

**MINUTES OF THE  
IUP UNIVERSITY SENATE**

**MARCH 5, 2024**

Chairperson Seal called the March 5, 2024 meeting of the University Senate to order at 3:45 PM, in Eberly Auditorium.

Attendance at the Senate meeting is on the Senate website under Meeting Minutes.

Agenda items for the March 5, 2024 meeting were **APPROVED**.

**REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**President's Report**

President Driscoll was unable to attend the meeting.

**Provost's Report**

Good afternoon,

President Driscoll is not attending today as he is continuing to recover from his eye surgery. He is recovering very well and he will be attending some select meetings this week.

I want to update you on the Academic Program Review and Restructuring work. Since our last Senate meeting in February, we have been meeting with SCUPA and AFSCME, focusing primarily on the academic support functional areas. As you might recall, there are three functional clusters – Academic Success, Academic Administration, and Research and Scholarly Support. We had an open forum with students on Monday, March 19. Unfortunately, this was not well attended. I did meet with the Student Government Association and Graduate Student Assembly to share our work thus far. An update was provided at UBAC last week as well. The next open forum for faculty and staff is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20 during the common hour – 11:30 to 12:30. The student session is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, again during the common hour.

Question from a faculty member: What is the timeline for curriculum changes for moratoriums and programs that are being redesigned?

For the programs that are moving into moratorium or being discontinued, our aim is May of 2024. For the programs that are being redesigned and potentially moving from multiple degrees into one, where we are pausing admission, the aim is December of 2024. Programs that are being revised or are moving toward sharing across PASSHE should be completed by May of 2025.

Kudos to Dawn Smith-Sherwood for the good progress that the Liberal Studies redesign is making. The Liberal Studies Committee supported moving the revised Crimson Core framework

on to the UWUCC and Student Government Association (SGA). The SGA wrote a nice letter of support for the proposal and the UWUCC unanimously recommended the framework for approval. Dr. Smith-Sherwood sent an email last Friday with the details.

I want to wish you a nice, restful spring break. Hopefully, you will get a bit of a reprieve. When you return from spring break, please note that a message will be sent from Dennis and me reminding folks that there are some non-sanctioned events rumored to be occurring March 21 through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please continue to maintain your high academic standards for students, particularly on March 21 and 22. Students, please make good, healthy, safe choices.

For Information:

The Provost has accepted the recommendations for curriculum actions endorsed by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at their March 21, 2024 meeting as follows:

From the University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee:

- A. The following program revisions will be forwarded to the Council of Trustees for final approval:
  - Natural Science, BS
  - Natural Science, Pre-chiropractic, BS
  - Natural Science, Pre-optometry, BS
  - Natural Science, Pre-physical Therapy, BS
  - Natural Science, Pre-physician Assistant, BS
  - Natural Science, Pre-dentistry, BS
  - Academic Advising Certificate
- B. The following new program will be forwarded to the Council of Trustees for final approval:
  - Digital Marketing Certificate
- C. New Course
  - PHIL 120 – Ethics of Emerging Technologies

From the University-Wide Graduate Curriculum Committee:

- A. The following program revisions will be forwarded to the Council of Trustees for final approval:
  - Clinical Mental Health Counseling, MA
  - Mathematics Education, MEd

In response to the Senate recommendations from the February 6, 2024, meeting, I accept the following:

- Additional faculty approved for Emeritus Status:
  - Patricia Hockensmith – Nursing and Allied Health Professions

## **Chairperson's Report**

There was no report.

## **Vice Chairperson Report**

- GSA is having a food drive throughout the month of March. They will also be holding elections for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- GSA and SGA are hosting an open session on April 2 that will discuss IUP's long range facilities plan.
- Messages are being sent to students both before and after spring break about staying safe and being responsible during the unsanctioned IUPatty's weekend.
- SGA has a new secretary.
- The Chat with the Deans event is occurring on April 4 and the IUPride event is occurring on April 13.
- SGA will be having elections in April.

## **Rules Committee (Senator Decker)**

- Phase I Elections will start soon. Nonstudent senators should check the recently sent email to see if they need to run for reelection. You may want to consider running for an at-large position.
- Academic restructuring may necessitate changing the composition of the Senate, but the tentative plan is to consider a proposed amendment that will keep it the same for another year. Changes will be made next academic year.
- The committee will meet on Tuesday, March 19 at 3:45 pm.

## **University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Senator Sechrist)**

The new Liberal Studies Framework was approved and will be considered at the next APSCUF Council of Representatives meeting. The framework will be sent to all Senators via email.

## **University-Wide Graduate Committee (Senator Moore)**

All curriculum items need to be sent to the committee by the start of April to be processed this year.

