

## President's Report for February 3, 2026

1. Faculty Senate met on January 13 and approved 69 Forms C as recommended by the Academic Policies Committee (APC). Work is now ongoing to implement those changes along with the necessary changes to comply with the new Gen Ed Requirements. Thanks again to all involved in this work that had to be accomplished in an extremely tight time frame.
  - a. The System Policy on the Gen Ed Requirements was published as a interim policy, which expires in December 2026 and so must be revised before then (presumably into a final version). There is a request for comments on the web page where the interim policy was published, the link is:
  - b. <https://www.wisconsin.edu/uw-policies/uw-system-administrative-policies/interim-universities-of-wisconsin-core-general-education-requirements/>
2. With the consent of the Senate on January 13, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee now consists of one Senator from each School. I am grateful to have these folks be willing to meet with me regularly to discuss Senate priorities and help me craft the regular meeting agendas. We are working on the plan for the semester, which will certainly involve ongoing work to implement the restructuring as well as policy work related to the Act 15 changes.

These Senators are:

- a. SOB – Nathan Stuart
  - b. SOEHS – Nari Kim
  - c. SOMAC – Julia Chybowski
  - d. SONHP – Katy Schmitt
  - e. SOPAGE – Gabe Loiacono
  - f. SOSTEM – Morgan Churchill
3. The Board of Regents had a very short special meeting on January 28. At that meeting, they authorized the spending of the funds allocated to the new learning commons project here at UWO. This is the final bureaucratic step and now the real work can begin.

4. The Shared Governance Representatives met on Friday, January 30.  
Information of interest from the meeting is:

- a. Those affected by the Act 15 High-Demand Field funds should see specifics in Workday in time for the March 5 paycheck to contain the first related payment. We will work this semester on campus to review our local policies and expectations for how we work through this type of process (one that affects salaries/compensation where there is some local discretion).
- b. There are several important policies in the open-comment period, including Gen Ed Requirements, Copyright, Academic Program Management, and Workload. Please see my separate email for additional information and links related to the first three. More coming on the Workload policy, where we will be working this semester to revise the UWO policy to align with the revised RPD 20-25 (<https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/policies/teaching-workload-policy/>).
- c. The buzzword of the day was “efficiency” and related expectations for campuses to measure/improve/report information related to that concept. I’m working to clarify exactly what that means (for example, I am under the impression that we must develop a comprehensive inventory of “spaces” on campus and report how much (% of time?) we utilize each space). More to follow.