

**Year-End Report
Fort Wayne Senate Nominations and Elections Committee**

The committee worked with the assistant to the Senate, Josh Bacon, to seek nominees and run elections for the following:

- Faculty Leaders, as outlined in the Constitution
- Senate Committees and Subcommittees, as outlined in the Senate Bylaws
- the Academic Regulations Task Force, as outlined in SD 21-37 and SD 22-22
- the PFW representative to the Purdue West Lafayette University Senate

We successfully filled the vast majority of vacancies. Only one subcommittee (the Advising Subcommittee) still had a vacancy. One successful strategy we used was to look at the continuing membership of committees to identify which unit's senators (or which units' senators) needed to fill the vacancies in order to comply with the Bylaws. We sent emails to those senators explaining the representation requirements in the Bylaws, and this helped us fill the vacancies for committees. Josh Bacon sent out emails to Voting Faculty and Lecturers to submit their names for committees (in the case of Voting Faculty) and subcommittees (in the case of Voting Faculty and Lecturers).

One change in the Nominations and Elections Process this year was that we include the option of a write-in candidate for Presiding Officer and for Executive Committee. Senate Bylaws 5.2.2.2 (the "Responsibilities" of the Nominations and Elections Committee) require the Committee to list two candidates for each vacancy on the Executive Committee. After extensive consultation with the Senate Parliamentarian, the write-in candidate was deemed an appropriate way to comply with this requirement in the Bylaws, which we interpreted to include the Presiding Officer, the Faculty Speaker and all members of the Executive Committee.

There are, however, some remaining vacancies:

- The Academic Regulations Task Force still has two vacancies that will need to be filled before the Task Force can begin its work.
- There is still no candidate for the PFW representative to the Purdue West Lafayette University Senate.

We were also consulted on the process to determine a nominee for the PFW representative to the University Policy Committee.

This is a system-wide administrative committee, and our current representative is stepping down after a number of years working on the committee. Because the selection process is not clearly outlined, and because this is a system-wide committee created by administrative units, we followed the process outlined in the Senate Bylaws in the charge for Nominations and Elections:

5.2.2.2: Responsibilities: The Nominations and Elections Committee shall . . . nominate members, after consultation with the appropriate Senate committee, to administrators for their consideration for appointment to other committees . . .

We asked chairs of the standing policy committees established in the Bylaws (University Resources Policy Committee, Educational Policy Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Student Affairs Committee) to provide nominees for this system-wide University Policy Committee.

We were unsuccessful in identifying a nominee but will return to this issue in the next Academic Year.

The success of this committee is largely due to the tireless work of the assistant to the Senate, Josh Bacon, who handles a significant amount of correspondence related to these issues, keeps the committee on schedule with running elections and has been a helpful source of institutional memory.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Buttes
Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee, AY 2022-2023

8 May 2023