

**Fall 2019 General Faculty Meeting
Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2019, 9 a.m, UWG Coliseum
Approved April 30, 2020**

A. Call to Order

B. Faculty Senate Business

- Dr. Butler welcomed everyone to the Fall 2019 General Faculty Meeting and invited all new Senators to stand in recognition.

C. Approval of minutes from the Spring 2019 General Faculty Meeting.

Minutes approved unanimously by voice vote.

D. Recognition of Regents' Teaching Excellence Award Recipients

- Beheruz Sethna, Marketing (RCOB)
UWG's Nominee for the Hall of Fame Faculty Award
- Tijan Drammeh, Political Science (COSS)
UWG's Nominee for the Online Teaching Award
- Katy Green, Literacy and Special Education (COE)
UWG's Nominee for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Award
- Sports Management Program, Sports Management, Wellness, and Physical Education (COE)
UWG's Nominee for the Academic Department/Program Award
- UWG Live (COE)
UWG's Nominee for Excellence in Teaching and Curricular Innovation

E. A Day for West Georgia

- Last year's gifts went to scholarships, the Annual Fund, and to Help West.
- Chemistry was the first department to reach 100%.
- All contributions, great or small, count, and you can designate where your designation goes.
- Contact Allyson Bretch (abretch@westga.edu) if you are interested in serving as an A Day contact.

F. University Health Center Update on Measles, Dr. Eric Hine

- After an informative presentation on the measles, Dr. Hine urged attendees to be aware but not worried.

G. Interim President's Remarks, Dr. Michael Crafton

- The new name for One UWG is Help West. Over \$4,000 has been given to Faculty and Staff in need. Dr. Crafton recognized the tireless work of the committee members who have worked

on this initiative, including Dr. Julia Farmer, Ms. Tahirih Varner, Dr. Bob Schaffer, Ms. Dixie Curley, Ms. Holly Sailors, Mr. Phillip Hand, Ms. Katie Ross, Ms. Dierdre Haywood-Rouse, and Ms. J’Nee Dobson. He apologized if he has forgotten anyone.

- Dr. Crafton spoke briefly about the upcoming Presidential search, noting that the search committee members would be announced in the next few days. The committee will be chaired by Sharmistha Dutt, and will be comprised of about twenty members from campus faculty. It is expected that the search will be closed based on recent trends. The process can take about six months.
- Tristan Denley projects a Fall 2020 completion date for the USG General Education Reforms. The Core Curriculum was last revised when we shifted from quarters to semesters, but the core remained the same for the most part. There has been some discussion of General Education in a larger sense and how it effects the entire four year curriculum, and there are a few committees working on these reforms. It is expected that the revised core curriculum will be 42 hours rather than our current 60.
- The Momentum Year to Momentum Approach is focusing on first year courses in order to ensure that students pass English and Math, take full loads, have a major and/or academic focus area, and are prepared during this crucial year. The goal is to begin this during their first year and continue to push the initiative as they progress through their second, third, and final years at UWG.
- Dr. Crafton provided a brief update on LEAP West, and thanked Dr. David Newton and his team for all of their hard work coordinating this project at UWG. The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is our sister university on this project. Students are now required to take a first-year seminar, 2 HIPs as they move through their curriculum, and conclude with a Capstone Seminar or Experience.
- The Presidential Gala will take place on October 19 and the theme this year is Starry Night. All money raised will go towards needs based scholarships and/or gap scholarships. Every year the gala raises around \$50,000, and we provide \$300,000 in gap scholarships. Part of this comes from the gala, as well as A Day. Tickets are \$200 each.
- Dr. Crafton spoke briefly on the reorganization of the colleges, noting that a committee had been formed to look at various scenarios.
- Governor Kemp has proposed a 4% budget cut for this year, and another 6% for next year. This cut will not affect UWG as much as other “B Units” and R1s.

