

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report for February 2022

Eugene Mueller

Faculty Senate Vice Chair, Chair of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (XC) met twice in January 2022, and minutes will be duly available once approved at a future meeting. The meetings were both exclusively on Teams in response to the Omicron variant.

January 19, 2022

SGA representative Meza reported that KN95 masks are available to students in the SGA office and that SGA leadership was preparing for meetings with legislators to influence pending measures.

UofL policy governing the flexibility of instructors temporarily to move classes online in light of the Omicron variant wave sparked a spirited discussion. Concerns were raised on several fronts, and a full description will appear in the minutes. Instead of formal action, the XC requested that Senate Chair Schultz and Vice Chair Mueller raise the concerns in upcoming meetings with Interim President Gonzalez and Acting Provost Bradley.

Senate Chair Schultz reported that the Board of Trustees would be meeting the next day with an agenda including the impending presidential search. He and Board Chair Mary Nixon have an ongoing dialog about faculty input during the development of the search process and faculty representation on the eventual search committee and the manner in which input will be taken from the Redbook-specified faculty advisory committee.

Discussion of the attributes of a new president was concluded, and a document (appended to this report) was provided to Senate Chair Schultz in time for presentation to the Board of Trustees.

January 26, 2022

SGA representative Meza reported progress the development of a program textbook checkout and the loan of other course materials. SGA is also sponsoring another 'head shot' event so that students can acquire a portrait suitable for CV/resumes. AAUP liaison Cunningham reported that his organization is examining the recent communication about instructor flexibility during the start of the semester and expressed concern about 'anti-Critical Race Theory' bills before the Kentucky legislature. Staff Senate representative Brown noted that the Staff Senate did not meet in January.

Regarding the concerns expressed in the last XC meeting about faculty flexibility in choosing the mode of instruction for the first few weeks of the semester, Senate Chair Schultz and Vice Chair Mueller reported that they had raised the issues with Interim President Gonzalez and Acting Provost Bradley. The previous day's communication from the Acting Provost on the topic was noted.

Senate Chair Schultz updated the XC on the actions of the Board of Trustees regarding the impending presidential search.

In response to an issue raised by a faculty senator not on the XC, Senate Vice Chair Mueller raised the question of increasing the stringency of the UofL science admission requirement beyond the current two years of high school science classes. The prevailing opinion expressed during discussion was that there should be no change in the direction of greater stringency but instead maintain UofL at the state-mandated level of two years of high school science.

During the standing committee reports, Senate Chair Schultz reported that it is likely that the Redbook Committee will receive for review any alterations that the University Counsel’s office makes to the proposed changes to the Redbook submitted some time ago. A lively discussion ensued regarding Redbook provisions and what matters the Faculty Senate must affirm *versus* being limited to an official advisory role. That discussion will be resumed as an agenda item at a later meeting of the XC.

**Attributes, Experiences, and Skills Sets of an A+ University President
approved by Faculty Senate Executive Committee, January 19, 2022**

Category	Attribute, experience, skill set or other feature
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has terminal degree • Commitment to academic excellence • Experience with the tenure process and in the classroom • Experience with economics and demonstrated knowledge of sources of income , revenue, and managing fiscal affairs • Ability to work with community leaders and stakeholders including elected officials. other political leaders, and community leaders and organizations. • Understanding of and dedication to the principles and strategic vision and goals of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The mission, vision and mandate derived from the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 of UofL as a premier, nationally recognized, metropolitan research university ▪ The UofL Strategic Plan ▪ The Cardinal Anti-Racism Agenda
Leadership experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated leadership skills and success with large groups, including experience from a large, public University and/or business • Depth of understanding of differing interests in an Academic and Financial environment • Understanding of key operational and infrastructural issues, including the separate functions of the Health Sciences and Belknap campuses • Understanding of the special challenges and opportunities of a research university
Interpersonal relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion • Commitment to be open to all constituents, including those outside of the University • Commitment to service, community engagement, and meeting the needs of the Metropolitan Area • Commitment to attracting, retaining and fostering the development of high quality faculty, staff, and administrators • Track record as problem solver in interpersonal interactions • Demonstrated interest in interacting with students
Qualities, attributes, management style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to fundamental fairness and due process in implementations of university standards • Commitment to high ethical standards and a culture of excellence • Ability to lead by example; personal and professional integrity • Visionary with a focus on strategic plans • High level of emotional intelligence

Communication, team building, shared governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commitment to shared governance, transparency, and academic freedom• Maintains strong ties with external leaders, leaders in the private sector, state and friends of the University
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