

FORT WAYNE SENATE AGENDA  
MONDAY  
December 12, 2022  
12:00 P.M., Via Webex

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes of November 14 and November 21
3. Acceptance of the agenda – A. Nasr
4. Reports of the Speakers of the Faculties
  - a. Deputy Presiding Officer – N. Younis
  - b. IFC Representative – A. Livschiz
5. Report of the Presiding Officer – H. Strevel
6. Special business of the day
  - a. Memorial Resolution (Senate Reference No. 22-16) – D. Maloney
7. Unfinished business
8. Committee reports requiring action
  - a. Student Affairs Committee (Senate Document SD 22-10) – S. Buttes
9. New business
10. Question time
  - a. (Senate Reference No. 22-15) – N. Borbieva, C. Erickson, M. Kelsey, S. LaVere, A. Livschiz, and N. Virtue
11. Committee reports “for information only”
12. The general good and welfare of the University
13. Adjournment\*

\*The meeting will adjourn or recess by 1:15 p.m.

<b>Approved</b>	<b>Opposed</b>	<b>Abstention</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Non-Voting</b>
B. Buldt				C. Ortsey
J. Johns				
A. Livschiz				
A. Nasr				
H. Strevel				
D. Tembras				
N. Younis				

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Attachments:

“Memorial Resolution-Richard E. Miers” (SR No. 22-16)

“Public Sharing Information about Deaths of Students at PFW” (SD 22-10)

“Question Time – re: Created Equal” (SR No. 22-15)

Memorial resolution

In memoriam

Professor emeritus Richard E. Miers

October 29, 1932 – October 20, 2022

The PFW physics community lost a long-time beloved member, Professor of physics Richard Ernest Miers, on October 20, 2022. Born on October 29, 1932, Richard demonstrated talent from a very young age – for example he started reading at age four. His college career was interrupted by three years of service in the Army for the Korean War and later in the National Guard. Richard completed his bachelor's degree at Wisconsin State College in 1957. Then he devoted his whole life to a teaching career. He started teaching at a high school in Cadott Wisconsin for two years before he earned his master's degrees in physics and education from the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1961. He then joined the department of physics at Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne. After three years of teaching here, he returned to the University of Wisconsin in Madison for his PhD in theoretical atomic physics in 1964. He came back to Purdue Fort Wayne in 1969 after his PhD and taught a broad spectrum of physics courses until he retired in 2003. Richard had research interests and made contributions in the fields of lasers, optical fiber amplifiers and digital circuitry. His enthusiasm for physics and teaching did not stop at retirement. As professor emeritus, he continued teaching and doing research at PFW part time until 2011.

Outside the classroom, his enjoyment of physics extended to his love of building remote control model airplanes as a member of the Flying Circuits Club in Fort Wayne. He designed, constructed, and flew some award-winning model airplanes. Dick also loved music and taught himself to play guitar and banjo. He spent his leisure time attending bluegrass festivals and fly fishing. He was also a member of American Legion Post 47.

With the combined 45 years of teaching and research at PFW, his experience influenced many students as well as several junior faculty members he mentored. Richard Miers was loved, respected and honored by family, friends, colleagues and students. His service and dedication are truly staying with the physics community and he is with us in our hearts.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate  
FROM: Student Affairs Committee  
DATE: Oct. 14, 2022  
SUBJECT: Public Sharing Information about Deaths of Students at PFW

WHEREAS, SD 21-35, “Public Sharing Information about Deaths of Faculty and Staff at PFW,” passed by the Fort Wayne Senate on April 11, 2022, directed SAC to develop a set of recommendations for the campus regarding how to best handle the process for student deaths,

WHEREAS the current policy surrounding student deaths is the “Protocol for Response to the Death of a Student” (attached below) and the Committee reviewed the policy, and

WHEREAS, the university does not always receive timely notification of student deaths; and,

WHEREAS the current policy was judged sound by Committee members, who believe it appropriately balances potential legal issues, the community’s need to be informed about deaths of its members, the rights of the deceased’s loved ones to privacy, their ability to make autonomous decisions about how to recognize the deceased, and the need to ensure that those most impacted by the death receive appropriate support; and

WHEREAS the current policy refers to the “Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and the “Dean of Students,”

BE IT RESOLVED that Student Affairs Committee recommends that the university continue to follow the “Protocol for Response to the Death of a Student” unchanged unless otherwise directed by the Purdue University President, Purdue Board, PFW Chancellor, or the PFW Policy Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that where the policy document refers to the “Dean of Students,” the Committee suggests this refers to the Director of the Office of Student Conduct and Care and where the document refers to the “Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs,” this refers to the “Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management and the Student Experience.”