H. Priorities and Plans for 2019-2020, Dr. David Jenks

- Dr. Jenks spoke briefly about the Engage West results, increasing the diversity and inclusivity of faculty hiring, college restructuring scenarios, and Wolf Wellness's efforts at improving work-life balance.
- Goals for this academic year include assessment of the Core Curriculum and finding a Dean for the newly formed University College.
- Dr. Angela Insenga will be serving as the Director of General Education Assessment.
- There will be a series of Town Halls, four in total, to discuss the Mental Health Awareness Initiative and programs led by the VPAA's Office. A Wolf Wellness lab is located in the Coliseum to provide a space for students, faculty, and staff. The Mission of the Wolf Wellness Lab is to provide leadership, education, advocacy, and services to develop and promote a culture of health and maximize the well-being of UWG students, faculty, staff, and the citizens of the surrounding community.

I. Roundtable Discussion Sessions

- Before attendees attended the first Roundtable Session, Dr. David Newton urged attendees to visit the AAUP table to vote for new officers and donate at the Help West table.
- This year's discussion table topics have expanded from thirty to forty in order to help accommodate the record number of faculty in attendance (upwards of 400). Thanks to Dr. Jill Drake, who equipped each table with a handout that lists all discussion table topics. There will be three rounds of discussions at twenty-five minutes each.

At 12:08 p.m., Dr. Crafton adjourned the participants, inviting all to stay for lunch.

Respectfully submitted by

Dr. Colleen Vasconcellos

Associate Professor of History

Executive Secretary of Faculty Senate and the General Faculty

<p>1. Support for New Faculty--Carrie Carmack Are you in your first three years at UWG? We want to hear from you! Join our discussion, and let us know how we can help you be successful those crucial first three years. You'll also learn about professional development opportunities from the Center for Teaching & Learning that can support your teaching as well as research related to your teaching.</p>
<p>2. Governor's Teaching Fellows--Agnieszka Chwialkowska Created by Zell Miller, Georgia Governor from 1991-1999, the Governor's Teaching Fellows program provides Georgia's university system faculty an opportunity to participate in an academic-year residency or intensive summer symposium focused on teaching and pedagogy. Learn more about this prestigious program from a UWG Fellow in the summer program.</p>
<p>3. Student Accommodations and Testing--Maggie Tennant and Megan Haralson Join us to discuss procedures for how students receive approved accommodations, and for testing with accommodations. We'll also discuss some common issues students with accommodations face while in class or testing, such as test anxiety.</p>
<p>4. Faculty with Young Children--Melanie Hildebrandt and Brad Prince Join us for an interactive discussion including shared practices on work-life balance and local advice regarding community opportunities to help your family enjoy being Wolves!</p>
<p>5. Center for Diversity and Inclusion--Mike Hester and Deirdre Haywood-Rouse You recognize that learning—as a cognitive, emotional, and social process—also takes place outside of the classroom, but you already have multiple demands on your time. Join the Center for Diversity and Inclusion to discuss how events and strategies can be aligned to classroom learning to make the UWG experience an interwoven and intersectional fabric that supports all students.</p>
<p>6. Resources for Supporting Students--Cassie Manley, Danny Gourley, Kim Holder, David Haase Beyond what we do in our courses academically, we can help our students persist and achieve success. Learn more about the resources available through the Counseling Center, Athletics, and the Center for Adult Learners and Veterans for helping our students during their time at UWG.</p>
<p>7. Ombuds Office & Help West--Julia Farmer, Tahirih Varner, and Dixie Curley Join this table to explore how the Office of the University Ombuds works to provide an accessible, informal channel of communication to facilitate non-adversarial means of dispute resolution and to promote conflict management and cooperation throughout the University community. Also, learn about HelpWest, UWG's employee assistance program dedicated to providing emergency relief to eligible UWG faculty and staff who are facing unforeseen financial hardship.</p>
<p>8. Supporting LGBTQ+ Students--Lo Denmon and Beth Thompson Pride Week and Safe Zone are among new and engaging efforts at UWG to increase awareness and acceptance of the diverse gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community. Their purpose is to grow a network of allies for LGBTQ students, thus making the university community a safer and more supportive place. Join this discussion to learn more about opportunities to support LGBTQ+ students and engage with ongoing community programming.</p>
<p>9. American Democracy Project--Kathleen Barrett A thriving democracy needs civically engaged citizens. Based on the work of Robert Putnam in <i>Bowling Alone</i>, this project aims to foster more civically-minded, informed, reflective, and engaged community leaders through opportunities for civic education and participation. To do this requires engagement across campus involving faculty, staff, and students. Brainstorm ways to increase student civic engagement across campus and across disciplines. Discuss how we can involve the campus in efforts such as Times Talks and Voter Education</p>
<p>10. Honors College--Janet Donohoe The Honors College and UWG have a long-term focus on national scholarship and fellowship awards for students. We plan to support students in application for national fellowships including helping them identify fellowships, write application essays, and obtain appropriate letters of recommendation. We are creating a culture of achievement and national awards at UWG.</p>
<p>11. Study Abroad & Study Away--Maria Doyle Interested in developing a study abroad program or connecting with research partners overseas? Want to learn more about how to work with international students? Confused about what kind of programs are available for students who want to study in another country? Join this table discussion to learn more and to share your ideas about how to internationalize UWG.</p>

