

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 3 p.m. in the Boardroom of the University Club, Vice Chair David Owen presiding.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: David Owen, Krista Wallace-Boaz, Enid Trucios-Haynes, Roger Bradshaw, David Simpson, Sherri Brown, Roy Fuller, Reg Bruce, John Ferré

ALSO PRESENT: Tracy Eells, Alicia Dunlap, Bob Knaster, Gary Becker

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Robert Barker, Diane Chlebowy, J.P. Mohsen

Call to Order

REPORT: Student Government – Munoz

No report was made.

REPORT: Staff Senate – Brown

No report was made.

REPORT: Faculty Senate Chair – Wallace-Boaz

Chair Wallace-Boaz reported on several topics, including:

- HR has rescinded the 30 day delay in benefits for new hires.
- The Board of Trustees met last week and approved the construction of a new dorm on Belknap.
- Discussions are taking place about restarting the Bookstore Advisory Committee.
- Candidates for Chief Information Officer will be on campus tomorrow.
- A Staff Compensation Work Group is looking at how staff salaries are decided. Though this is for staff, if the Faculty Senate is interested Todd Kneale could be invited to this committee to explain it for us and perhaps take it to the full senate. This may be of interest to faculty who supervise staff.

Committee Chair Owen brought up the meeting with President Bendapudi and this committee. Provost Boehm emailed him and said Dr. Bendapudi thought the provost would have been invited. No one could remember inviting the provost in the past, but felt comfortable doing so in the future.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: – Owen

- The 2.0 Rule for Student-Athletes – This rule applies to only student-athletes and was established by the Faculty Senate in 2014. It requires student-athletes to maintain a 2.0 grade average after taking 60 hours, in order to remain eligible. The NCAA requires a GPA of 1.9 after 60 hours to continue eligibility. Athletics is asking that the UofL policy be rescinded, as it is more stringent than the NCAA and requires an appeal process for students who fall under 2.0. After a brief discussion, the committee decided to keep the rule and invite Athletics to come to a meeting to discuss it.

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GUESTS:

- **Blackboard Integration** – Alicia Dunlap (3:30)
 - Ms. Dunlap, from The Delphi Center, was present today to discuss the issues surrounding Blackboard integration with regards to the University's contract with Follett booksellers. As it stands, Follett has exclusive rights for text books, eBooks and software integration and, therefore, control over what can be integrated into Blackboard. Ms. Dunlap explained that Follett can integrate 3rd party programs, but the parts we want are stripped out. And because the contract language is vague, we can be forced to use their products. Currently, there are over 60 integrations of products from other (than Follett) companies on Blackboard. Any one of these could develop a web site and sell text books, which would put us in violation of our contract with Follett. There are various ways students can order text books, but Follett considers these as violating the contract. Ms. Dunlap commented that it seems that the contract had not been vetted.
 - Question: are we the only school with a contract like this?
 - No, we are not.
 - Is the contract under renegotiation?
 - The contract runs until 2031.
 - Could their fulfillment issues nullify the contract?
 - The contract does not address any performance metrics. But state law allows contract cancellation for any reason.
 - The contract included the SAC renovation and we would have to repay that money if the contract was cancelled. They have many excuses for their poor performance this semester.

Ms. Dunlap was told this same language was in the old contract with Barnes & Noble, but they did not enforce it. The provost has called a meeting next week with Follett, Purchasing, Paul DeMarco, Beth Willey and Bob Knaster.

- Please send any other issues to the Chair and Vice Chair to send forward.
- **Parking Strategic Plan** – Bob Knaster and Gary Becker (4:00)
 - Mr. Knaster and Mr. Becker attended today to update the committee on the University's overall parking strategy. Mr. Knaster gave a brief overview of activities in the past few years and what the needs are today.
 - In 2015, the Board of Overseers conducted a parking study that resulted in finding that parking fees, at that time, were 179% below market and recommended hiring a consultant.
 - Later, in 2017, as a follow-up to the Overseers report, Walker Parking Consultants were hired to review the University's parking situation and to make recommendations for improvement. There were over 70 recommendations.
 - Short term actions were taken in 2018 to address urgent issues: outdated PCI (credit card) equipment, failing equipment and loss of parking space due to construction.
 - The Parking Strategy Task Group was convened in 2018 to consider the past studies and recommendations in setting an updated strategic plan.
 - The current parking issues include:
 - Current service lots are being held for future buildings, leaving fewer options for additional parking spaces.

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- Parking further from campus requires more security in the mornings/evenings. This adds additional costs to the budget.
- Assigned parking spaces are inefficient. There are more than 200 spaces that are empty each day. UofL is one of the only institutions with assigned spaces.
- Zoned lots, with no specifically-assigned space, are being considered. Each car in a zone would always have a space within that zone. It would take a long time to gather the data to make this work.
- Going to a zone system would generate revenue because more people can park in a zone with no assigned spaces. Committee members did not like the idea of using Parking as a revenue generator. Mr. Knaster commented that any revenue generated through Parking is not revenue for the University, but to pay Parking's own bills and the maintenance on parking equipment and structures.
- Currently, after 5pm, anyone can park anywhere. Charging for after-5 parking in a highly desirable lot is under consideration. Some committee members did not like the idea of a charge for after-5 parking because it would impact those who use it most - students and part-time faculty. Mr. Becker said purple permits would have access to these lots after 5pm.
- Asked about access to the University Club's lot, Mr. Becker said it had been considered, but did not want to hurt the existing users.
- Asked about the 620 Garage on HSC and its \$1M loss each year, Mr. Knaster said that garage was ahead of itself. It was built in anticipation of the new Veterans Administration hospital, which was not built. It is now used by faculty, staff, students and patients. The 620 cost \$35M to build. If nothing changes, Mr. Becker said the current total bond debt is \$2.3M a year until 2029. If new buildings are added, and require parking, that figure will go up.
- Some committee members expressed concern about increasing permit prices. Mr. Knaster said that Parking is just trying to get to zero and to be able to pay the bills and take care of asset maintenance.
- Asked about how the changes that were made this year are working, Mr. Knaster said the elimination of the green permit had hurt some employees (part-time faculty and GTAs). Spaces were kept in the Reynolds lot, off Third Street, and that permit (orange) cost \$199, but they bought blue permits. Mr. Becker said they underestimated the number of blue permits and that resulted in a waiting list and angry people. He said that any part-time faculty that purchased a blue permit can trade it in for the orange (\$199) for the Third Street lot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Eells said that a call for nominations for the Faculty Excellence Award are coming soon. The award is given in the spring.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Henry