THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

The University Faculty Senate

AGENDA

Tuesday, September 29, 2020
SPECIAL SENATE MEETING

Via ZOOM at 1:00 p.m
Please click the link below to join the webinar:
https://psu.zoom.us/j/93585910342
Or Telephone:
Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799
Webinar ID: 935 8591 0342
International numbers available: https://psu.zoom.us/u/adK6W5zrV1
Or iPhone one-tap:
US: +16468769923,,93585910342# or +13017158592,,93585910342#

In the event of severe weather conditions or other emergencies that would necessitate the cancellation of a Senate meeting, a communication will be posted on Penn State News at http://news.psu.edu/.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

B. FORENSIC BUSINESS

The State of Penn State

Appendix A

C. NEW LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

D. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE UNIVERSITY

E. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the University Faculty Senate will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
https://psu.zoom.us/j/93585910342
The State of Penn State

(Forensic)

The forensic discussion will start with a focus on the University Faculty Senate Resolution on Return to Work passed by Senate Council at its June 23, 2020 meeting. This resolution focused on 'faculty choice' regarding the University's planning process for returning to in-person instruction in the Fall. The resolution presented a set of principles focused on the role of faculty as key partners in the decision-making process for instruction at the University across all of its campuses, expressed concern about the health and well-being of our campuses and communities, and ended with a set of requests to the University.

The principles, concerns, and requests to the University issued in this resolution are still relevant now and provide a framework for discussing many of the most pressing issues today. The questions in the forensic are intended to help the Senate briefly review the work of the last few months, identify concerns and requests that have arisen since the Return to Work resolution or that have been unsatisfactorily addressed, and offer substantial time for open discussion and comments that Senators may want to make, along with providing points of convergence for us moving forward.

The Faculty Senate remains deeply committed to representing our faculty and student body during these challenging times. Numerous questions and concerns were raised at our recent plenary meeting on September 15, 2020 that could not be fully addressed due to time constraints. Events have continued to evolve, and we would benefit from continued and open conversation with all members of our community. In that spirit, the meeting will begin with an extensive Forensic to support a conversation about how we can best continue to meet our shared mission of teaching, research, creative activity, service and outreach for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania across our campuses.

The following questions will be asked during the meeting:

1. How has the University Faculty Senate Resolution on Return to Work been implemented in University decision-making?
   - What still needs to be addressed?

2. What new or additional items should be addressed by Faculty Senate?

Beth Seymour, Chair, University Faculty Senate