

To: Faculty Senate

From: Ann Livschiz and Nancy Virtue

Date: March 22, 2019

Re: Senate Deliberations

Whereas, the current Presiding Officer of the FW Senate has broken precedent with past practices for the entire history of the FW Senate by interpreting Roberts Rules of Order in a way that limits Senate members' speech by imposing a 2-question rule;

Whereas, the current Presiding Officer claims that this is an obvious and unambiguous interpretation of Roberts Rules, when in fact that is not the case, as was demonstrated by our discussion in Senate on March 11;

Whereas, there are no clear rules in Roberts Rules of Order that govern question time;

Whereas, the role of the Presiding Officer at Senate meetings is to encourage and guide discussion on matters of importance to the Purdue Fort Wayne campus and community;

Whereas, the current Presiding Officer has not always applied the 2-question rule equally among the Senate members;

Whereas, the current Presiding Officer did not explain what steps he would take to apply the rule equally among the Senate members;

Be it resolved, that for any remaining Fort Wayne Senate meetings in the 2018-2019 academic year, we revert to pre-2018-2019 practices of carrying out the deliberations of the senate;

Be it further resolved, that if the Senate Executive Committee feels that we need to revisit the rules governing deliberations, particularly during Question Time, that they will organize an appropriate forum (e.g. item on a senate meeting agenda; special meeting) to have such a conversation in the 2019-2020 academic year;

Be it further resolved, that until Senate Executive Committee organizes such a forum, the meetings of the Fort Wayne Senate continue to operate on the model established by precedent that had been in place up until the start of the 2018-2019 academic year.