

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report for September 2021

Eugene Mueller

Faculty Senate Vice Chair, Chair of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (XC) met on September 15 and 22, 2021, and minutes will be duly available once approved at a future meeting. Both meetings were in the University Club Board Room with the option of joining by Teams.

September 15, 2021

The proposed policy change from pass/fail and pass/no credit was discussed at considerable length. The Redbook Committee reported that “[t]he strong consensus of the Redbook Committee is that this policy does fall within the jurisdiction of the Faculty Senate and that it does require approval of the full Senate body.” Requests for clarifications on several points about the policy have been made of Associate Provost Willey, and the XC will finish its deliberations once those clarifications have been received.

Senator Rebecca Jemian, chair of the Committee on Committees and Credentials, led the XC to finish the review of the standing Senate Committee structure and membership.

The XC began its deliberation of whether or not to recommend a Covid vaccination mandate for UofL faculty, staff, and students. A straw poll of voting members conducted electronically after the meeting adjourned indicated a very close split on whether to proceed, which XC Chair Mueller took as an indication of sufficient support to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

September 22, 2021

The XC met in the University Club Board Room with the option of joining by Teams.

Student Government Association (SGA) representative Alexa Meza reported on upcoming academic town halls and the creation of a collection of computer peripherals that students can check out while at the Ekstrom Library.

Senate Chair Schultz led a discussion about putting members of the Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) and the Commission on Diversity and Racial Equality (CODRE) on the Redbook and Planning and Budget Committee to facilitate more communication between the Faculty Senate and the two commissions. The appointments made by the Senate Chair in consultation with the XC will be used this year for the purpose of providing representation by CODRE and COSW on the Redbook and P&B Committees. The *ad hoc* committee authorized to facilitate participation in the Cardinal Antiracism Agenda is proposed to be reformulated as a smaller group that will facilitate interaction with other such groups on campus and scrutinize proposals that pass through the Senate through the lens of diversity and equity.

The XC then debated a proposed resolution authored by a group of several volunteers from the voting members of the XC. The XC voted 7–4 with one abstention (and one absence) to endorse a modified version of the resolution and send it to the full Senate at the October meeting (where this report will also be presented, so the resolution is not appended).

The standing committee reports included a list of work completed by Academic Programs, the reelection of Senator Roy Fuller as chair of the Part Time Faculty Committee, and the consideration of the Redbook Committee of minor revisions of the personnel documents of the College of Education and Human Development.