

**MINUTES OF THE
IUP UNIVERSITY SENATE**

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

Chairperson Seal called the September 9, 2025 meeting of the University Senate to order at 3:45 PM, in Eberly Auditorium.

Agenda items for the September 9, 2025 meeting were **APPROVED**.

Cleia Stern was elected Vice-Chairperson for the 2025-2026 academic year.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

President's Report

Welcome back to the new academic year. It's great to have everyone back. I am excited and honored to be part of celebrating IUP's 150th anniversary and I hope you are, too. Please take advantage of the many opportunities to learn more about IUP's history and to celebrate. As part of the 150th kickoff carnival, we went public with IUP's Impact150 comprehensive campaign. We have already raised \$81 million of the \$150 million target. \$34.1 million of the \$81 million supports the proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine. The majority of funds raised - almost \$47 million so far - will support the rest of our good work for our students.

At this point, Pennsylvania still doesn't have a state budget, so we don't have appropriations coming in to support our work. We are not in a cashflow crunch and there are some signs that the Legislature and the Governor are starting to make progress, so we'll be fine. If we ultimately receive the same amount, i.e., there is no increase in appropriations, we will have a slight shortfall from our budget projections, but we've already identified simple steps to cover the shortfall without major disruptions. I expect that you won't notice the difference.

Friday is our fall freeze date for measuring official enrollment. Right now our overall enrollment looks good, with strong increases in retention and persistence for undergraduate students. Graduate enrollment looks to be down a bit - in part due to fewer international students. Once we have the freeze numbers we'll get a final calculation on tuition revenue and nail down the budget picture. Expect to hear more details in the next month or so.

As I am sure you know, over the summer IUP's institutional accreditation was reaffirmed by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. We received a glowing report from the visiting team, the most positive report I've ever seen. We were praised for your engagement in determining IUP's future. That's important and it's important that you and your colleagues continue to stay involved.

Earlier today we have our first informal listening session, which was very well attended. I encourage you to look for future opportunities, and particularly call to your attention our next all-day, all-hands Future of IUP workshop. We held the first one of these on January 28, 2025 and

said we will continue to hold one each semester. This fall, the date is Tuesday, October 21. I hope and expect to see all of you there to chart IUP's course forward.

I hope you have a great academic year.

Provost's Report

Welcome back! It has been an energetic start to the year with folks being so engaged.

I have a couple of things I would like to share today. Over the summer, the deans and cabinet met to determine our priorities for the coming year. Today, I want to share those priorities with you. We are working very hard to ensure that all our students have at least one experiential learning opportunity while they're at IUP. That work is commencing immediately. A task force worked last year to develop a set of recommendations. We are working through those. We want to be sure that these opportunities are systematically available to every student. Experiential learning aligns very well with the Crimson Core competencies and with the second year of the Crimson Core, which includes the SOAR courses.

As all of you are aware, we worked for the last two years on Program Array Review, looking at our complete set of degree programs. The recommendations that came out of the 2023-24 year are being worked through and, in many cases, completed by the programs. Last year's recommendations were put forth at the final Academic Affairs Council meeting of the semester. They will be reviewed at our first Academic Affairs Council meeting just to be sure that all recommendations were captured accurately. The information will then be shared directly with the programs.

Another priority for this year is to develop the ongoing program review process. A group was convened as advisory to the president and is called, "kitchen cabinet." It is being led by our co-chairs of the Council of Chairs, Gian Pagnucci and Scott Moore. One of the first things they took on was to look at what the academic units would like to see in the ongoing program review process. We have a few documents that we are working through to devise a firm program review process going forward. There are two key parts of the process. The first is that we must have a five-year cycle that's consistent with the Office of the Chancellor. In addition to that, there's an annual component. Both of these components will be driven by the department and each program will go through these exercises at one time. They will develop an executive summary that builds on strengths and opportunities within the program area and then they will connect the action plans with the direction of the university.

