

Minutes of the  
Fourth Regular Meeting of the Fifth Senate  
Purdue University Fort Wayne  
December 12, 2022  
Via Webex

Agenda  
(as amended)

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes of November 14 and November 21
3. Acceptance of the agenda – A. Nasr
4. New business
  - a. (Senate Document SD 22-11) – S. Buttes
5. Reports of the Speakers of the Faculties
  - a. Deputy Presiding Officer – N. Younis
  - b. IFC Representative – A. Livschiz
6. Report of the Presiding Officer – H. Strevel
7. Special business of the day
  - a. Memorial Resolution (Senate Reference No. 22-16) – D. Maloney
8. Unfinished business
9. Committee reports requiring action
  - a. Student Affairs Committee (Senate Document SD 22-10) – S. Buttes
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.

---

Presiding Officer: H. Strevel  
Parliamentarian: C. Ortsey  
Sergeant-at-arms: S. Carr  
Assistant: J. Bacon

Attachments:

“Update of Academic Regulation on Foreign Language Placement Processes” (SD 22-11)

“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)

Senate Members Present:

J. Badia, K. Barker, D. Bauer, S. Betz, S. Bischoff, B. Buldt, S. Buttes, B. Chen, Z. Chen, S. Cody, Y. Deng, C. Drummond, B. Elahi, R. Elsenbaumer, R. Friedman, K. Gyi, V. Inukollu, J. Johns, S. Johnson, M. Jordan, D. Kaiser, C. Lawton, J. Leatherman, J. Lewis, A. Livschiz, H. Luo, D. Maloney, E. Mann, J. Mbuba, A. Montenegro, G. Nakata, A. Nasr, I. Nunez, K. O’Connor, E. Ohlander, H. Park, M. Perkins Coppola, P. Saha, R. Shoquist, W. Sirk, T. Soule, G. Steffen, S. Steiner, K. Surface, D. Tembras, N. Virtue, L. Whalen, M. Wolf, N. Younis, Y. Zhang

Senate Members Absent:

T. Foley, M. Gruys, M. Hammonds, S. Hanke, P. Jing, J. McHann, J. O’Connell, A. Pinan-Llamas, K. Stultz-Dessent

Guests Present:

A. Olah, A. Blackmon, N. Borbieva, K. Burtnette, J. Cashdollar, R. Clark, M. Dixson, C. Erickson, C. Fox, M. Helmsing, D. Hoile, C. Huang, M. Kelsey, T. Luce, J. Malanson, C. Marcuccilli, A. Seilheimer, C. Springer, K. Wagner

Acta

1. Call to order: H. Strevel called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
2. Approval of the minutes of November 14 and November 21: The minutes were approved as distributed.
3. Acceptance of the agenda:

S. Buttes moved to amend the agenda by placing new business before reports of the speakers of the faculties.

Motion to amend the agenda passed on a voice vote.

A. Nasr moved to accept the amended agenda.

Motion to accept the amended agenda passed on a voice vote.

4. New business:
  - a. (Senate Document SD 22-11) – S. Buttes

S. Buttes moved to approve Senate Document SD 22-11 (Update of Academic Regulation on Foreign Language Placement Processes).

S. Betz moved to amend by adding “Whereas the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders continues to use a foreign-language placement exam for American Sign Language in which placement scores get directly entered into Banner for students and advisors to review” before the last “whereas.”

Motion to amend passed on a voice vote.

S. Betz moved to amend by changing the “Revised Language for Academic Regulation 3.2.4” from "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW ~~should take a foreign-language placement examination~~ **must complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language" to "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW **that did not result in college level credit** should **complete the** foreign-language placement **process** before continuing study in that language."

Motion to amend failed due to lack of a second.

S. Betz moved to amend by changing the “Revised Language for Academic Regulation 3.2.4” from "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW ~~should take a foreign-language placement examination~~ **must complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language" to "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW should take a foreign-language placement examination **or complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language."

B. Buldt moved to amend the amendment by adding “and does not have transfer credit” so that the amendment reads "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW **and does not have transfer credit** should take a foreign-language placement examination **or complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language."

Motion to amend the amendment passed on a poll vote.

Motion to amend the resolution by changing the “Revised Language for Academic Regulation 3.2.4” from "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW ~~should take a foreign-language placement examination~~ **must complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language" to "3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW **and does not have transfer credit** should take a foreign-language placement examination **or complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language” passed on a poll vote.

Amended resolution passed on a voice vote.

