



Seaver Cabinet Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2025 - TAC 100

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Devotional - Brad Griffin shared a devotional message

Good News - Cabinet members shared a good news story about their department or division

Announcements

- Lee Kats recognized Zac Luben for his 5th year of service to Pepperdine University.
- Lee Kats shared that the Spring All Seaver Meeting & Community Recognition is scheduled for March 26 in Elkins. There will be a light breakfast beginning at 8:00 am; the meeting is from 8:30 - 9:50 am.
- Dana Dudley shared information about the upcoming WDB Lecture Series including:
 - Dr. Debra Rienstra - March from 12-5:00pm in Elkins
 - "Refugia: Communal Vocation in a Climate-Changed World"
 - Helen Holmlund & Steve Davis - Fuel and Fire - March 24 at 12 pm in the Surfboard Room
 - Climate Calling Conference and WDB Lecture with Bill Weir - April 3
 - Bill Weir "Life As We Know It (Can Be); Stories of People, Climate and Hope in a Changing World" on April 3 at 5:00 pm in Elkins
- Dana Dudley shared that the Celebrating Rhodes Scholar Sean Wu event is rescheduled for March 13 from 2 - 4:00 pm in the Fireside Room

Business of the College

- Fine Arts and Social Science Divisional Dean Updates

Lee Kats shared that Lincoln Hanks will be our new Divisional Dean of Fine Arts effective August 1, 2025 and that Brian Newman will present to the Social Science division on Wednesday, February 12. Lee Kats also recognized Brad Griffin and Robert Williams for their valuable service as divisional deans.

- Student Retention/Student Withdrawal from Fall to Spring

Kindy De Long shared the number of students withdrawing due to the fires affecting the Malibu campus per division and class year. A total of 28 students who were enrolled in Fall 24 and Spring 2025 did not return for spring.

Lee Kats discussed our retention rate of 86-88%. It is a goal of Seaver College to improve retention and make it a part of our strategic goals in all of our areas. We are a tuition-driven University and we invest a lot in having them here.

- Ongoing Recruitment of the Class of 2025 | Kristy Collins

Kristy Collins shared that enrollment is at over 14,000 applications received so far. This is ahead of last year and is better than what is happening nationally. International applications are slightly going down; mostly due to flights and the influence of the US News and World Report. She noted that our profile of student's SAT and ACT superscores remain high. The current trend is for students to apply to 20 colleges.

The Seaver College admit goal is high because the large post-covid class will graduate this year and the retention decline we experienced from the fires. Donna Nofziger asked that this information be communicated to people who make class schedules in advance. Kristy shared that admissions is planning to send a new student academic intake form as soon as possible after admission decisions go out to better predict enrollment numbers per division. Kristy also shared that the college is working on automating endowment dollars which will help with sharing scholarship awards information with divisional deans sooner and ultimately help with retention.

Kristy asked that divisional deans encourage faculty to participate in Malibu reception day on April 11. To assist with this effort, Kristy will send an email with the divisional dean name on it so they may forward it to their faculty.

- Student Opportunity

Dana Dudley shared information about a new student opportunity involving an Interdisciplinary Studies Symposium. She will forward the information to divisional deans to share with students they think would be excited about this program.

- ALO WSCUC Updates

Seta Kharjarian shared that she prepared an executive summary of the institutional report for Cabinet members to read rather than the full report. She asked that they read it before the virtual visit from March 19-21, 2025. She is working on adding a new session regarding faculty shared governance. Our entire community will receive an email on February 24 on behalf of WASC about the upcoming visit. Her department will be sending calendar invitations for a de-briefing event and reception on campus on the final day. A decision is expected at the end of June.

Regan Schaffer shared that the Business Division was re-accredited and she expressed appreciation for all the people who participated in the process.

- Pepperdine Strong

Connie Horton shared that the human resources department is still helping faculty and staff impacted by the fires. The Pepperdine Strong student care team is assisting students through a case management model. A total of 262 students were referred for assistance with housing, food, academic supplies and books. They are having a special dinner for those impacted with a reminder of resources available.

Upcoming Events|

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| Feb. 27 | The Magic Flute Opera Performance |
| March 3-7 | Spring Break (5 days) |
| March 14-16 | Academic Freedom Conference |
| March 19-21 | WSCUC Special Visit (virtual) |
| April 11 | Seaver Admitted Waves Day
& Research & Scholarly Achievement Symposium |
| April 14 | Seaver Cabinet Meeting |
| April 20 | Easter |
| April 28-May 1 | Final Exams |
| May 2 | Gradfest, Mullin Town Square
Loqui, Smothers Theater
Division Academic Receptions
Baccalaureate Worship and Prayer Service |
| May 3 | Class of 2025 Seaver Commencement Ceremony |