



**FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Jeffrey Reber, Chair

Laura McCloskey Wolfe,
Executive Secretary

Brendan Kelly, President of the
University of West Georgia

Jon Preston, Provost and Senior
Vice President for Academic
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Kim Green,
Undergraduate Programs

Patrick Hadley, Graduate
Programs

Brandy Chambless,
Academic Policies

Farooq Khan, Faculty
Development

Jonathan Corley, Institutional
Planning

Gavin Lee, Facilities and
Technology

Georgina DeWeese, Student
Affairs and Intercollegiate
Activities

Minna Rollins, Budget

Jamie Brandenburg, Rules

Mike Hester, Diversity and
Internationalization

Jason Swift, Teaching, Learning,
and Assessment

Faculty Senate Newsletter

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Welcome from the Faculty Senate Chair

The faculty senate is committed to the full and active participation of all faculty in shared governance. To that end, I encourage all faculty to engage the administrative side of that process by communicating regularly with program coordinators, department chairs, and Deans. This communication can and should include not only providing feedback and input on administrative plans and activities but also bringing innovative ideas forward to administration that can help the university work more effectively and efficiently in fulfilling its mission and in managing the current and anticipated challenges facing the institution.

I also encourage all faculty to participate in the faculty senate side of shared governance by regularly reaching out to the senator(s) representing your unit and sharing with them those same innovative ideas. You can also contact the relevant senate committee chair or a committee member with any questions or ideas you have that fall within the purview of their committee's scope of responsibility (which can be found on the senate website). Depending on the necessary prioritization of committee business, the committee chair may invite you to attend a committee meeting to share your idea as an agenda item that could become an action or information item for the senate.

We have incredible expertise across a variety of domains among our faculty here at UWG and we need and want you to share that expertise in the service of better serving students and improving as an institution of higher education. Our need for your engagement is not hypothetical. As you know, the Provost's office has recently shared an "Enrollment and Financial Update" that indicates adjustments needed in academic affairs that include a budget reduction of 2.2 million, potential non-renewals in areas of decline, and shifting resources to areas of growth. The Provost has met with Deans and met with our senate budget committee this Tuesday.

As both administrators and the senate are involved in this process, you have the opportunity and the invitation as faculty to bring your expertise and creativity to the shared governance process on this important matter. Please meet with your department chairs and Deans and propose your innovative and creative ideas for how to manage these adjustments. At the same time, contact your senator(s) and share your ideas with them as well. Reach out to the budget committee chair and other members of that committee with your questions and ideas. We are eager to hear from you and we know the shared governance process will be better because of your participation.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep all faculty apprised of the work of each senate committee and the senate as a whole so faculty can become engaged in those processes of interest and relevance to you and so you can bring your expertise and innovation to that work, both through the administrative and senate sides of the process.

Committee Reports

Budget

The Budget Committee is working on the request from the faculty about the student credit hour policy with the Academic Policies Committee. The budget committee is also working with the Facilities and Information Systems Committee concerning the current parking fee structure revisions. The annual budget workshop for the committee members will be in late October after enrollment is finalized. Please contact the committee chair, Minna Rollins (mrollins@westga.edu), if you have questions.

Undergraduate Programs Committee (UPC)

UPC meetings during the fall are largely dedicated to reviewing and processing curriculum changes that then move on to the Faculty Senate for action or as information. The items that are included on a UPC meeting agenda are those that have reached the UPC stage in Curriculog. The deadline for items to reach the UPC agenda via Curriculog is 5 pm on the Friday two weeks prior to the Faculty Senate meeting. The two-week period allows the UPC time to meet and to submit approved items to the Faculty Senate agenda.

The UPC agenda deadlines for the remainder of fall are as follows:

- September 30 for the Oct 14 Senate meeting
- October 28 for the Nov 11 Senate meeting
- November 11 for the Dec 2 Senate meeting

The corresponding UPC meeting dates are October 4, November 3, and November 15.

At the first meeting this fall, the Senate approved a new Nexus program in supply chain management. Nexus degrees were created by the state in 2018 to build skills for fields in which there are currently many unfilled positions and the necessary technical knowledge is prone to changing quickly. As a 60-hour (two-year) program, Nexus applies the expertise of the university system in a new approach that can be competitive relative to other new and growing training and credentialing methods. Supply Chain is the third Nexus program being developed at UWG.