## **Library and Education Service Committee (Senator Chadwick)**

The committee is meeting on Tuesday, March 19 at 3:45 pm.

## **Research Committee (Senator Sciulli)**

The committee is meeting on Tuesday, March 19 at 3:30 pm via Zoom.

## **FOR INFORMATION:**

## **Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2024**

Members Present: Valerie Gunter, Lorraine Guth, Bethany Jackson, Andrada Maicaneanu, Lisa Sciulli, Todd Vanwieren

*Note: The USRC continues to have a vacancy from CAH*

Members Absent: None

There were 7 USRC small grant proposals for review and the decision was made to fund 5 totaling \$8,069.

- Yongtao Cao
- Brittany Hoover
- John Lowery
- Robert Moore
- Diane Shinberg

See USRC website for research and travel funding opportunities.

### **Student Affairs Committee (Senator Benjamin)**

The committee is meeting on Tuesday, March 26 at 3:45 pm via Zoom.

### **FOR INFORMATION:**

#### **February 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes:**

**Committee Members Present:** Mimi Benjamin, Lou Garzarelli, Laura Krulikowski, Jess Baum Mehus, Jeremy Risinger, Leo Yan, Koga Chilume, Regan Colatta-Rigney, Alanah Jones, Summer MacPherson, Ava Moriarity, Kate Weakland, Dmitri Woods, Abigail Hancox, and Jean-Louis Dassier, Sophia Simpson, Tom Segar.

#### **Student Government Association**

- *Abby Hancox, Student Government Association President*
- Created an online SGA Concern/Suggestion form through Crimson Connect that is available for students to use for SGA-related functions regarding policy or student concerns: <https://launchto.net/iupsga-concerns>.
  - Topics of Student Feedback/Concerns shared with SGA thus far include commuter students space, housing contracts regarding filling vacancies, and suggestions for Navigators.
- Hosted active shooter training with the Six O’Clock Series. Students expressed interest in CPR and Stop the Bleed training as well.

#### **Graduate Student Assembly**

- *Koga Chilume, Graduate Student Assembly President*
- Had a guest speaker from the Counseling Center at the last general meeting to help inform graduate students of IUP mental health resources.
- Hosting a Food Drive for the Food Pantry in March.

- Partnering with the CPDC to offer professional headshots to our graduate students on February 28.

### **Vice President for Student Affairs**

- *Dr. Thomas Segar, Vice President for Student Affairs*
- The impact of the FAFSA delay on IUP and the State System cannot be overstated.
- IUP hired a new Executive Director for Student Inclusion, Dr. Roger Briscoe II. Overseeing multicultural, graduate student, and commuter support and engaging with our students from marginalized populations.

### **New Business**

- In advance of the meeting/in anticipation of our guests from Admissions and Financial Aid, committee members reviewed [Education Dept. Won't Send Completed FAFSAs to Colleges Until 'First Half of March' \(chronicle.com\)](#)
- Current developments regarding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
  - *Guest speakers: Stacy Hopkins and Paula Lucas*
  - The delay of the FAFSA can increase barriers to higher education as students are waiting for support from aid to attend college.
  - Previous years students would receive their award offer letters as early as November. This year the earliest students could receive their award offer letter is mid-April.
  - Students typically must commit to universities by May 1 to guarantee a spot in their program. IUP is extending this date to May 15 to mitigate FAFSA related issues.
  - Reminding prospective students of the IUP scholarship offers that have been made to them to remind them of our affordability and a reminder to file the FAFSA.
  - All public colleges and universities the receive federal financial aid are in the same situation as IUP.
  - Returning students will not be impacted in the same way as incoming students because their award offer letter usually arrives in June.
  - Changes to the FAFSA
    - Changes to the formula used to determine the amount of federal aid being awarded.
    - Some changes were implemented in the 2021-2022 Academic Year, some were done in phases.
    - The largest change was to the 2024-2025 FAFSA.
      - Tax data can now be automatically imported from the IRS. If consent to do so is not given, students will be ineligible for federal funding.
      - The number of questions for the FAFSA has been reduced to 46 total questions.
      - Students can send their information to 20 schools instead of 10.
    - Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is replaced with Student Aid Index (SAI).

- In the cases of divorced parents, the parent who provides the most financial support to the student will now be listed on the FAFSA rather than the parent who the student lived with the most.
- PA State Grant consideration date is still May 1, 2024. The platform to apply for consideration is currently not available with plans of contacting students when it is ready.
- Important to let IUP students know that the Financial Aid website is updated to include most currently information regarding the FAFSA delay.

