

Senate Nominations and Elections Committee
October 26, 2021
12:30pm
WebEx: <https://purdue.webex.com/meet/sbuttes>

Meeting began: 12:30pm

In attendance:

Hank Strevel
Steve Buttes
Josh Bacon

The committee met to discuss activities completed up to the mid-semester mark. Before the meeting, Steve had circulated a summary of the committee's activities, which consisted of soliciting and receiving nominations for PFW representation on Purdue West Lafayette committees (Sustainability and Undergraduate Curriculum Council). The committee ran elections for those positions, seeing Bruce Kingsbury win the position on the Sustainability Committee and Nurgul Aitalieva win the position on the Undergraduate Curriculum Council.

We also discussed the upcoming election for the Civics Literacy Implementation Committee. The committee received 5 nominees via email for the four vacancies on the newly created committee ([SD 21-6](#)). Because at least three major units that bestow undergraduate degrees must be represented on the committee, two of the nominees (Barton Price and Donald Ohlinger), will be declared elected while the committee will conduct an election to fill the other two seats from the other three nominees, all of whom are from the College of Liberal Arts: Andy Downs, Nurgul Aitalieva, Lee Roberts.

We also discussed the need to develop strategies to ensure a full ballot of candidates for the upcoming spring elections. Josh Bacon, as Senate Secretary, shared information about the difficulty the committee has had in recent years identifying candidates for vacancies on committees through a self-nomination process.

The committee will pursue the following strategies to ensure a full slate of candidates for spring elections:

- **January 2022:** Draft an email to each department chair informing them of any upcoming vacancies in their department's Senate seat. Additionally provide chairs with a list of upcoming committee and subcommittee vacancies along with a description of the kind of work the committees/subcommittees do. Ask chairs to discuss the upcoming vacancies in their department meetings and to identify candidates from their departments to serve on Senate committees and subcommittees. Encourage chairs to send lists of nominees to the committee after the department meeting discussions. The committee should confirm with nominees that they are willing to serve.
- **February 2022:** Email deans with the list of upcoming committee/subcommittee vacancies, and encourage them to nominate faculty from their college to serve on Senate committees and subcommittees. The committee should confirm with nominees that they are willing to serve.
- **March 2022:** begin to solicit nominations for vacancies on committees and subcommittees. Request that faculty leaders at the college level nominate their colleagues for committee and subcommittee vacancies. The committee should confirm with nominees that they are willing to serve.

The committee hopes that these strategies can contribute to achieving a full slate of nominees for the spring 2022 elections.

Meeting adjourned: approximately 12:55pm

Mid-Semester Summary of Activities

The Senate Nominations and Elections Committee has not met formally in a meeting, so there are no minutes to share with the Senate. The Committee's activity has taken place through email. For this reason, we are submitting a Mid-Semester Summary of committee activities to keep the Faculty aware of the work the Nominations and Elections Committee is completing on their behalf:

1. Working with Senate Secretary Josh Bacon, the committee solicited nominations to fill two PFW vacancies on Purdue system committees. One vacancy was the PFW Faculty Representative to the Purdue West Lafayette Faculty Sustainability Committee. The other vacancy was for the PFW Representative to the Purdue West Lafayette Undergraduate Curriculum Council. On the committee's behalf, Senate Secretary Josh Bacon sent an email to Voting Faculty soliciting candidates for the position. While this resulted in two candidates for the Undergraduate Curriculum Council, we still needed candidates for the Sustainability Committee. At the suggestion of one of the faculty leaders (Ann Livschiz), the Committee conducted outreach to a variety of faculty with expertise in the area of the environment and sustainability. We were able to recruit three candidates. Working with Senate Secretary Josh Bacon, the committee ran the election and announced that Bruce Kingsbury will fill the vacancy on the Sustainability Committee while Nurgul Aitalieva will fill the vacancy on the Undergraduate Curriculum Council.
2. The chair of Nominations and Elections (Steve Buttes) sought to fill the vacancy on the committee. Hank Strevel agreed to fill the vacancy. A resolution appointing him was sent to the Executive Committee for consideration by the Senate.
3. The committee made a list of current vacancies on committees and will conduct outreach to committee chairs to discuss strategies for filling those vacancies.