12. Course Evaluation Tool Review--Sally Richer and John Morris

The Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Committee of the Faculty Senate is facilitating a review of the Course Evaluation Instrument currently required in all courses. The evaluation instrument has not been revised in almost a decade. John Morris (past committee chair), and Sally Richter (current committee chair) will host this discussion and invite faculty suggestions for revisions. Copies of the current evaluation tool will be available for discussion and review.

13. Teaching with Special Collections--Shanee' Murrain

Use of primary source materials can positively impact UWG students' academic success and lifelong learning by developing skills related to research, information literacy, and critical analysis. Join this discussion about incorporating primary source analyses into a wide variety of classroom experiences. We'll also brainstorm lesson plans and assignments based in specific materials held by Ingram Library's Special Collections.

14. University College--David Jenks

Join UWG's Provost to learn about the new University College and its mission to promote student success and enhance interdisciplinary collaboration across disciplines. The Provost will share the original vision for the college, the time table for its development, and plans for housing the college in Gunn Hall. Participants are invited to pose questions, offer recommendations, and/or become actively involved in the development of the college.

15. Equity and Student Success: UWGs Plan to Align Equity and High Impact Practices--Morris Council and Sharmistha Dutt

What is the relationship between *diversity, inclusion, and equity*? At UWG we define equity as, "transforming education to help *all* students—whatever their background or field of study—acquire the essential skills, broad knowledge, and real world experience they need to succeed in the local and global markets and as civically engaged members of society" (*LEAP WEST!*). Over the last two years, UWG, in partnership with the Lumina Foundation (TS3 Grant), has been developing a campus plan to take student success to scale by connecting equity-minded principles to High Impact Pedagogical Practices. Join members of our TS3 Grant team and learn how you can get involved!

16. Undergraduate Research and National Fellowships--Kate Theobald

The Office of Undergraduate Research supports students in all disciplines as they develop and work toward achieving their biggest goals, whether those goals involve working on an in-depth research project in their field or pursuing opportunities in leadership, experiential learning, or graduate work through a fellowship like the Truman or Fulbright. We work with faculty from across the university to support students in these endeavors.

17. Student Employment: HIP at UWG--Jae Wyatt

Approximately 1800 undergraduate students are employed on-campus at UWG each year. Student Employment professional development trainings at UWG use critical competencies identified by employers through the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) which parallel AAC&U's Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs) for High Impact Practices. When used co-curricularly, professional development programs implemented by Student Employment can provide additional sharpening of critical thinking, oral & written communication, digital literacy skills and more. Student video testimonials and quantitative data on the post-graduation outcomes of former student employees will be used to leverage a discussion on the potential & merit of Student Employment as a High Impact Practice at UWG. Learn more about how your department can may student employment HIP!

18. The Role of Community Engagement & Scholarship--Donna Lackey and Amanda Wright

Join us to learn more about the services offered by the Office of Community Engagement, meet our staff, and discover how our office can provide assistance to faculty in the areas of community-engaged scholarship, innovative research, and enhancement of creative teaching and learning. We can also help you become more connected to the Carrollton community!

