Dear Colleagues,

We invite your engagement with the Faculty Senate for the coming term. As a Senate, the work we do moves us towards becoming an institution that leads the field in responding to the challenges faced by higher education in the 21st century. Western’s faculty has a long history of shaping the present and future direction of the University through shared governance, a process that is essential to the strength and health of the University. As such, we seek a Senate that represents a wide range of perspectives and disciplines while ensuring faculty representation from every college.

Faculty members who are elected to the Senate have the opportunity to develop strong interdisciplinary networks with colleagues from across campus, to more fully understand and influence responses to important issues facing the University, to shape communication processes essential to effective shared governance, and to provide leadership in moving our university towards its goal of being a leading, publically-purposed 21st century institution.

Please join us on the Senate next year, either by running for the Senate yourself or recommending Senate candidacy to your colleagues. We especially encourage you to consider running for the Faculty Senate if you have not participated previously or if your department is not currently represented. Current Senators who wish to serve a second or third term do need to complete a new nominating petition. The Elections and Appointments Officer, Bob Mitchell (x3591), or Shared Governance Operations Manager, Lizzy Ramhorst (x6808), will be glad to answer any questions you have about eligibility, the election process, or the nature of serving on the Senate.

Faculty Senate election documents for 2019-21 are available on the Faculty Senate website:

- **Call for Nominations**
- **2019 Spring Election Schedule**
- **2019-21 Faculty Senate Nominating Petition**

Requirements for Nominating Petitions *(Faculty Handbook, Constitution, Bylaw 12.2)*:

- A Statement of Agreement on the Nominating Petition must be signed by the Nominee;
- Five faculty colleagues must sign the Nominee’s petition;
- Voting-eligible faculty members (0.5 FTE or greater) may be nominated or may sign another’s petition regardless of academic area affiliation;
- Nominating Petitions must be received in the Senate Office by 6 p.m. on Thursday, **April 18, 2019** via email (original documents can be scanned and submitted to Faculty.Senate@wwu.edu), campus mail (MS 9020), or dropped off at the Senate Office (Old Main 350);
- For an effective election, more faculty nominees than the required number to fill seats are encouraged.

Election Ballots will be distributed to all voting-eligible faculty members via email link on **Monday, April 29** and will remain open until **5 p.m. on Friday, May 10**. The election will be run through Qualtrics. Each voting-eligible faculty member will receive an email that includes a personal voting link, and email links can be resent upon request. If runoff ballots are required, they will be sent on Monday, May 13 and must be completed by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 17. Results will be announced in the Senate on Monday, May 20th, via email, and posted online on the Senate website.

- Senate terms are renewable every two-years for up to six years.
- Seating of the 2019-20 Senate will take place at 4 p.m. at the June 3rd Senate meeting, at which election of 2019-20 Senate officers will also take place.
- The **Senate Executive Council** is comprised of the officers elected on June 3rd, as well as the Chairs of the Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) and University Planning and Resource Council (UPRC), the President of the UFWW, Past President of the Faculty Senate, and the Faculty Legislative Representative. Officers are elected for one-year terms from the membership of the Senate.