Hello, again this month the Senate newsletter will be brief.

In her report, the Provost noted that WKU will be raising salaries to a level of 55% of our benchmark institutions within three years. While this will require new funds, the President is committed to this process to ensure academic quality.

A strongly worded resolution was passed (the resolution is appended below) to address the health care funds that are 'missing'. The Senate urges that a 'lock box' account be created solely for health care funds such that they cannot be diverted for any other use without the express consent of the University Benefits Committee and has asked the Board of Regents to assist in this matter.

Thank you, John

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RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE USE OF HEALTH INSURANCE MONIES

Whereas the University manages self-financed health insurance plans, and

Whereas it is unsound fiscal practice to use monies meant to finance the University’s health insurance plans for purposes other than funding health insurance plans and paying claims,

Be it resolved that the University Senate states its unequivocal opposition to the use of the University’s health insurance contributions and employee premiums for anything other than their intended purpose of funding WKU’s health care plans and reimbursing claims against them, and

The University Senate requests that the Board of Regents create a regulation stating that insurance benefits monies may not be used for anything other than their intended purpose of funding the University’s health care plans and reimbursing claims against them, and
The University Senate urges that the University deposit insurance benefits contributions and employee premiums into an account separate and independent from the University’s General Fund. Funds from such a separate and independent account should only be used to fund the health insurance plans and pay claims against them. A quarterly report on the state of this account should be submitted to the University Benefits Committee. Any expenditures from this account, except for insurance claims, must be approved by the Benefits Committee.

The University Senate requests that the Administration and the University Benefits Committee implement this plan and report to us on the resolution of this issue as soon as possible.

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