19. Signature Experiences as High Impact Practices--Molly McCullers, Andy Walter, and Megumi Fujita

What would it be like if every student in your program graduated with an impactful capstone or culminating experience? What would it be like if *every* UWG student graduated with such an experience? How can we transform the college experience for our students? Whether your program already has a capstone or you're intrigued by the idea, we want to discuss what we could achieve as faculty, as departments, and as a university if high impact culminating experiences were available for *every* student. In high-quality culminating (i.e. capstone) experiences, students have a chance to reflect their whole college experiences (courses, work, extracurricular, personal experiences) and integrate, apply, create, and communicate their knowledge and skills in new contexts, as in a *signature product* that summates their learning, demonstrates their expertise, and (possibly) serves as a showcase to future employers. We want to know what you envision as an ideal capstone or culminating experience at UWG to be - no holds barred, no limits. Help us think big to achieve big and revolutionize students' lives.

20. Sustainability on Campus and in the Classroom--Hannes Gerhardt

We will discuss ongoing efforts to implement UWG's commitment to sustainability and plans this year to create criteria and designations for courses that include a sustainability component. Join us and find out how you can get involved!

21. USG Well-Being, Gina Blandenburg and Chavonne Shorter

Join Chavonne Shorter (USG On-Site Wellness Coordinator) and Gina Blandenburg (Department of Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education) to learn more about USG programs to support employee health and well-being. Learn how to enroll (ourwellbeing.usg.edu) and begin your journey to a healthier lifestyle.

22. HelpWest-- Dixie Curley & HelpWest Team

HelpWest, the UWG employee benevolence fund, is an assistance program dedicated to providing emergency relief to eligible UWG faculty and staff who are facing unforeseen financial hardship. Representatives from the HelpWest Benevolence Committee will be available to accept donations and answer questions. We need your help in developing new approaches to assist our colleagues who are in need.

23. AAUP at UWG: What Can We Do for You?--Matt Franks

Stop by this table to discuss how our AAUP chapter can best support academic freedom, shared governance, equity, and values for faculty on campus. We want to hear from faculty so that we can represent your interests and priorities in our action items this year.

24. First-Year Seminars and Learning Communities--Ryan Bronkema

Over the last couple of years, UWG has developed topic-based first-year seminar (FYS) courses to help promote high levels of student engagement in the classroom starting in students' first semester. This fall, every first-year student will have an opportunity to participate in an academic first-year seminar! Come learn about the course and the topics we are teaching this fall, along with how you might get involved to teach future sections of the FYS course.

25. Working Well While West-- Bridgette Stewart (Wolf Wellness Lab Director)

Workplace wellness has been found to be directly connected to work productivity and decreased absenteeism. It's enhanced when physical, mental, and emotional balance are supported. This includes physical movement, healthy nutrition options, stress prevention, mindfulness, etc. This roundtable will facilitate discussion on much needed workplace wellness programs, initiatives, and policies. Learn more about the resources that are available for you here at UWG to help you balance work and life!

26. College Discussions (COSM/COAH/COSS)--Duane Yoder, Shelly Elman, and Jeff Reber

COAH/COSM/COSS department chairs and staff began discussions over the summer that will continue this fall regarding possible college reorganization. If you want to learn more about the discussions so far and the framework for continuing conversations this fall, a representative from each college will be available to provide information, answer questions, and solicit your feedback.

27. USG General Education Reform--Micheal Crafton

Join President Micheal Crafton for a discussion of how the University System of Georgia will be engaging in work on General Education Reform in 2019-2020 and what this might mean for general education (the core curriculum) at UWG.

28. Interfaith Initiatives at UWG--Emily McKendry Smith

This table will provide information about the interfaith initiatives at UWG that began in Fall 2019 and UWG's Interfaith Council. We will also solicit ideas for future interfaith initiatives and programming and provide ways for interested faculty to become involved.

