



ACADEMIC SENATE 2022-2023

MEMBERSHIP

<i>Humanities:</i>	Cheri Larsen Hoeckley (spring 2023), Sarah Skripsky (fall 2022), and Jim Taylor (2023)
<i>Natural/Behavioral Sciences:</i>	Michael Everest (2024) and Tim Van Haitsma (2025)
<i>Social Sciences:</i>	Charlie Farhadian (2023) and Marianne Robins (2024) <i>Charlie was granted special status as a "social scientist" for Senate.</i>
<i>At-Large Members:</i>	Steve Contakes (2025), Mary Docter (spring 2023), and Paul Willis (fall 2022)
<i>Student Representative:</i>	Paige Freeburg (2022).
<i>Ex Officio (voting):</i>	Michelle Hardley (Registrar).
<i>Ex Officio (non-voting):</i>	Patti Hunter (Global Education), Tatiana Nazarenko (Educational Effectiveness), and Kimberly Battle-Walters Denu (Provost).

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Academic Senate Review Committee:
Steve Contakes, Charlie Farhadian, Michelle Hardley, Cheri Larson Hoeckley (spring), Tatiana Nazarenko, Paul Willis (fall).

MEETING TIMES

The meetings will take place in the Alumni Gallery on Friday from 3:30 to 5:00 pm. You are free to select a drink and a snack (fruit or pastry) from the Dining Commons beforehand. Each week you will receive an email from Bill Groeneveld with an electronic voucher within 24 hours of our meeting which can be shown to the clerk at the DC register. Please be sure to get your refreshments early so that our meeting can start promptly at 3:30.

VICE CHAIR

Michael Everest will be serving as vice chair of the Senate during the coming year. I look forward to working with Michael and with **Michelle Hardley** to shape the agendas. As a general practice, I meet with the vice chair of the Senate and the vice chair of the faculty (**Jesse Covington**) once a week to discuss matters of mutual concern. Senators can certainly share ideas or concerns about the Senate with Michael or propose topics for us to discuss with Jesse and the Faculty Council.

AGENDAS

All members of the Senate can propose items for the agendas. **Michelle Hardley**, as registrar and secretary of the Senate, has graciously agreed to organize and post the agendas for the meetings. Please send your proposed topics to her. She, the vice chair, and I will consult prior to the meetings to determine which items will take priority.

I anticipate having a very robust and engaging agenda, quite notably in the fall when we will consider some proposals and initiatives that have been in development from last year. Among the key items that we will consider are:

Standing Senate Topics

- Approval of new or replacement Faculty Position Requests
- Proposals for changes to academic programs
- Baccalaureate Commencement speaker nomination (Spring)
- Approval of Graduates list (Spring)
- Discussion on the Assessment Plan for 2022-2023 ILO Assessment
- Review of Assessment Results from GE areas in 2021-2022
- Review of Assessment Results from ILO area in 2021-2022

Regular Reports/Conversations

- Report on the status and development of the Nursing program
- Updates on the Center for Student Success and the Student Success Coach program
- Meeting with Scott Lisea, campus pastor, about plans for the chapel program
- Meeting with Mariah Velasquez about possible partnerships between academics and the Martin Institute.
- Regular review of Augustinian Scholars Program.
- Review of data prepared by Patti Hunter, vice provost, about enrollments, faculty loads, and other academic programs.

Continued Topics/Discussions

- Continued discussion on the certificate in Theological Leadership (Rick Ostrander)
- Possible proposal to make the ASRC a separate standing committee
- Discussion on continuing the First Year Seminars as a high impact teaching practice
- Continued discussion on the Justice, Reconciliation and Diversity GE requirement
- Proposal to be test optional in admissions decisions (no ACT or SAT required)

- Discussion on various options for English Competency based on low rate of SAT and ACT completion
- Possible changes to the Modern Language GE requirement - competency requirement versus a semester requirement
- Discussion on options for creating equity in advising loads between departments
- Discussion on a Jubilee Year after Senate term in the Faculty Handbook
- Proposed syllabus language for classroom conduct
- Continued conversation on Diversity with the Diversity ILO Committee

New Topics/Discussions

- Continued review of Serving Society GE requirement
- Creation of the ETN 196 (Ethnic Studies Research Seminar) course (requested to take place at Senate vs ASRC)
- Possible curricular programs to enhance the discussion of justice, race and diversity at Westmont

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYERS

We will share the responsibility for opening our meetings with a short devotional reading and prayer (about 3 minutes total). A Google sheet link will be sent out at our first meeting.

STRATEGIC PLANNING MAP

The trustees recently approved a new strategic planning map for the college. As you probably recall, we are endeavoring to link the strategic planning process more closely to the existing faculty governance structures. In that respect, I want the Senate to be key players in shaping the strategic agenda and with responsibilities for pursuing the college's goals.

The strategic map and the tracks of work are included on the following pages.

Westmont College

Tracks of Work 2022-23

TRACKS OF WORK

Christ Holding Preeminence

- A-1: Invigorate Christian faith and practice in a Post-Christian context
- A-2: Enhance understanding of and role and influence in the "Worldwide Protestant Evangelical Tradition."
- A-3: Embolden a Christ-centered approach in programs, centers and institutes

Christian Liberal Arts Identity

- B-2: Ensure robustness of all liberal arts disciplines and foster creative interdisciplinary programs
- B-3: Emphasize justice, reconciliation, and diversity across the curriculum
- B-5: Complete successful implementation of approved programs

Student Belonging, Retention, and Success

- C-1: Create a sense of belonging among students of color and first generation students
- C-4: Maximize the sense of belonging, support, and success among all students
- C-5: Cultivate resilient disciples who are engaged members of their church communities

Just, Reconciling, and Diverse Community

- D-1: Recruit, hire, support, and retain diverse faculty and staff
- D-2: Create the environment and build the skills to lean in to challenging conversations

Grow Enrollment by Developing New Programs

- E-1: Grow campus and global enrollment to 1500+ students
- E-3: Attract, recruit, enroll, and retain a diverse student population

Capital Campaign and Advancement

- F-1: Focus the comprehensive campaign on program development, affordability, and sustainability
- F-2: Increase annual and endowment giving by emphasizing new programs
- D-3: Increase scholarships and support for students of color and other under-represented students (raising the funds)
- E/F-5: Enhance relationship and event-based branding, marketing, and communication; deepen engagement and volunteerism among alumni, parents, and friends

Financial Strength and Sustainability

- F-3: Increase net tuition revenue and non-tuition revenue
- F-4: Increase compensation and expand housing assistance for faculty and staff
- F-6: Audit and optimize facilities use; prioritize and increase funding for capital improvements
- D-3: Increase scholarships and support for students of color and other under-represented students (providing fiscal support and fiscal management)