

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (XC) Report March 1, 2023

Report submitted by Rob Detmering, FS Vice-Chair/XC Chair.

The XC met twice in February (2/15 and 2/22) and discussed a wide range of topics across both meetings. Key items on 2/15 included:

- Hearing from Xudong Fu (Associate Professor, College of Business), representative of the Sustainability Council, regarding the council's draft resolution calling on the UofL Foundation and TIAA to "divest from fossil fuels, land grabbing, and climate destruction." While there was no consensus among the XC on whether to endorse the resolution in the future, the committee ultimately declined to move it forward in its current form due to various concerns, including but not limited to the strident tone of the resolution and a general lack of information on the potential impact on university retirement plans. The Sustainability Council may revise the resolution and bring it to the senate at a later time.
- Hearing from Bob Cohn (Redbook Committee Chair) on several issues pertaining to individual unit applications of the Redbook, including minimum promotion requirements for tenure-track vs. term faculty. After discussion with the XC, Bob will be following up with Counsel's Office to learn more about how the university is handling these matters.

On 2/22, the XC spent the majority of its time talking with Steve Green (Chief of Police) and Mindy Christian (Emergency Manager) about a variety of public safety issues, many of which had arisen during the full Faculty Senate meeting earlier in February. These issues include the need for greater communication and transparency around public safety initiatives (e.g., community policing strategies involving increased police presence in classroom buildings), as well as the need to improve campus-wide communication about emergency procedures. Senate leaders will continue working with Green and Christian on these topics and provide feedback both from the XC and the senate as a whole.

Over the past month, the XC also discussed and ultimately declined to take a position on [House Bill 136](#), which had received support from SGA. The XC had a lengthy discussion about the potential ramifications of the bill and, more generally, whether the senate should endorse specific legislation. Committee members expressed various viewpoints, but no one felt prepared or informed enough to move forward with an official position on this particular bill.