

University of Louisville

Faculty Senate Meeting

September 1, 2021

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on September 1, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chao Auditorium in Ekstrom Library and online on the TEAMS Platform, Chair David Schultz presiding.

SENATORS REGISTERING ATTENDANCE

A&S: SIMONA BERTACCO, MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM, LINDA FUSELIER, KAREN HADLEY, EUGENE MUELLER, DAVID SCHULTZ, CHRISTOPHER TILLQUIST, SHERRI WALLACE, GERARD WILLIGER **BUSINESS:** ROBERT BARKER, JOSE FERNANDEZ, KATHLEEN GOSSER, DALE McINTOSH **DENTISTRY:** WIL ABSHIER, KATHLEEN FISCHER, JAMES HARRISON, BRIAN MARRILLIA **EDUCATION:** MICHELE FOSTER, EVAN FREDERICK, SUSAN LONGERBEAM, CARLA VIDONI **KENT:** JOCELYN FETALVER, BIBHUTI SAR **LAW:** LUKE MILLIGAN, ENID TRUCIOS-HAYNES, MANNING WARREN **LIBRARIES:** ROBERT DETMERING, TIFNEY GIPSON, TERRI HOLTZE **MEDICINE:** KELLEN CHOI, BARBARA CLARK, GEOFFREY CLARK, KIMMERLY HARRELL, PATRICK HARRIS, BETHANY HODGE, SAEED JORTANI, MARYNAN MALLORY, CHIN NG, KATHERINE POHLGEERS, VINAY PURI, GUILLERMO ROUGIER, BEN SCHOENBACHLER **MUSIC:** REBECCA JEMIAN **NURSING:** KRISTIN BAISCH, CANDACE HARRINGTON **PART-TIME FACULTY:** AARON ELLIS, ROY FULLER, JOSEPH GUTMANN, TINA JOHNSON **PUBLIC HEALTH:** LEE BEWLEY, RYAN COMBS **SPEED:** OLFA NASRAOUI, ROMAN YAMPOLSKIY, JACEL ZURADA

GUESTS ATTENDING

UNIVERSITY PROVOST: DR. LORI GONZALEZ

EVP RESEARCH & INNOVATION: DR. KEVIN GARDNER

STAFF SENATE REPRESENTATIVE: MS. GINGER B. ROWN

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE: MS ALEXA MEZA

PROVOST OFFICE DESIGNEE: DR. TRACY EELLS

UofL TODAY: MS. TALIA HORN

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES: MS. SARAH FRANKEL, MS. LIDIYA GROTE, MS. ALEXANDRA HOWARD

ALSO ATTENDING

DOUGLAS CRADDOCK, HEATHER FOX, ANDREW MANIKAS, IAN NORRIS, ELAINE WISE

SENATORS NOT REGISTERING ATTENDANCE

A&S: ANN HALL **KENT:** JENNIFER MIDDLETON **MEDICINE:** YOUSEF ABU-KWAIK, JENNIFER HAMM, CRAIG SILVERMAN, BRIAN WILLIAMS **MUSIC:** CHAD SLOAN, KRISTA WALLACE-BOAZ **PART-TIME FACULTY:** ROSE MILLS, TIM ROBERTS **SPEED:** ROGER BRADSHAW

CALL TO ORDER

ACTION ITEM: MEETING MINUTES – SCHULTZ

The [minutes of the July meeting](#) were approved as distributed.

REPORT: STUDENT GOVERNMENT – MEZA

Ms. Meza reported on a few topics.

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Student Vaccinations - In an effort to increase student vaccinations, the SGA is considering a collaboration/competition with the student government at UK. This is still in the development stage and Ms. Meza will keep the Senate updated.

Libraries – With a change in the current security, the SGA is working with the Procurement Office to contract with a new outside company. Because of concerns of the treatment of students of color in the past, the SGA requested that any new security company be required to take implicit bias training. Also, Ms. Meza created documents that inform students where they can email any concerns they have within the libraries. These documents will be posted throughout the libraries.

Quarantine and Course work – Some students have expressed concerns that due to being in quarantine, they are finding it difficult to get access to their class sessions and missed course work. Some instructors are very helpful and others are not. There seems to be a lot of ambiguity on how this should be handled. Ms. Meza will work on finding a solution to this issue.

REPORT: STAFF SENATE – BROWN

This report is online and linked above.

REPORT: FACULTY SENATE CHAIR - SCHULTZ

Chair Schultz highlighted several topics in his report.

COVID Coordinating Committee – There is concern, especially in large classes, that if a student tests positive for Covid, that many students will have to quarantine. In order to assist in contact tracing, instructors were asked to create a seating chart. This will help determine which students were in close contact with a positive case and decrease the number of people who will need to quarantine. Senators were asked to take the seating chart request back to their units.