The next priority is building more non-credit and credential pathways. As you know, we've been talking about the Future of IUP and working toward understanding more about a new group of students that we have served during pockets of time before, but we've not really systematically embraced. These may be students that aren't here for a full degree, or students returning to complete a degree, or some that want real-time training or credentials that might help them advance in their career, but not specifically looking for a degree program. We are piloting this model under the leadership of our Future of IUP group, which includes Paula

Stossel, Amber Racchini, and Lori Lombard. These folks and their team have been having conversations across campus and have identified a series of opportunities within the Eberly College of Business. These offerings are non-credit opportunities and are scheduled to begin this fall.

The next priority is PASSHE Program and Course Sharing. IUP is a leader in this area. We are seeing some nice opportunities that are coming out for our students. We are making more courses available, we are able to serve more students, and we are filling seats in our courses. All of these priorities will be topics at the October 21 Future of IUP meeting.

The last priority I want to share with you is moving forward with the proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine. We have achieved the first level of accreditation from COCA. The next phase is preaccreditation. The document for preaccreditation was submitted on Friday. There will be a commission meeting in December, and we will learn a bit about our status at that time. Another update regarding the COM is that we have made some faculty hires in Biology and Allied and Public Health to help support curriculum development. This will bring in expertise from outside as well as leverage the expertise we have. They are working toward putting forward the internal curricular process early to mid-fall.

I also want to report that we are live in OneSIS. It is very exciting to be on the other side of the legacy system. The team is working on building out Argos Reporting. We are also continuing the OneSIS Wednesdays so that folks can drop in and ask any questions. Softdocs is live and we have two forms available, tuition waiver and student employment. We have quite a few in process. Please stay up to date by going to the website to see the status of every form.

I have some dates to remind you about. Coming up on September 22, we have an Academic Update. We will do some general updates, but the primary topic will be updates for the proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine. This open forum will be held during the common hour in person or online. On October 21, we have an all-day employee workshop. We're excited to reengage everybody, especially after the energy of the January 28th workshop. On November 3, we have an administrative briefing for managers.

I'm happy to take questions at this time.

Question from student: I actually have two questions. The first one is about the first priority that you mentioned about giving more experiential opportunities for students. Is there going to be priority for students who are seniors or juniors.

Response from Provost Luetkehans: Thank you for this question. I think that oftentimes when we're talking about experiential learning, people automatically think of internships. Experiential learning also includes experiences that can be integrated into the classroom as well as other out-of-classroom experiences.

Student: My second question is about the faculty hires for the College of Medicine. Will they also be teaching undergraduate courses?

Response from Provost Luetkehans: The initial hires are part time, and their focus is curriculum development. This is something that we will explore when the teaching begins.

For Information:

The Provost has accepted the recommendations for curriculum actions endorsed by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at their May 29, 2025, meeting as follows:

From the University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee:

- A. The following new programs were forwarded to the Council of Trustees for final approval:
 - From the Department of Anthropology, Geospatial, and Earth Sciences
 - Forensic Sciences, BS
 - From the Department of Career and Wellness Education
 - Career and Technical Teacher Education postbaccalaureate certification
- B. The following program moratoriums were forwarded to the Council of Trustees for final approval:
 - From the Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences
 - Mathematics/Actuarial Science and Statistics, BS
 - From the College of Arts, Humanities, Media, and Public Affairs
 - Pan-African Studies Certificate
- C. The following program revisions will be forwarded to the Council of Trustees for final approval:
 - From the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
 - Criminology, BA
 - Criminology Minor
 - From the Department of Allied and Public Health
 - Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science/Exercise Science, BS
 - Medical Imaging/Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Ultrasound), BS
 - Medical Imaging/Echocardiography, BS
 - Medical Imaging/Nuclear Medicine Technology, BS
 - Medical Laboratory Science, BS (includes program title change)
 - Nutrition/Food and Health, BS
 - Nutrition/Dietetics, BS
 - Respiratory Care, BS
 - Speech-Language Pathology, BS
 - From the Department of Language, Literature, and Writing
 - Spanish, BA
 - English Studies, BA
 - Secondary English Education Certificate
 - From the Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences
 - Computer Science/Software Engineering, BS

- Mathematics Education, BSEd
 - Mathematics, BS
- From the Department of Management
 - Sport Management, BS
- From the Department of Accounting and Information Systems
 - Accounting, BS
- From the Department of Anthropology, Geospatial, and Earth Sciences
 - Anthropology/Applied Anthropology, BA
 - Anthropology/Archaeology, BA
 - Geographic Information Science and Planning, BS
- From the Department of Career and Wellness Education
 - Career and Technical Teacher Education Certification
 - Career and Technical Teacher Education, AAS
 - Career and Technical Teacher Education, BSEd
 - Family and Consumer Sciences Education PK-12, BSEd
 - Health and Physical Education/Community Health Education, BSEd
- From the Department of History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Religious Studies
 - International Studies Minor
 - Philosophy, BA
 - Political Science, BA
 - Political Science/Pre-law, BA
 - Political Science/Homeland Security, BA
 - Social Studies Education/History, BSEd
- From the Department of Finance and Economics
 - Economics Honors Program, BA
- From the Department of Safety Sciences and Environmental Engineering
 - Safety, Health, and Environment Applied Sciences, BS
 - Environmental Engineering, BS
- From the Department of School Psychology, Special Education, and Sociology
 - Early Childhood Education/Special Education, BSEd
 - Sociology, BA
 - Sociology/Human Services, BA
- From the Department of Biology
 - Biology, BA
 - Biology, BS
 - Biology/Ecology, Conservation, and Evolutionary Biology, BS
 - Biology/Pre-medical, BS
 - Biology/Pre-veterinary, BS
 - Biology/Cell and Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, BS (includes title change)
- From the Department of Professional Studies in Education
 - Early Childhood Education, BSEd

- From the Department of Student Affairs, Student Success, and Disability Access
 - General Studies, AA
 - General Studies, BA
 - Department of Art and Design
 - Art Studio/Graphic Design and Illustration, BFA
 - From the Kopchick College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
 - Natural Science, BS
 - Natural Science/Pre-dentistry, BS
 - Natural Science/Pre-chiropractic, BS
 - Natural Science/Pre-physician Assistant, BS
 - Natural Science/Pre-physical Therapy, BS
 - Natural Science/Pre-optometry, BS
 - From the Department of Psychology
 - Psychology, BA
 - Psychology Honors, BA
 - From the Department of Communications Media
 - Communications Media, BS
 - From the Madia Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Physics
 - Chemistry, BS
 - Physics, BS
 - From the Department of Nursing
 - Nursing, BS
 - Nursing/Licensed Practical Nurse, BS
 - From the Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance
 - Theatre, BA
- D. Revision approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its May 29, 2025, meeting as follows:
- From the Cook Honors College
 - Cook Honors College Program Requirements for Entering First-Year Students

Chairperson's Report

- Chairperson Seal led everyone in a mental exercise, where senators were asked to think about “what is the ideal IUP experience in your mind?” He then asked everyone to consider what we need to do to achieve this experience.
- We should consider the pros and cons of artificial intelligence and how it should be used at IUP. How can the Senate facilitate this conversation?
- We need to make sure that we maximize our opportunities to recognize all of the hard work that is positively impacting the university community.
- There are less senators in the Senate after the restructuring. We may want to consider moving to a smaller room for Senate meetings. I have asked the University Development and Finance Committee to consider this.

