

Executive Committee (XC) Report to the University of Louisville Faculty Senate

November 1, 2023

Meetings Summary

The faculty senate executive committee met twice in October (Wednesday, 10.18 and 10.25) during our regularly schedule meetings from 3:00-5:00 PM. The meeting minutes from September 20 and 27, 2023 were unanimously approved at the 10.25 meeting. At the two meetings, the executive committee reports and standing committee reports were presented as information. Two motions were brought to the XC. Currently, there are no committee action items.

Discussion Items & Guest Reports:

- On 10.18, Dr. Kevyn Merten, Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation—on behalf of Dr. Kevin Gardner, Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation—presented two new policies: “Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research,” and the “Resolution of Authorship and Publication Disputes in Research and Creative Activity,” with a revision to the Responsible Conduct Research (RCR) policy. The goal was to standardize definitions of research, authorships and training for conducting research at UofL. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the RCR policy needed more clarification on the definitions used to describe the broad range of research at UofL. **Motion carried.**
- On 10.18, Dr. Krista Wallace-Boaz, the Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR), provided an update on the read-only access to Blackboard for athletic advisors pilot program. **Key Takeaway:** Aside from the unforeseen technical issues, the pilot program was successful. Expansion is underway.
- On 10.18, Dr. Eugene Mueller, Faculty Senate Chair, presented the possibility of the closure of the Planetarium to the XC. The request was made to invite representatives to discuss the matter further. On 10.25, Freddy Rodriguez, Chief of Staff for the College of Education and Human Development, and Drew Foster, Tech Coordinator for the Gheens Science Hall & Rauch Planetarium, provided detailed information on its operational status and equipment condition. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the issue of closure be presented to the president and provost for consideration of the possibility of finding a donor for naming rights. The view of the XC is the Planetarium is an asset to UofL and the community and should remain open. **Motion carried.**
- On 10.25, Dr. Beth Willey, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, and Warren (Dale) McIntosh, Faculty Senator-Business, provided an update on the Follett Inclusive Access Committee (FIAC). The pilot program was successful. Feedback received favorable reviews from faculty and students. Data revealed savings for students. Charges automatically go on the students’ bursar account. The goal of the program was to make sure that students had course material on the first day of class and eliminate the wait time for purchasing the course material. **Key Takeaway:** The greater the participation by faculty, the better the pricing for course materials. Also, faculty must OPT-IN while students must OPT-OUT the program to avoid the charges to their bursar accounts. Expansion is underway.
- On 10.25, Dr. Eugene Mueller, Faculty Senate Chair, asked for input on the budget principles presented to the Board of Trustees. **Key Takeaway:** The prevailing view of the XC was the quality of academic programs and greater accountability should be added to the list of principles and goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sherri L. Wallace, Vice Chair