

Report of the Faculty Conference Chair

Submitted by Adam Glover

Date: 17 November 2023

I. Board of Trustees Meeting (October 11-12, 2023)

Along with several faculty colleagues, I attended the Board of Trustees meeting on October 11-12, 2023. I also delivered a Faculty Liaison Report at the full Board meeting on October 12 (see “Faculty Liaison Report to Board of Trustees,” below). A summary of key takeaways follows.

1. **Mission and Values Statement.** At the meeting, the Board adopted new Mission, Vision, and Values Statements for the university.
 - a. The new **Mission Statement** reads: “Winthrop University challenges students of talent, ambition, and intellectual curiosity, equipping them to embrace and lead a world in transition—where change is constant, uncertainty is real, and risk exists—by providing learning experiences and instilling critical thinking skills empowering them to create the future.”
 - b. The new **Vision Statement** reads: “We aspire to be a transformational institution providing an excellent and affordable education within a vibrant and inclusive community offering the gift of learning, the tools for lifelong learning, and the confidence born of a robust and disciplined learning experience.”
 - c. The new **Values Statement** reads: “We are Winthrop, where we value...
 - i. - A commitment to leadership, service, community, and excellence.
 - ii. - A culture of belonging, courage, free expression, and open civil engagement.
 - iii. - Rigorous instruction and experiential learning that prepares our students for success and leadership.
 - iv. - Rational thought, truth reverence, sound judgment, deep ethics, and unwavering commitment to excellence.”
2. **Renaming of Academic Areas.**
 - a. The College of Business Administration will become the **College of Business and Technology**.
 - b. The Graduate School will become the **School of Graduate, Continuing, and Online Education**.
3. **Contracts.** The Board approved and offered the following contracts:
 - a. Complete Demolition Services, the abatement contract for Wofford and Richardson residence halls.
 - b. Dach Enterprises, the contract for the McLaurin Hall flood repair work.
 - c. Architectural firm McMillan Pazdan Smith, the contract to begin design work for a new cafeteria.
4. **Miscellaneous.** The Board also approved the following.
 - a. President Serna’s 2023-24 goals and objectives.

- b. A contract with Walk 2 Campus for use of around 50 rooms this semester at CampusWalk apartment buildings
- c. Course fees for the spring 2024 semester.
- d. A candidate for a future honorary degree to be announced at a later date.

II. Provost Search

The search for Winthrop's next Provost is drawing to a close. Finalists visited campus November 13-16. I hope everyone had a chance to interact with the candidates, and especially to attend the public presentations.