  - i. Two year staggered terms for faculty elected by faculty conference – 1 seat
  - ii. No nominations from the floor
- e. Academic Council
  - i. No nominations from the floor
- f. Academic Freedom, Tenure and Promotion
  - i. No nominations from the floor
- g. DiGiorgio Student Union Advisor Board
  - i. No nominations from the floor
- h. Faculty Representative to Council of Student Leaders
  - i. Need at least one nominee and currently have none
  - ii. Nominations from the floor: Jason Tselentis, Karen Stock
- i. Faculty Personnel
  - i. No nominations from the floor

VIII. Announcements

- a. Open Educational Resources, Dr. Cody Walters
  - i. Benefits – students have access to textbook day one of class, customizable information, quality products, can get help from library faculty
  - ii. This can be done at any time
  - iii. You can start small and grow the resources over time
- b. Consider joining AAUP SC – Ginger Williams
  - i. Working hard to lobby in the government on issues that may impact professors and what they teach
- c. Commencement in 2 weeks

IX. Unfinished Business

X. New Business

XI. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM