

## **Faculty Senate Business Meeting**

August 31, 2020

### **Members Present:**

Stephanie Adams, Douglas Airhart, Dan Allcott, Michael Allen, Jeremy Blair, Troy Brachey, Chris Brown, Debra Bryant, Wei Tsun Chang, Kris Craven, Dennis Duncan, Mary Lou Fornehed, Steven Frye, David Hajdik, Tammy Howard, Janet Isbell, Brian Jones, Nancy Kolodziej, Matt Langford, Susan Lanningham, David Larimore, Emily Lee, Chad Luke, Lori Maxwell, Jennifer Meadows, Holly Mills, Lachelle Norris, Linda Null, Joseph Ojo, Sally Pardue, Richard Rand, Jeff Roberts, Mike Rogers, Lee Ann Shipley, Troy Smith, Sandra Smith-Andrews, Barry Stein, Holly Stretz, Daniel Swartling, Lenly Weathers, Robert Wilbanks, Zac Wilcox, Kimberly Winkle, Jeannette Wolak

### **Members Absent:**

Yun Ding, Christy Killman, Ann Manginelli, Mary Matthews, Mark Melichar, Brian O'Connor, Anthony Paradis, Russ Witcher

### **1. Call to Order**

Senate President Holly Stretz called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Senate President Stretz announced a few minor corrections to the Agenda. Senator Duncan made a motion to approve the agenda as modified. Senator Smith-Andrews seconded. The motion carried.

### **3. Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2020 Business Meeting**

Senator Andrews-Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Senator Duncan seconded. Senators Lee & Howard Abstained. The motion carried.

### **Approval of Notes from April 6, 2020 Meeting with the President**

Senator Airhart made a motion to approve the minutes. Senator Stretz seconded. Senators Lee & Howard Abstained. The motion carried.

### **4. Announce Replacement Members**

Senate President Stretz announces and welcomed newly elected Senators, Senators who have changed representation, and Senators who have been re-elected to continue serving

### **5. Senate Schedule**

The Senate schedule is posted on the web site. This schedule has been updated to include the additional meetings in November that were omitted when first posted.

### **6. Welcome and President's Comments**

Senate President Stretz presented her personal projects defining challenges to the Faculty Senate for 2020-2021. This is superimposed on an element of the University business model, my vision that our core operational unit is the perfect synergy between a student, a professor, and a library. All other units are in support of this triumvirate.

First, work to improve the flow of communication across campus. Currently, issues with communication include a need to reach the faculty in a timely manner, a perception that faculty are not valued in the business model, and information about the Budget is obfuscated. Remedies must consider the ability of faculty to have sufficient time to prepare, plan, and understand the framework for classroom

discipline as well as leverage their opportunities for creative growth. She is proposing to form two committees, one administrative and one faculty-driven, to develop white papers in parallel which rethink how information should flow in the University, who needs what information when and how should it get there?

Second, in terms of the Research Outcomes, President Stretz feels that there needs to be a better support structure so that the library and IT share a goal and better assist research personnel. There is an uneven access to critical support including data management, recruitment of graduate students, and access to journals and travel funds. We still have work to do on ownership and productivity toward commercialization of Intellectual Property and the framework for investing and the general handling of funds from research. There is a need to reinforce research teams and thus enhance collaborative research efforts by equally recognizing not just the PI's but also the Co-PI's on externally funded grants.

## **7. University Budget Advisory Committee**

Automatic members to this committee include the Senate President, Holly Stretz, and the Senate Past-President, Senator Andrews-Smith. The Senate then elects 2 additional members.

### **a. Nominations**

Senator Andrews-Smith nominates Jeff Roberts and David Larimore (these Senators have been serving and have a knowledge base that would be beneficial). Senator Isbell seconds. Both accept the Nomination.

### **b. Election**

Senator Maxwell moves to close nominations and elect the two nominees. Senator Airhart seconds. Motion passes.

The election was followed by a discussion where Senators expressed concern about the actual role of the Senate members and the basic knowledge of all Senators about the Budget process. Additional concerns include a transition plan for future Budget Advisory Committee members, desire to be more informed (maybe need a training session – could be open to all faculty, not just the Senate), what input do the faculty actually have in the decisions that are made, and when was the last time that the Senate had an influence on a budget decision. The Senators would like more regular communication about the status of the budget and the decisions that are being made and to feel that they, and the faculty in general, have more influence in the process.

