

Winthrop University – Faculty Conference
Friday, December 5, 2025
2:00pm
Whitton Auditorium

Agenda

1. Welcome and Call to Order (Adam Glover)
2. Approval of Minutes from the October 17, 2025 Meeting (Appendix A)
3. Report from the Provost (Sebastian van Delden)
4. Report from Academic Affairs (Meg Webber)
5. Update from Registrar (Gina Jones)
6. Reports from Faculty Conference Standing Committees
 - a. Academic Council (Cody Walters)
 - b. Rules (Martha Smith)
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Announcements
10. 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

Winthrop University – Faculty Conference Friday, October 17, 2025 2:00pm Whitton Auditorium

Faculty Conference Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Ozust, Associate Professor of Dance

We have quorum at 107.

1. Welcome and Call to Order (Adam Glover)
2. Approval of Minutes from the August 22, 2025 Meeting (Appendix A)
 - a. approved
3. Report from the Faculty Conference Chair (Adam Glover)
 - a. BOT meeting in a couple of weeks
 - b. Faculty Conference Zoom
 - i. Contemplating not offering a virtual offering a zoom option
 1. Executive order that came down from the governor restricting the ability of staff to work remotely. It would be good for us to be in solidarity with them.
4. Report from the Provost (Sebastian van Delden)
 - a. Student Evaluation of Learning
 - i. Purpose: allow students to reflect on what helped or hindered their learning in each course, and provide feedback to improve courses and enhance learning experiences
 - ii. Designed to take out some of the biases and encourage participation.
 - iii. We will adopt this this semester. This should create a much more structured system for everyone.
 - b. Shared Advising Model
 - i. Caseloads determined
 - ii. WU “proactive advising” defined
 - iii. Implementation Paper in progress
 - iv. Shared with FCUP, AC, ALC
 - v. Started HR process to search for new positions
 - vi. Listening session on Thursday, October 23 at 11am in Whitton and Zoom
 - c. SuccessFest was a huge success
 - d. Perks with the Provost, Oct. 21 at 8:30 at the Little Chapel
 - e. Update on the Academic Hub
 - f. Trick or Treat on Oct 31, 10-11am, Tillman Hall
5. Update from IT (Patrice Bruneau)
 - a. Phishing campaign information: forward to HelpDesk@winthrop.edu
 - b. Windows 11 – October 14 is end of Windows 10

- c. Zoom: we're past 80% of recording storage. Please delete recordings you don't need or download them.
- d. Phones: you will see the name of the person calling and it's because we've started moving the phone numbers away from Comporium

Q: What's the Outlook on getting Teams to talk to phone numbers?

A: There is an option to do that. It was not fully there yet when we did a test a few months ago.

- 6. Update from the Ombud (Tammy Burnham)
 - a. You can review the ombud's website to find resources and links and expectations if you want to consider making an appointment.
 - b. If you do want to make an appointment through email, don't include much personal information as emails are not secure
 - c. When we meet, it will be about an hour to an hour and half.
 - d. The ombud's office is confidential and independent. No records are kept. It is impartial and informal.
 - e. The hope is that you will have a sense of agency and empowerment, and then you can move into advocacy and actions. We'll talk about possibilities and different paths you can take.
 - f. Thurmond 207
- 7. LEAP Program (Jennifer Everhart and Trent Kull)
 - a. Provisional admission program: Learning Excellent Academic Practices
 - b. Contingent on student's agreement to fully participate in all aspects of LEAP program
 - c. 130 students this year
 - d. Academic support for gen ed courses
 - e. Satisfactory completion of LEAP requirements in fall and spring makes students eligible for full admission for the fall semester of their sophomore year.
 - f. If you have a student in LEAP, they will be in ACAD 102
 - g. Structured study halls and Interim grade action planning
 - h. Retention of students that would have been eligible of LEAP dropped when LEAP was unavailable
- 8. Reports from Faculty Conference Standing Committees
 - a. Academic Council (Cody Walters)
 - i. Vote on 10 courses for GNED inclusion, BA in Art History and Museum Profession, Minor in Disability Services
 - 1. Motion carries for approving all
 - ii. Proposal: Modification to the General Education Assessment Committee Membership
 - 1. Expand committee to include a representative from each of the general education components (from 12 to 17 members)
 - 2. Vote to put it on the agenda for the next meeting (full document put in the supporting documents).
 - a. Motion carries
 - iii. GNED curriculum charge:
 - 1. Remove 2 designator rule
 - 2. Change Humanities and Arts to Humanities + Arts
 - 3. Make changes to Quantitative and Natural Sciences
 - 4. Pursue additional means to GNED simplification

5. Committee will put a pause in submission of nonessential inclusion requests
 - a. All requests must be submitted by October 30
 - iv. Course Repeat Policy
 1. No issues with making a departmental or programmatic repeat policy, but we're not going to craft a university-wide policy
 - b. FCUP (Eric Birgbauer)
 - i. Loss of Zoom contract: sent an informal survey and provided the data to the President and Provost for review
 - ii. Gen Ed assessment concern
 1. Surprise and confusion over new process concerning the Dec. 19 deadline
 2. Faculty would like an in-person training session: October 21
 3. Program Director Policy
 - a. Updated policy in repository
 - b. Reviews done this semester
 - c. Rules (Martha Smith)
 - i. Requested an exception to allow a tenure-track individual to serve on FCUL.
 - ii. No discussion, faculty in support
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Announcements
 - a. Withdrawals deadline is October 29
 - b. S/U Deadline is Tuesday November 18th
 - c. Fall Festival 5K for Social Work
12. Adjournment
 - a. 2:57pm

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.