

**UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE**  
**FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 27, 2024**

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on March 27, 2024 at 3 p.m. in MITC 201 and on the Teams platform, Vice Chair Sherri Wallace presiding.

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jose Fernandez, Roy Fuller, Lynette Galloway, Kathleen Gosser, Karen Hadley, Meg Hancock, Patrick Harris, Eugene Mueller, Becky Patterson, Enid Trucios-Haynes, Sherri Wallace, Andrew Winters

**ALSO ATTENDING**

Michael Cunningham, Cherie Dawson-Edwards, Cindi Logsdon, Regina Roebuck, Edna Ross, Kelvin Thompson

**VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Amy Acklin

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ACTION ITEM: Approval of the [February 21 and 28<sup>th</sup> Minutes – Wallace](#)**

The minutes of the February meetings were approved.

**REPORT: Student Government – Depp**

There was no report.

**REPORT: Staff Senate – Patterson**

The Staff Senate met on March 12<sup>th</sup> and received reports on the UofL Foundation from Keith Sherman, free speech from Dean of Students Dr. Mardis, and Mr. Dakota Walker from the Center for Military-Connected Students.

**REPORT: AAUP – Cunningham**

The AAUP remains interested in the compensation study and continues to oppose the various bills against Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and tenure that are currently in the state legislature.

**REPORT: Faculty Senate Chair – Mueller**

Chair Mueller continues to attempt to schedule budget meetings with the Chief Financial Officer's office. He also continues to remind the administration of the faculty's wish for a merit component to salary increases. A brief discussion took place on the status of the current state legislative bills. The Department of Education's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) fiasco still has not been fixed and the bulk of aid-eligible UofL students are waiting on notification.

**DISCUSSION & GUEST REPORTS - Wallace**

- **[Research Strategic Plan](#) - Logsdon**
  - Dr. Logsdon reported that beginning last summer, each research unit developed its own strategic plan that was due mid-December 2023. Dr. Logsdon, Dr. Will Metcalf and Dr. Kevyn Merten spent this semester benchmarking the submitted plans into a draft, before the next set of data is submitted. The current draft will be revised to include information from the consultants and will be ready sometime in April and posted on the

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web site to allow for community feedback. Once the feedback is compiled, a final draft should be available in May.

- **Blackboard Ultra - Thompson/Roebuck/Ross**
  - Dr. Kelvin Thompson, Vice Provost for Online Strategy & Teaching Innovation, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education in A&S Regina Roebuck and Dr. Edna Ross were in attendance to discuss the upcoming changes to the user interface of Blackboard Learn. Dr. Thompson explained that Blackboard Learn is the learning management system (LMS). The user interface in Blackboard Learn for faculty and students is called Original Course View or Ultra Course View. The Ultra Course view will look different for faculty and student users. It is more streamlined, mobile-friendly, student-oriented and usability-tested than Original Course View, and is used by nearly 50% of institutions nationwide. A discussion took place on the glitches in the gradebook and student messaging features in Ultra and how this will negatively impact how faculty teach once it is implemented. Dr. Thompson explained that Ultra is a data-driven design to include features most used by faculty and students, and retiring those less used. After many examples of Ultra's limitations, Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Mueller asked if it would be possible for users of features in Original View that are not in Ultra to petition for those to be reinstated for their own use. Dr. Thompson said, that though he does not recommend it, it may be possible, would look into it and report back.

As the discussions took the entire meeting, the standing committee reports were tabled until next month.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Academic Programs - Galloway**
- **Committee on Committees & Credentials – Gosser**
- **Part-time Faculty – Fuller**
- **Planning & Budget - Harris**
- **REDBOOK & Bylaws - Winters**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gretchen Henry  
Senate Coordinator