

FACULTY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT

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October 5, 2022

Although I was very busy with duties as Chair of the Faculty Senate in September, the month was not particularly 'newsie', so this report will have fewer informational items than will likely be typical. The Presidential Search Committee and the major initiative on student success dominated my schedule in my roles both as Senate Chair and trustee.

Presidential Search Committee

When I became Senate Chair on the first Wednesday of September, I replaced David Schultz on the Presidential Search Committee. Although I can say very little about the search (committee chair Raymond Burse will report to the Senate at the October meeting), I assure all of you that I have been very conscious and active in my role as the voice of and advocate for the entire faculty.

Student Success

I have attended several workshops/meetings relating to the developing initiative to improve retention, graduation rates, and the overall student experience. Those various meetings have been split between ones involving the Board of Trustees and ones involving senior campus leadership. The current iteration of efforts toward student success will be serious and sustained, driven by both the administration and the board, and as faculty, we must come up with actions to achieve this worthy goal that we consider reasonable and effective and metrics to judge whether initiatives are efficacious.

Other meetings this month were used to convey faculty concerns to appropriate administrators and represent faculty interests in several meetings of standing committees. Most discussed items are ones about which the Senate has already been informed by various means, but items related to public safety and shared governance did emerge.

Public Safety

- 1) ULPD Chief Gary Lewis has left UofL; Steven Green is serving as interim Director of Public Safety and Police Chief.
- 2) The surveillance system(s) that were going to be installed at the periphery of campus early in the summer as a pilot program had raised concerns from faculty; those systems were not installed for various reasons.

Shared Governance

The Shared Governance Work Group convened. The administration has determined to run this committee from the provost's rather than the president's office. The Chairs of the Faculty and Staff Senates both requested co-chairs from the three constituency groups (faculty, staff, students), and the request was well-received. The meeting almost entirely was a discussion of what other groups should be represented, and final membership (including numbers of faculty, staff, and students) is still being determined. Once that happens, we can begin the hard work of negotiating the scope of shared governance and appropriate spheres of authority within the Redbook framework.