Vice Chairperson's Report

SGA:

- SGA held its first general assembly meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2025.
- SGA is prioritizing recruitment and retention this semester, aiming to engage not only senators within their student organization, but student constituents as well. Following a very successful IUP Day, SGA received 30+ first time attendees and potential senators.
- The current SGA executive board is prioritizing strategies to engage with students, including relaunching internal committees the Board of Programming and the Board of Public Relations. SGA is also making strides to relocate their meetings to Leonard Hall, a more central location on campus, to facilitate increased attendance and ease of access. This location change will take place from mid-September through the conclusion of the 2025-26 academic year.
- In similar efforts to engage the student body, SGA is collaborating with university leadership and campus offices as well as local government for events this semester including Into The Streets, a day of community service within the Indiana community, Chat With The Deans, and reintroducing Student Organization Assembly. SGA is also a co-sponsor of the 8th Street Initiative Charrette, serving an important role in connecting student voices with local government.
- SGA's next meeting will be held tonight at 7:30 PM in the Elkin Hall Great Room. We will be assigning undergraduate students to their University Senate Subcommittees this evening, and a student roster will be sent to each respective committee chair by the end of the week.

GSA:

- GSA held its first meeting on Friday September 5, 2025 and will continue having monthly meetings both in-person and on Zoom to accommodate for all graduate students.
- GSA has some upcoming events scheduled that will attempt at bringing the graduate community together; these events will be shared in due course and via their social media platforms.
- GSA will also be continuing with their newsletter that highlights all the great things that graduates do as well as have spotlight segments. GSA asks that if you are approached to contribute a piece please do, they are grateful for all your support.

On behalf of both SGA and GSA, please continue to encourage your students to join their respective student representative association as we are a voice for all undergraduate and graduate students.

Thank you, Chairperson Seal, this concludes my report.

Rules Committee (Senator Decker)

- Elections were held during the summer. Thank you for your patience.
- The makeup of the Senate is considerable different after the restructuring. We now have 60 faculty, 20 administration, and 30 student senators making up the largest number of members. The President and Provost are now the ex-officio members of the Senate. They appoint 10 administrative administration members to committees and the remaining 10 are elected to the Senate. The Research Institute and Foundation for IUP now have Senate representatives.
- The Senate membership database needs to be replaced this year due to no longer being available after OneSIS.
- There is currently no members on the Non-Instruction Committee. It will be left unstaffed, and the Rules Committee will discuss what to do about this situation.
- A special election will take place to add two members to the University-Wide Undergraduate Committee.
- The Rules Committee will review the work we completed last year and does not plan to make any major changes this year.

The committee will meet on Tuesday, September 16.

University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Senator Sechrist)

- There was no report.

University-Wide Graduate Committee (Senator Moore)

- The committee will meet on Tuesday, September 16 at 3:45 pm via Zoom.

University Development and Finance Committee (Senator McDaniel)

- The committee met on August 26 and elected a chair and secretary.
- The committee will meet on September 23 at 3:45 pm via Zoom.

Academic Committee (Senator Dugan)

- The committee sent a call for faculty and dean emeritus nominations. These are due on September 26.
- The committee will meet on Tuesday, September 16.

Awards Committee (Senator Paul)

- There was no report.

Library and Education Services Committee (Senator Chadwick)

- There was no report.

Research Committee (Senator Sciulli)

- The committee will meet on Tuesday, September 16 at 3:30 pm via Zoom.

FOR INFORMATION:

Meeting Minutes –May 6, 2025

Proposal Review: The committee reviewed 7 USRC small grant proposals and awarded funds for 5, totaling \$9,748.

- Kimberly Desmond
- Taylor Edwards
- Werner Lippert
- Matthew Nice
- Todd Thompson

Student Affairs Committee (Senator Benjamin)

- The committee will meet on Tuesday, September 16 at 3:30 pm.

University Planning Council (Senator Moore)

- The committee will meet on Friday, September 12 during the common hour.

Presidential Athletic Advisory Council (Senator Castle)

- There was no report.

Academic Computing Policy Advisory Committee

- There was no report.

University Budget Advisory Committee (Senator Soni)

- The committee will meet on October 2.

New Business

- There was no new business.

Respectfully submitted by
Russell Stocker

University Senate Secretary