**Forthcoming Business** (*Suggested items of business to be addressed in 2023-2024*)

- Paula Stossel and David Luke will be joining us for our March 26 meeting.
- Will extend the offer for Dr. Briscoe II to attend our April meeting.

**Next meeting** – March 26 at 3:45pm

**University Development and Finance Committee (Senator McDaniel)**

The committee is meeting on March 19 at 3:45 pm.

**Academic Committee (Senator Dugan)**

The committee is meeting on March 19 at 3:45 pm.

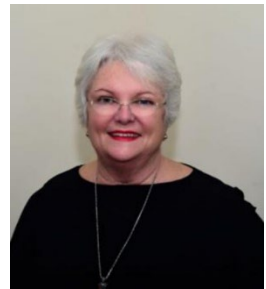
**FOR ACTION:**

**APPROVED**

**Nomination for Honorary Degree**

Ellen Ruddock has had a distinguished career of service to the local community, Indiana County, IUP, the military, nationally, and internationally. She has embodied the principles of female led entrepreneurship, family, and community strength and service.

Nominator: Jennifer Dunsmore, Advancement Division



**Ellen (Sylves) Ruddock**

Raised in the Pittsburgh area, Ruddock graduated from IUP (1966) and along with her husband, Rodney Ruddock, began teaching in the Penn Hills School District. Ellen left western Pennsylvania when Rod Ruddock, who had enlisted in the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) while attending IUP, accepted active-duty overseas military assignments for several years. During those assignments, Ellen served as an administrative assistant to the project manager at Utah-Martin-Day, an American Joint Venture in Bangkok, Thailand, and then for another year at the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group at COMUSMACTHAI in southeast Asia.

Returning to the states and making a home in Indiana, where Rod rose through the ranks as a teacher and principal in the Indiana Area School District, Ellen brought her childhood dream of business ownership to reality in 1975, serving as the proprietor of Swing Set, a children’s fashion store complementing an array of clothing, footwear, jewelry, and gift shops in the bustling heart of downtown Indiana. Unfortunately, a disastrous fire swept through the 700 block of

Philadelphia Street in June 1980 and put Swing Set and several other specialty shops out of business.

After that set-back, her knowledge and friendships with other downtown business owners afforded Ruddock success in a new position as an advertising representative for WDAD-AM and WQMU-FM radio stations. In 1989, she left the radio station and started Career Dynamics, a consultancy that taught time management, workplace efficiency, business leadership, productivity, motivation, and other professional skills to workers and employers at companies throughout western Pennsylvania. So successful was the venture that a second office in Pittsburgh was established to meet the needs of a growing client list more easily in Allegheny, Westmoreland, Armstrong, and Indiana counties. Ruddock worked with former Pittsburgh Steelers J.T. Thomas and Larry Brown, who held the franchise for Applebee's Restaurants in most of western Pennsylvania. Giant Eagle, Chestnut Ridge Foam Company, Season-All Industries, and Clark Metal Company were also among her clients. While successful in business, she noted that, during this time, her work was accomplished while also raising a family. Raising her family was a success story due, she said, to following the same principles as she did in her professional life. In none of her positions, noted Ruddock, did she use numbers such as corporate profits, workforce levels or sales and revenue figures as only measures of success.

After 13 years, Ruddock sold Career Dynamics and took on consulting for Gateways to Opportunity, a \$34 million capital campaign in support of the university by the Foundation for IUP. After closing out the successful fundraising effort, Ruddock was recruited by then College of Business Dean, Robert Camp, to direct the Center for Family Business, allowing her to fulfill another of her missions, aiding small, family-run companies to blossom to their full potential. Even when retired, Ruddock has frequently been called again to work for the community clients that she had in her Career Dynamics business.

Though busy with her career and family, Ruddock has always been available for community involvement and service. In addition to being a trailblazer as the first woman elected to Indiana Borough council (1991), Ruddock was the first woman appointed to the advisory board of the PNC Bank office in downtown Indiana. The Downtown Indiana Inc. merchants' promotion organization still relies on her guidance and encouragement, more than four decades after the doors at Swing Set swung open. She was an active board member of the Chevy Chase Community Center for years. She has remained active with Grace United Methodist Church in Indiana. The YMCA of Indiana County, U.S. Army Reserve Family Readiness Program, the City of Johnstown, and Borough of Indiana have counted on Ruddock's help - for strategic planning and goal setting, and especially in Wilkinsburg, leadership development.

Ellen is the past chair of the ATHENA International Board of Directors and is a board member emerita. She has traveled all over the world with the organization, helping to inspire women leaders for generations past, present, and future. She spearheaded the Emerging Women's Leadership Luncheon and was at the helm of creating the ATHENA high school club program.