**Approving:**

Noor Borbieva  
Stephen Buttes  
Kerrie Fineran  
Lynn Acevedo  
Cutter Mask  
Wylie Sirk  
Nashwan Younis

**Opposing:**

**Abstention:**

**Non-Voting**

Kristina Surface (ex-officio)

**Purdue Fort Wayne Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs  
Protocol for Response to the Death of a Student**

While this protocol provides a guide response to word of the death of a student, it is recognized that each situation is unique and may require slight variations in order to assure sensitive, supportive, and thorough institutional action.

1. Information regarding the death of a student should be reported to the Office of the Registrar. That office will then implement their Procedures for Handling Deceased Students Files.
2. University Police has procedures in place for responding to and reporting incidents involving students. Those procedures supersede this protocol when the University Police is the law enforcement agency responding to situation involving the death of a student.
3. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs will make the initial contact with the student's family on behalf of the institution. Others should hold off being in touch with the family until they are sure that the VCSA has made the initial contact.
4. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs will notify the following:
  - a. Chancellor
  - b. Dean of Students
  - c. Communications & Marketing
  - d. International Education (if an international student)
  - e. Athletics (if a student athlete)
  - f. Dean of the student's major college
  - g. Registrar
  - h. Financial Aid
  - i. Bursar
  - j. Chief of Police
  - k. Academic Ceremonies
5. Dean of Students will inform the following of the death of the student and offer information on how students affected by the student's death can access support:
  - a. Faculty teaching courses in which the student was currently enrolled
  - b. Chair of the student's major department
  - c. Student Assistance Program
  - d. University Housing (if the student was a resident)
5. The Dean of Students will work with the Student Assistance Program and other appropriate campus partners to help assure that counseling support is available to students affected by the death.
6. Decisions regarding whether or not to pursue a posthumous degree are handled in accordance with the Posthumous Degree Policy.

Approved: 12/10

Updates made:

## SENATE QUESTION

In SD 22-6, the Purdue Fort Wayne faculty spoke with a clear and unified voice: we want information about the way the administration approved and handled the visit of the outside organization, Created Equal, which during its visit, according to accounts by students, faculty, and staff, harassed PFW students, and after its visit posted demeaning videos of interactions with PFW students on YouTube. Faculty support of this document was on display again at the Nov. 14 senate meeting, after Chancellor Elsenbaumer presented a memorandum that did not answer a single question that was included in 22-6, but instead directed concerned campus members to form a committee that would “engage in a collaborative dialogue” toward the goal of developing an understanding “of university policies and principles, how they were applied in this instance, and what appropriate next steps might be in evaluating our current policies and practices.” This committee will be an “ad hoc committee,” and it could include members of the Senate Executive Committee and the Student Affairs Committee as well as interested faculty, staff, and students. Vice Chancellor Nakata has suggested in subsequent communications that this ad hoc committee could function in coordination with or as part of the Public Safety committee.

While deliberative work will need to be done to determine the best course of action moving forward when it comes to policies towards outside groups coming to campus, the following questions included in 22-6 do not require deliberation but answers to them are necessary before any deliberation, discussion, and reconsideration can take place:

- Were any meetings held, virtually, in person, or over email, about the visit in advance?
- Was anyone with trauma-informed training involved in screening “Created Equal,” and has anyone with trauma-informed training been involved in conversations among the administration since the visit? If so, who?
- Did the organization have an on-campus sponsor? If so, who?
- Was the PFW Solicitation Policy followed?
- Who approved Created Equal’s appearance on campus?
- Who worked with Created Equal on the Request to Solicit form? A copy of this form should exist on file with the university. Can we see whether any conditions were included in the arrangements, for example, something that would explain absence of any advance promotion of the event?
- Who helped with other arrangements in advance of the visit?
- According to the campus policy, a campus representative must review all materials an outside group brings to campus. Who did this for the Created Equal visit?

Moving beyond the specific event and specific outside organization,

● Are there any consequences for outside organizations that do not adhere to existing PFW solicitation policy?

Noor Borbieva  
Chris Erickson  
Michelle Kelsey

Suzanne LaVere  
Ann Livschiz  
Nancy Virtue