29. Service Learning--Tami Ogletree

Interested in learning more about service learning on campus and how to integrate service learning into your courses? UWG now has a process for designating courses that meet criteria for service learning as a High Impact Practice. Join us to discuss service learning as a high impact practice, available campus resources, and the process for getting your students involved in experiential learning through service in the local community.

30. General Education Assessment at UWG--Angela Insenga, Amanda Thomas, & Rebecca DeMayo

Faculty representatives and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment worked over the summer to draft proposed revisions to general education assessment. The goal is to help us improve how we assess student learning across the core curriculum. Join us to learn more about the project and contribute your ideas to help us create an authentic assessment process.

31. Wolf Writers / Shut Up & Write--Katy Green, Stacey Britton, and Chelsea Morris

Do you struggle with finding time to engage in scholarly writing? Feel you need to jumpstart your academic writing process? Join this discussion about how faculty-led writing groups can give you the needed space and support to keep you on track. Write on!

32. Your Students' Library: Strategies for Teaching Your Students Information Literacy--Anne Barnhart

On July 7 2019 *Forbes* had an article entitled "A Reminder that 'Fake News' is an Information Literacy Problem -- Not a Technology Problem." This year Ingram Library is piloting new ways of offering workshops and other experiences for students to develop information literacy skills. At this table discussion we'll share our ideas and plans and solicit feedback for other topics or ideas you have so we can work together to help graduate information literate students

33. The UWC and Successful Student Writing--Duane Theobald and Aaron Bremyer

The University Writing Center is a writing tutorial resource for all undergraduate and graduate students at UWG, regardless of class or major. Join this table to discuss strategies and suggestions for faculty to help encourage students to utilize the UWC to develop their writing skills.

34. Supplemental Instruction--Carrie Ziglar

Supplemental instruction (SI) is a voluntary academic assistance program that uses peer-assisted study sessions facilitated by SI leaders to help students succeed in traditionally difficult courses. Join this conversation to learn how you can use SI with your course to help students reach higher levels of success.

35. Helping Students through the Early Alert Process--Jerome Lee

"Hey, I have a student who needs help! And I think this is beyond what I can do in my role as an instructor." The Early Alert Progress Report is your next step. For several years, the Provost's Office has urged faculty to identify at-risk students by the 3rd to 5th week of the semester. Join this roundtable to find out more about how to issue an alert, what help is offered to at-risk students, and how they benefit when you issue an alert.

36. Contemplative Practices in the Balance of Work and Life--Cynthia Brown

This roundtable will explore ways to find the time to be mindful, the space to be mindful, and the support to be mindful. Contemplative practice can seem challenging at first, so there will be some ideas of how to start a practice and get over the initial distractions, as well as the long term cognitive and emotional benefits.

37. Contemplate Practices in the Classroom--Lisa Gezon and Dawn Neely

Engaging in contemplative practices can help you to develop greater communication and empathy, improve focus and attention, and reduce stress. In the classroom, these practices can help students cultivate a critical, first-person focus and help them concentrate on complex ideas and situations. Join this discussion to learn about ways contemplative practices can help you and your students develop mindfulness.

38. Increasing Student Engagement in Your Online Courses--Janet Gubbins and David Lloyd

This table will discuss CourseDen features and functions that help your courses more effectively engage your students. We will also highlight changes to integrated software that will help you leverage technology to achieve your teaching goals.

39. Enriching the Delivery and Design of Your Online Courses--Mandi Campbell and Stephanie Hollenbeck

Explore how you can translate your face-to-face classes into an online course. The CTL's Instructional Designers will explore ways for faculty to establish a sense of presence and immediacy in their online instruction. Join this table to discuss how to adjust assignments and projects to the online environment, along with delivering the excitement of learning.

40. How Can the Center for Teaching & Learning Support Your Teaching?--Rod McRae

Join this session to discuss upcoming programs and opportunities through the Center for Teaching & Learning, including workshops, consultations, and our annual Innovations in Pedagogy conference—not to mention travel funds for presenting at the USG Teaching & Learning Conference!