

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (XC) Report May 3, 2023

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

The XC met twice in April (4/19 and 4/26), addressing and acting on a wide variety of issues. Key items of interest from these meetings include:

- Discussing and endorsing an SGA resolution condemning animal cruelty and calling for a revision to the Student Code of Conduct that would specify animal abuse or cruelty as prohibited conduct. This resolution grew out of recently reported and highly disturbing allegations of animal cruelty against a UofL student.
- Hearing a report from Senator Dale McIntosh on his work with the campus-wide Micro-Credential Assessment Committee (MAC), which is developing a process for approving and assessing various micro-credentials and badges at UofL. The XC hopes to learn more about the long-term sustainability, marketability, and management of these programs and will be meeting with Beth Willey, Vice-Provost for Undergraduate Education, to continue the discussion.
- Moving forward with the development of an ad hoc senate committee charged with examining potential equity concerns with policies and proposed actions before the senate. The committee will be discussed at an upcoming full senate meeting.
- Discussing a decision in the College of Arts & Sciences to phase out allowing full-time hourly UofL staff to teach courses as part-time faculty in the college. The primary rationale for the decision is that the federal requirement to pay these employees overtime wages for teaching creates problematic unpredictability within the budget. After significant deliberation regarding legal interpretations, campus-wide policy implications, and other factors, the XC decided that it was beyond our purview and expertise to address this issue. However, we referred the matter to Provost Gonzalez for further investigation, which is now in progress.
- Developing and endorsing a proposal for a campus-wide committee that will examine best practices and training options for the use of ChatGPT and other AI technologies. There appears to be growing interest across campus to create such a committee, including a recommendation received by the XC from the Athletic Board's Committee on Academic Performance. The XC recommendation will go to the Provost.

The XC also met with Shannon Rickett, Associate Vice President for Government Relations, who provided an update on the recent legislative session in Kentucky.