5. Reports of the Speakers of the Faculties:

a. Deputy Presiding Officer:

N. Younis: I wish everybody happy and safe holidays.

b. IFC Representative:

A. Livschiz: The semester is ending, and we are all knee deep in finals, grading, etc. I want to wish everyone good luck with this process, but also I want to encourage everyone to be merciful and humane when it comes to students. We know it can be frustrating when students don't do what they are supposed to do, don't pay attention, don't communicate, don't etc. We are all stressed out and overworked, and our patience may be at a breaking point. But so many of our students are dealing with so much right now—financial challenges, health challenges, caregiver challenges, mental health challenges. I hope we can be as humane and merciful to them as we want others to be towards us.

6. Report of the Presiding Officer:

H. Strel: No report.

7. Special business of the day:

a. Memorial Resolution (Senate Reference No. 22-16) – D. Maloney

A. Livschiz moved to postpone Senate Reference No. 22-16 (Memorial Resolution-Richard E. Miers) until January.

Motion to postpone passed on a voice vote.

8. Unfinished business: There was no unfinished business.

9. Committee reports requiring action:

a. Student Affairs Committee (Senate Document SD 22-10) – S. Buttes

S. Buttes moved to approve Senate Document SD 22-10 (Public Sharing Information about Deaths of Students at PFW).

Resolution passed on a voice vote.

10. Question time:

- a. (Senate Reference No. 22-15) – N. Borbieva, C. Erickson, M. Kelsey, S. LaVere, A. Livschiz, and N. Virtue

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?

G. Nakata: Good afternoon, everybody. I wanted to give you an update on where we are at with the discussion about the Senate question 22-15. As stated in the question, I did convene a group of faculty, staff, and two students last Thursday to have a discussion group about PFW's current procedures and guidelines as it relates to on campus events. My goal was just to make this a constructive and collaborative discussion session where we could look at our university's procedures and guidelines for on campus events. I wanted to see where we had any potential gaps or areas of concern and how we can best address them going forward. As I had mentioned in our original Campus Safety town hall, this discussion was brought about due to the events in September. I wanted to be able to address any concerns or issues going forward that were brought about by that event. This group is not to discuss methodologies, but to have a discussion on how to best address these concerns that we have going forward.

In the committee meeting, we had a great discussion where we brought up three very important points. One point being our current policy as it relates to physical use of facilities here on campus. The second is the distribution of literature and whether it is active or passive distribution. Lastly, how best to inform our campus community of these events so folks in the community know anytime an event is going on at campus. We left with those three items and I asked that we be able to address those issues. I will be reconvening the committee again right after winter break, when everyone is back, to have a final discussion of what we are proposing to change with regard to our procedures and guidelines for on campus events.

H. Strevel: Thank you, Glen. In the interest of time, Noor and others that are on this committee, would you be willing to reintroduce this Senate question in January?

N. Borbieva: Yes. That would be fine.

A. Livschiz: Earlier the chancellor suggested that we distribute the recording of the meeting, so that is something that we are going to be able to do so that everybody can be aware of the conversations that have been taking place. The chancellor wanted to encourage more people to participate in the process and to offer input. We are excited about being able to share this information as it unfolds.

A. Livschiz moved to postpone Senate Reference No. 22-15 (Question Time – re: Created Equal) until January.

Motion to postpone passed on a voice vote.

11. Committee reports “for information only”: There were no committee reports “for information only.”
12. The general good and welfare of the University:

J. Malanson: I just wanted to quickly remind everyone that our Quality of Place open forum starts in fourteen minutes on Zoom. I hope to see a lot of you there.

13. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Joshua S. Bacon  
Assistant to the Faculty

**To:** PFW Senate Executive Committee

**From:** Stephen Buttes, at-large Senator for the College of Liberal Arts

**Subject:** Update of Academic Regulation on Foreign Language Placement Processes

---

WHEREAS, [SD 16-45](#) stipulates the Academic Regulations for PFW; and,

WHEREAS, Academic Regulation 3.2.4 stipulates regulations for placement of students in foreign language courses; and,

WHEREAS, the current regulation no longer expresses current placement practices, creating confusion for students; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders continues to use a foreign-language placement exam for American Sign Language in which placement scores get directly entered into Banner for students and advisors to review; and,

WHEREAS, new language has been approved by faculty governance structures in the Department of International Language and Culture Studies;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Academic Regulation 3.2.4 be revised as stipulated below.

---

**Current Academic Regulation 3.2.4**

**([link to the section of the Catalog](#) containing the relevant language from SD 16-45):**

"3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW should take a foreign- language placement examination before continuing study in that language."

**Revised Language for Academic Regulation 3.2.4**

**(approved by the Faculty of the Department of International Language and Culture Studies, 11/30/2022):**

"3.2.4: Foreign language. A student who has studied a foreign language before entering PFW **and does not have transfer credit** should take a foreign-language placement examination **or complete the departmental placement process** before continuing study in that language."



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

Senate Document SD 22-10  
Approved, 12/12/2022

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.”

**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