

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on September 28, 2022 at 3 p.m.in Ekstrom W210 and online on the TEAMS platform, Vice Chair Robert Detmering presiding.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Detmering, Jose Fernandez, Roy Fuller, Kathy Gosser, Karen Hadley, Candace Harrington, Patrick Harris, Dale McIntosh, Chin Ng, David Schultz, Enid Trucios-Haynes, Sherri Wallace

ALSO ATTENDING

Kristen Brown, Bob Cohn, Michael Cunningham, Cherie Dawson, Alicia Dunlap, Aimee Greene, Mike Materna

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Eugene Mueller

CALL TO ORDER

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - DETMERING

The August 17th minutes were approved as distributed.

REPORT: STUDENT GOVERNMENT – SEBASTIAN

There was no report.

REPORT: STAFF SENATE- MATERNA

The Staff Senate met online on September 13th. Ms. Kari Aikins reminded senators that open enrollment runs from October 2^{ns} through October 14th.

REPORT: AAUP – CUNNINGHAM

There was no report.

REPORT: FACULTY SENATE CHAIR - MUELLER

There was no report. A brief discussion regarding last week's power outage took place.

DISCUSSION ITEMS -DETMERING

Faculty Affairs Update – Dawson-Edwards

Dr. Dawson-Edwards updated the committee on the following.

- **Dean Searches** – The dean searches for the Kent School and A&S are underway. The search for Business, Nursing and Public Health will begin in the spring.
- **Faculty Affairs Office** – The office is very busy with five dean searches in one year and the transition to Workday. Two new employees have been hired. One new employee will work solely with part-time faculty and the other will work on retention with BIPOC faculty to retain the ATHENA STRIDE work.
- **REDBOOK Chapter 4** – Dr. Dawson-Edwards will consult with General Counsel and then send it to the REDBOOK Committee. General Counsel is looking at the REDBOOK changes from a legal and university policy perspective, so university business does not change without people knowing the impact of the changes.
- **Compensation Study** – Faculty data is currently being gathered.

Last Week's Discussion Follow Up - Detmering

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Committee Chair Detmering asked committee members if there were any questions or concerns to follow up on last week's meeting.

- **Bookstore** - Some committee members were surprised that removing the physical stock of textbooks had been planned for a long time and that the administration was also unaware of it.
- **Budget/Enrollment** - Other concerns were raised about the budget model and how smaller units, that cannot increase credit hours/enrollment, will get less funding which will impact enrollment and the return of tuition dollars to those units. There was also concern about duplication of Cardinal Core courses.
- **ADA/DRC** – Concerns were raised about the small budget for the Disability Resource Center when student success is the focus. It was suggested to invite the DRC back, as well as the International Center and the Counseling Center to discuss their issues.

Senate Jurisdiction/REDBOOK – Detmering

Two documents were distributed prior to this discussion – General Counsel's opinion of the Senate's jurisdiction and The REDBOOK Committee's letter concerning Faculty Senate approval of the Pass/Fail policy changes. A brief discussion took place on the subject of Pass/Fail Policy. The committee would like to invite Dr. Gail DePuy to a meeting for further discussion. The possibility was mentioned of taking the issue to the Shared Governance Work Group.

REPORT: ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAMS/PLATFORMS- BROWN/DUNLAP/GREENE

Reporting for the Delphi Center, Ms. Brown reported that there are sixty programs completely online.

Question: Can you help us understand the new limits on Blackboard?

Reply: From 2014 until Covid there were five terabytes of storage that retained two years of online courses and two years were archived, and we didn't get close to using the full five. Post-Covid there was an increase to fifteen terabytes (at \$5K /terabyte) and that was not enough to store two years of courses and archives. Currently, one year of active courses and three years of archives are available. The course and file sizes are restricted because that drives the amount of storage and storage is expensive.

Question: Is there a strategic percentage of online versus face-to-face that UofL is aiming for?

Reply: Currently, there is no strategic plan for increasing online enrollment. On campus enrollment is declining and online enrollment is increasing. There are 22K Kentucky students, mostly adults, taking online courses outside of the state. These are programs the other institutions are offering that we, apparently do not.

Question: Do we have data on what those programs are?

Reply: These institutions have much larger course catalogs than we do. They are private, not-for-profit institutions. Some are fully online and are located in high-rise buildings, with no campus. Most have huge advertising budgets.

Question: What is the leadership's vision for online learning?

Reply: Currently, there isn't one. Gale Rhodes had one. We've done so many business plans, business cases and strategic plans for every single president that has served since 2011 and nothing has been adopted. Having the Demographic 25 Committee focus on online learning is a good thing.

After a lengthy discussion on technical issues and solutions, Committee Chair Detmering thanked the guests and said this information would be good for the full Faculty Senate to hear.

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Programs – Harrington
 - This committee had no report.
- Committee on Committees & Credentials – Gosser
 - This committee will run the special election at next week’s Faculty Senate meeting.
- Part-Time Faculty -Fuller
 - This committee had no report.
- REDBOOK & Bylaws – McIntosh
 - This committee had no report.
- Planning & Budget – Harris
 - This committee had no report.

OLD BUSINESS

- Committee Chair Detmering clarified the process in reviewing the Pass/Fail Policy. The administration did not want to go through the process of getting a full Faculty Senate vote. But they did pause the policy, so the Senate was consulted. Senator Schultz reminded the committee that the policy change was brought to this committee by Beth Willey, as an informational item that required no vote. At that time, the committee pushed for a discussion of the policy. This is a good example of shared governance because the Senate leadership was able to get the policy paused. It remains, though, that without the addition of Senate approval to the policy or process, this could happen again with a different outcome. Committee Chair Detmering agreed and added that this may be work for the Shared Governance Work Group to develop a protocol and process that is documented. It was mentioned that this committee should let the administration know exactly what its expectations are on these matters.
- The topic of the proposed surveillance cameras on the periphery of campus was revisited. Since Chief Gary Lewis has left UofL, that initiative is no longer moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS

- A concern was raised with the decrease of the president and provost in attending Faculty Senate and Executive Committee meetings. Senator Schultz said it was his understanding that the provost (provost designee) is to attend these meetings.
- Another concern was raised about the numerous communication snafus. The question was raised if the Faculty Senate wants/could help in some way.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry
Senate Coordinator