

An Overview of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate

Members of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate (IFS) are made up of elected Senator representatives from each of the eight Oregon public institutions. The Faculty Senate Bylaws state:

Interinstitutional Faculty Senators shall be responsible for seeking opinions of the OSU Faculty and the OSU Faculty Senate as a body.

OSU IFS representatives are elected to three-year terms in a university-wide election each fall, and are ex-officio, voting members, of the OSU Faculty Senate. The senior IFS Senator is also a member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.



Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Membership

Oregon State University (3 representatives)

- Goran Jovanovic (v. S. Shaw), goran.jovanovic@oregonstate.edu
- McKenzie Huber, McKenzie.Huber@oregonstate.edu
- John Edwards, jedwards@oregonstate.edu

Eastern Oregon University (2 representatives)

Oregon Health & Science University (3 representatives)

Oregon Institute of Technology (3 representatives)

Portland State University (3 representatives)

Southern Oregon University (2 representatives)

University of Oregon (3 representatives)

Western Oregon University (2 representatives)

Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Typical Activities

Group Meets on average once every two months.

The group meets on the campus of one its members. This rotates regularly.

The meetings take place from 12:00 pm on Friday through to 12:00 pm Saturday.

The group has supper together on Friday night.

The group typically meets with the Provost or the President of the host campus.

The group gets an update on issues that may be important on the host campus (enrollment, advising, campus issues, etc.).

Senators have an opportunity to ask questions about what is working and not working on each campus.

Each institution delivers a state of their campus (highlighting issues, successes or policy shifts that affect faculty or students).

On return to campus – the IFS faculty report the activities and issues that are relevant to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Every few months the senior IFS faculty member will make a formal report to the Faculty Senate body .

Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Duties



The IFS has come to be a main body that connects all the campuses – this has replaced the OUS role.

The IFS President spends time in Salem when the legislature is in session and provides testimony (represents faculty).

A member of the IFS is also on the state-wide Provost's Council, and they report back to the IFS.

The IFS President meets with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) on a regular basis.

The IFS members keep the communication going between the bigger and smaller institutions.

Interinstitutional Faculty Senate Issues



Discussion of the alignment of transfer credits across universities, high schools and colleges.

There is an advising problem for students in college. Poor information about transferable credits to universities.

Cost for text books for students. Open Source Text Books being developed for adoption.

Various Oregon universities moving into Portland metro area to offer programs.

Discussion of **House Bill 2998**-- which might give the legislature some say over the curriculum in Universities, Community Colleges and High Schools.

Campus safety issues –students bringing guns to campus.

Sexual violence survivor and support issue across all campuses.

Mental health issues on all campuses.

Thanks for Listening



Dwaine Plaza
College of Liberal Arts
dplaza@orst.edu

541 737-5369