## **8. Ratification of Faculty Affairs Committee Appointments**

Each College appoints representatives and there are two rotating seats appointed by the Faculty Senate President. This committee reports directly to the Faculty Senate President. Currently vacancies include a 1-year term and a full 3-year term. The appointments need to be ratified by the Senate.

Faculty Senate President Stretz wishes to appoint Sandi Smith-Andrews to the 3-year term and Jeannette Wolak to the 1-year term. Vote is unanimous to ratify these appointments.

## **9. Reports**

Academic Council: Senator and Academic Council Chair Lori Maxwell reported that the council hasn't met yet this year, the first meeting is Wednesday September 9. She welcomed the new members of the Council and looks forward to the first meeting.

Administrative Council: Senator and Administrative Council Chair Smith-Andrews reported that the council hasn't met yet this year, the first meeting is Wednesday September 2. There will be an

emergency item added to the Agenda. She welcomed the new members of the Council and looks forward to the first meeting.

Board of Trustees Meeting: Senator and Board of Trustees Faculty Representative Pardue shared that the Board last met (virtually) back in June and is receiving updates and monitoring the status of the university. There is no working business at this time.

#### **10. Joint Committee to Review Administrative, Academic Council, and Senate Procedures, and Recommendations for Faculty Affairs Committee Procedures Changes Regarding Full Senate Review**

- a. Douglas Airhart (Academic)
- b. Lori Maxwell (Academic Council Chair)
- c. Brian O'Connor (Academic)
- d. Susan Lanningham (Faculty Affairs Committee)
- e. Sandi Smith-Andrews (Administrative Council Chair)

Senator Andrews-Smith reported that the modifications to the Procedures for the Academic Council and the Administrative Council were ratified at the end of last year. It is now time to update the Procedures for the Senate and the Faculty Affairs Committee to be in accord with the others.

Senate President Stretz is proposing to add two additional members. Senator Duncan and Senator Meadows volunteered. They have been added to the Committee.

#### **11. Resolution on Changes to Policy 205 and Letters of Support**

Senate President Stretz announced that the Provost did some investigation and has found that she was able to make the changes to the Policy without a Resolution from the Senate. The changes have been made which encompass a revised version of the external letter for support for promotion allowing an electronically signed letter.

#### **12. Intellectual Property Policy 732 (Smith)**

Senator Andrews-Smith discussed the work that has been done and the urgency of the need to pass the new Policy in light of the COVID-19 response. The current policy was enacted in 2016 and does not sufficiently protect faculty in regards to materials developed for courses and in particular online materials. As of last year, there was a commitment to pass the new policy at the first opportunity with the agreement that there needs to be more work, mainly cleaning up the language. Once the current version is passed an ad hoc committee will be formed to work with Dr. Taylor on revisions. Senators with interest are asked to volunteer for this committee.

Senators on the Intellectual Property committee expressed concern that they have not been shown this new version or asked for input. However, they do agree that this version is what they have been advocating for and are in support of the plan as presented. It was also noted that this was to be addressed in the Administrative Council meeting this Wednesday and it had not been included in the distribution of materials to the Council members. This will be remedied immediately.

#### **13. Revision of Policy P1 Letters for Promotion**

Senate President Stretz announced that this is the same as item #11.

#### **14. Old Business**

In regards to the meetings with the President: Please send discussion points to Senate President-Elect Wolak. She will create a list of things to be addressed at the meeting.

One question was posed – Why were the Learning Villages eliminated? Who made the decision? What evidence was considered?

#### **15. Such Other Matters**

What is the plan for dealing with the issues with Kaltura? There is a lack of cameras for recording and there were problems with uploading recordings. Students are still having issue with loading and watching the videos on iLearn. If we are going to be successful this semester, these issues need to be resolved. Send Senate President Stretz issues and concerns with technology as they come up and she will make sure they are being addressed.

#### **Adjournment**

Senator Rand moved to adjourn the meeting. Senator Mills seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

#### **Supporting documents:**

Approved: 9/28/2020