The UPC looks forward to processing the numerous new courses and programs and the course and program changes that are working their way through Curriculog and require Senate attention. Representatives from departments whose items are on a UPC meeting agenda are invited to attend the UPC meeting to explain their proposals and answer questions. The UPC chair will work to see that the invitations and meeting links are sent to the departments whose items are on the agenda. But please feel free to contact the UPC if you wish to attend a meeting or to ask questions about the committee's work. You can reach the UPC chair, Kim Green, by email at kgreen@westga.edu.

Graduate Programs Committee (GPC)

The GPC did not receive any proposals for review before the first Faculty Senate meeting this semester. The GPC agenda deadlines and meeting schedule for the remainder of Fall Semester are listed below. Any graduate course or program proposals in Curriculog must have completed all department-, school-, and/or college-level approvals and reach the GPC level of review by the deadline to be added to the agenda and shared with the committee before the meeting one week later. Graduate policy proposals must be submitted to the GPC Chair, Patrick Hadley (phadley@westga.edu), by the deadline to be added to the agenda and shared with the committee before the meeting one week later.

- GPC agenda deadline, Tues., Sept. 27 by 5:00 pm (for GPC meeting on Tues., Oct. 4, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm)
- GPC agenda deadline, Tuesday, Oct. 25 by 5:00 pm (for GPC meeting on Tues. Nov. 1, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm)
- GPC agenda deadline, Tues. Nov. 8 by 5:00 pm (for GPC meeting on Tues., Nov. 15 11:00 am - 12:30 pm)

GPC meetings will be held virtually via Zoom. Units with items being presented for vote at a GPC meeting are invited to have a representative join the Zoom meeting to explain the policy, course, or program proposal before the vote. You can request a Zoom link to join a GPC meeting by emailing Patrick Hadley directly at phadley@westga.edu, or by having your GPC representative make the request on your behalf. Please take advantage of the GPC representative for your school/college and share questions, concerns, or suggestions you have about GPC issues under consideration.

Academic Programs Committee (APC)

The APC is currently reviewing whether or not a policy needs to be drafted or information combined from multiple campus resources with regard to a Health Services notification to provide course material in an "alternate format" should a student not be able to attend class because of medical reasons. In addition, the committee anticipates forthcoming work generated from both the Provost's office and the HIPs Committee later this semester and into next semester. If any faculty knows of work on which the APC can offer assistance, please don't hesitate to contact your senators. You may also reach out directly to the APC chair.

Faculty Development Committee (FDC)

The FDC is currently working on revisions to the P&T and PTR policy following feedback and requests for changes from the USG, conveyed by the Provost to the FDC. In its first meeting on September 15, the FDC reviewed the feedback, and is in the process of compiling a short list of questions for the Provost to clarify.

Faculty Senate Committee for Diversity and Inclusion (FSCDI)

The Faculty Senate Committee for Diversity & Internationalization (FSCDI) is currently gathering information on our AY23 faculty. This includes communication with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and the Office of Human Resources to collect data on the demographic profile of UWG faculty. This includes identifying our "international faculty," defined as both faculty who required appropriate visas to work at UWG, as well as those faculty who were born and grew up outside of the US. The FSCDI welcomes input from UWG faculty who are interested in fostering a more inclusive and equitable campus environment.

Facilities and Information Technology Committee (FITC)

The FITC has held one meeting to ascertain how it will work for this year. Also, Dr. Lee has agreed to chair the committee next year. Dr. Reber and Dr. Lee have so far discussed with Dr. Preston the best means for faculty members to contact all other faculty members. In our meeting Dr. Preston suggested that we can use the Academic Affairs Newsletter for this purpose. The committee will discuss this at our meeting in early October.

Helpful Links and Reminders

Main Faculty Senate Webpage

[Faculty Senate](#)

Committee Rosters and Meeting Information

[Senate Standing Committees](#)

- Includes committee meeting dates, agendas, and meeting minutes.

Agendas

[Faculty Senate Agendas](#)

- Agenda items are due to [Jeff](#) (and copy [Laura](#)) by 5pm the Friday before each meeting.
- Agendas for each Faculty Senate meeting are posted the Wednesday before the meeting.

Minutes

[Faculty Senate Minutes](#)

- Faculty Senate minutes are available approximately one week following each meeting.

Link to Livestream and Recordings of Faculty Senate Meetings

[Laura Wolfe's YouTube Channel](#)

- Senate meetings are open to the public.
- Livestreams begin shortly before roll call.
- Recordings are available through this same link immediately following each meeting.