As a trail-blazing female entrepreneur and civic leader, Ruddock has noted that both family and connectedness are important to her success. Into the early 2020's she still gathered every month with her colleagues from the Swing Set and maintained close ties with associates from each of her ventures. Ruddock noted that attaining business ownership, was helped by the experience of growing up in a family-owned business, her education at IUP, and the support of her husband – "...my biggest advocate, no matter what I've done." Even with these successes, she is aware that

challenges to women in the workforce remain. She has noted that she persevered despite the gender-equity gap in the workplace far from being closed and more opportunities coming to male entrepreneurs in Indiana County.

Ruddock's service has been recognized by multiple organizations:

- She was the first recipient of the ATHENA Award in Pennsylvania which was brought to Indiana County in 1987 by the late Chuck Spadafora.
- For her work with military family groups, the Army awarded Ruddock the Civilian Medal of Distinction in 1997 and 2001.
- Pennsylvania Business Central named Ruddock to the 50 Best Women in Business list in 1999
- Ruddock has been included in the Women in Business publication by The Indiana Gazette.
- Leadership Management Inc. named Ruddock the franchisee of the year in 2000.
- She earned the Indiana County Civic Leader of the Year in 2000
- She was presented with the IUP President's Medal of Distinction in 2008.

Give the above noted service to the local, state, national and international community, **the Academic Committee recommends conferral of an Honorary Degree on Ellen (Sylves) Ruddock.**

#### **Awards Committee (Senator Paul)**

The committee is meeting on March 28 at 3:30 pm.

#### **Noncredit Committee (Senator O'Neill)**

The committee met on March 4 and is continuing to work on the revision to the certification/licensure policy.

#### **University Planning Council (Senator Moore)**

There was no report.

#### **Presidential Athletic Advisory Council (Senator Castle)**

#### **FOR INFORMATION:**

#### **Welcome and Remarks – Dr. Joshua Castle, Chair**

-Updated the committee on the work of Athletic Gender Equity Committee.

#### **Remarks from Dr. Michael Driscoll**

-Discussed the new NCAA structure and conference representation.

-Still dealing with getting congressional relief regarding numerous issues that the NCAA is facing.



-Really pleased with the performance of our student-athletes.

### **Remarks from Dr. Tom Segar**

- Highlighted the speaker series from Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. Eric McElvenny gave a very motivational talk to student-athletes and staff on resilience.
- Discussed the upcoming events associated with Division II Day, which is held on 2/22 at 2:22

### **Report from Athletic Administration – Todd Garzarelli**

- Winter and Spring Sports Update
  - talked about PSAC playoffs and NCAA playoff possibilities for men's and women's basketball.
  - Women's Swimming took 2<sup>nd</sup> at the PSAC Championships.
  - Men's Swimming took 5<sup>th</sup> and Like Mikesell qualified for NCAA championships. He was also named outstanding swimmer at the meet.
  - Day 2 of indoor track and field are going on currently.
  - Softball and baseball are starting up.
  - All spring sports are in position to have successful springs.

### **Report from Athletics Compliance – Sam Goettman**

- Approved Legislation
  - Football will be able to start a week earlier for practice if the programs so choose.
  - If a sport drops below 35 sponsoring institutions, Division II would no longer hold a championship. There is a 3-year grace period for this.
  - All team sports other than football, there will be automatic qualifiers for conferences.

### **Report from Faculty Athletics' Representative – Dr. Jim Racchini**

- Updated the committee on Academic Awards and Academic Progress.
  - Drew DiNunzio-Biss (Football) was selected 1<sup>st</sup> team CSC (formally CoSIDA) Academic All-American.
  - Drew DiNunzio-Biss and Gerald Comedy were selected to the Fall 2023 All District Academic Team
  - U.S. Track & Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association Men and Women's Teams recognized as All-Academic Teams
  - Individual honors for Mike Formica and Dan Gibney.
  - National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II National Academic Squad (3.5+ GPA): Mia Gerick, Devon Johnson, Cassidy Kibler, Anita Planella, Sydney Schmoulder, Emma Toth, Roos van Herel.
  - National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II Scholars of Distinction (3.9+ GPA): Cassidy Kibler, Sydney Schmoulder, Emma Toth

### **Report from Student Athletic Advisory Committee – Erik Moyer**

- New executive committee IUP rules and elected 24-25 leadership and committee.

-Started brainstorming for events for next academic year.

**Academic Computing Policy Advisory Committee**

The committee is meeting on March 20 at 3 pm.

**University Budget Advisory Committee (Senator Soni)**

A copy of the February UBAC meeting Power Point slides will be sent to all senators as part of the minutes.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

Respectfully submitted by  
Russell Stocker  
University Senate Secretary