

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on February 23, 2022 at 3 p.m. online on the TEAMS platform, Vice Chair Eugene Mueller presiding.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Barker, Robert Detmering, Jose Fernandez, Roy Fuller, Karen Hadley, Candace Harrington, Patrick Harris, Eugene Mueller, Chin Ng, David Schultz, Enid Trucios-Haynes, Sherri Wallace

ALSO ATTENDING

Virginia Brown, Michael Cunningham, Cherie Dawson, Alexa Meza

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - MUELLER

The January meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

REPORT: STUDENT GOVERNMENT - MEZA

Ms. Meza reported that midterm grades were now online for students to check. The program for loaning course materials is moving along and will be ready for the fall semester. Free exam materials (blue books and scantron sheets) are available for students in the SGA office.

REPORT: STAFF SENATE - BROWN

The Staff Senate met on February 8th, and Dr. Gonzalez updated the senate on the Foundation, the search for the Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Brian Buford reported on the recent activities in the Employee Success Center. Ms. Mary Nixon and Dr. Raymond Burse, the chair and vice chair of the Board of Trustees, held an informal listening session regarding the presidential search.

REPORT: AAUP – CUNNINGHAM

There was no report.

REPORT: FACULTY SENATE CHAIR – SCHULTZ

Chair Schultz reported on the following topics.

Master Plan – An RFP has been issued for the proposed master plan for the three campuses. The committee to review submitted plans met last week to begin narrowing down the applications.

Presidential Search – An ad hoc committee of the Board of Trustees is being formed to review the search committee RFP submissions.

Athletic Director Search – Chair Schultz is co-chairing the search committee with Ms. Dani Kelly, the women's volleyball head coach. The committee will broadly solicit input from constituencies that include faculty, staff, community, athletics, and athletic coaches.

The Demographic 25 Committee – This committee met and established some concrete timelines for starting its work. Dr. Schultz is chairing the subcommittee Faculty Efforts to increase Recruitment and Retention.

The Executive Budget Steering Committee – This committee has met and discussed two main topics.

- The Cardinal Commitment Program – This program will help fill tuition gaps for Pell-eligible students. The intent for the plan is to increase the number of Pell-eligible students who complete their degree at UofL.

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- **UofL Health Employee Tuition Remission** – Discussion has just started on this topic.

Covid Coordinating Committee –The major issue discussed with the combined Senates COVID Advisory Committee was the pausing or stopping of mandatory testing for asymptomatic unvaccinated individuals. The feedback from that meeting was reported to administration. Chair Schultz does not anticipate anything changing in the current policy until after spring break.

Parking – Notifications were sent out regarding the 6% increase in parking rates. Rates had not been increased for the past two years.

Question: Who is on the ad hoc committee to choose a search firm for the presidential search?

Reply: It is being formed by the Board of Trustees and cannot be discussed yet.

Question: Is anyone discussing the discrepancy with a 1% raise and a 6% increase in parking fees?

Reply: These two issues do not relate to each other. The monthly increase for a blue permit is about \$1.50 and red is about \$3.75.

Question: Should we expect our health insurance premiums to go up, as well?

Reply: The Benefits Design Work Group has not met to discuss this and make a recommendation. It would make a recommendation to the Human Resources Advisory Committee before anything is decided. For the past two years, the university has absorbed the increases, so it may be something that will be considered.

Question: Will the full Board of Trustees function as the search committee?

Reply: The Board's chair, Mary Nixon is working on that. The board has been given the Association of Governing Board's (AGB) best practices document to read. The AGB recommends a separate search committee to report to the Board of Trustees. Then, the trustees decide and vote.

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS – MUELLER

- **PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH UPDATE**
 - As discussed above in the chair's report.
- **UofL COVID POLICY IN LIGHT OF THE OMICRON VARIANT**
 - As discussed above in the chair's report.
- **RETURN TO IN-PERSON SENATE AND XC MEETINGS**

Committee Chair Mueller opened the discussion by saying he believes that participation and engagement could be improved with a different meeting format. When meeting online, it is difficult for the speaker to balance monitoring the chat function to address any comments or questions and to keep the meeting moving forward. Though the meetings have always been recorded, some committee members expressed the concern that because sensitive information is often discussed, the recording could inhibit an open discussion. Other committee members work remotely and would have to rearrange their schedules to attend in-person meetings on either campus. To facilitate open discussion and improve participation, other meeting forums are being investigated. One idea is to have one room on HSC and one on Belknap connected by video conferencing technology. Senate Chair Schultz said he is willing to hold meetings in the hybrid format if the technology is improved. As it is now, the technology is less than ideal. He addressed the recording issue saying it is an open records issue. No matter where the recording is stored, it can be subject to an open records request and potentially become public.

**FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

REPORTS: STANDING COMMITTEES

- **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (APC) – HARRINGTON**
 - The committee approved the proposal for an MA in Applied Philosophy and will bring it to the Senate meeting in March.
 - The committee just received a proposal for a graduate certificate in Six Sigma Black Belt from the Speed School.
- **COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES & CREDENTIALS (CCC) – MUELLER**
 - The committee is preparing the ballot for the elections in May.
- **PART-TIME FACULTY COMMITTEE (PTF) – FULLER**
 - This committee did not meet and had no report.
- **PLANNING & BUDGET COMMITTEE (P&B) – MUELLER**
 - This committee is waiting on budget revisions for the MA in Applied Philosophy.
- **REDBOOK COMMITTEE (RB) – DETMERING**
 - This committee recently completed its initial review of the School of Medicine personnel Document and Bylaws.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at p.m. 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry
Senate Coordinator