Covid Advisory Committee – This committee of faculty and staff executive committee members met and discussed the [flow chart](#) that was provided to senators. It explains what should happen if somebody is exposed. The assumption on this flow chart is that everyone is masked. Part of the issue for students is the confusion that they don't know what is happening. Everyone having the same information from this flow chart should eliminate some of that confusion. Senators were asked to share the flow chart with their units so consistent actions are taken in the event of an exposure.

- **Question:** That is assuming that those who are vaccinated will be symptomatic when actually those who are vaccinated might be asymptomatic and sick. I did not see any protection for anybody around them. If they have had a direct exposure, it seems like there is a huge hole in our flow chart. Can you explain?
 - **Reply:** One could still be infected but not be sick or not know that they are infected. That is why the masking is there. The masking is meant to protect you from spreading it to other people.
- **Question:** Earlier in the semester, a student told me they were exposed and then tested positive. As of today, I have not been contacted by contact tracing.
 - **Reply:** Faculty will not be contacted if a student tests positive. Only those who have been exposed to that student will be contacted.

Budget Committees – Two budget committees, the Budget Planning and Monitoring Committee and the Budget Work Group have merged to become the Executive Budget Steering Committee. Both Chair Schultz and Vice Chair Mueller sit on this committee.

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Grievance Committee – This committee is in the final stages of development and will meet soon once all members are confirmed.

Follett Access Ad hoc Committee – This committee is assessing the Follett Access program that could potentially reduce the cost of books for students. The committee has been populated and the first meeting is next week.

This report is online and linked above.

REPORT: UNIVERSITY PROVOST- GONZALEZ

Provost Gonzalez reported on several topics.

Enrollment – Currently, enrollment is down 194 students. The budget was built on the assumption enrollment would be over by 200 more students. We are now reviewing how students have registered - out-of-state, professional or graduate. The budget is still somewhat fluid until that information is available.

Covid Vaccinations - Eight graduate students have been hired to get the vaccination rate data. This data will include vaccination rates by college or by program, as well as the overall rates. The most recent number for student vaccinations is about 67%. There are higher numbers on the faculty that will be available tomorrow. Public Health will help with analysis of the data and we will report on the students in each school or college. To try to get the vaccination rate up, there will be 28 pop up vaccination locations around campus. Mr. Matt Stanley, a retired military lieutenant colonel has been hired to be in charge of the entire COVID response on our campus. He will start next week.

- **Question:** A faculty colleague teaching an online course said students taking online courses are asking that if they test positive can they get extensions on due dates and assignments. Can you comment on that?
 - **Reply:** I would like to get more information from you and ask others at the morning meeting tomorrow to make sure I give you the correct information.
- **Question:** Can we ask students for documentation to provide accommodations for course work and assignments?
 - **Reply:** As I understand it, last year we gave students grace and did not ask for medical documentation. There are lots of ways that faculty can let the student keep up with their work.
- **Question:** I teach part-time here and at other schools. Some of them have a vaccine mandate. If the students do not comply, they have to be tested every so often. Have you thought of anything along those lines?
 - **Reply:** Currently, we say they must be tested every two weeks. One of the things that happened last year is we required a lot of things and there were no consequences. If you have a requirement with no consequences, it is sort of a suggestion. Now, there is progressive discipline for students. They will get a note that says you missed your testing. And if you miss it again, this is what will happen. We are doing that every two weeks right now.
- **Question:** Do we have any idea of how many students are resisting that testing regimen?
 - **Reply:** The first time was right around move in so we didn't have good compliance because everybody was moving in. The next one starts Tuesday and we will be able to

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report what the compliance is later. And that's for students and employees that are not vaccinated.

Center for Engaged Learning – The Center for Engaged Learning is opening this fall. Dr. Gail Depuy is the Interim Vice Provost of the center and Dr. Paul DeMarco is the Interim Director of Undergraduate Research. The office has been funded to seek paid internships for students and stipends are available for undergraduate student research. All these activities will be in the Honors House in a few weeks. It will be a one stop shop for the community to come and ask for student help in projects or community engagement. In fall of 2022 the center will move to the first floor of the new residence hall. It is hoped that those engaging with students in undergraduate research will find this office to be very helpful. Help with service learning and other activities will also be available. This was made possible through the Great Place to Learn piece of the Strategic Plan.

INFORMATION ITEM: [OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCES – GROTE](#)

Ms. Lydiya Grote is a Social Science Librarian from University Libraries. She also works on affordable learning and open educational resources that can help with student success. Open education resources includes basically any learning object that can be reused free of cost. A movement started in early 2000. The large scale international open educational resource push was through UNESCO to leverage new internet technologies for access to resources for students in the developing countries. Now it is a worldwide phenomenon. They are used everywhere in K through 12 and higher. The rising cost of textbooks has a negative impact on student performance. Many times, students try to get by in a course without buying the course textbook. Open resources in Kentucky include Eastern Kentucky University's affordable textbook program. Western Kentucky has a similar program and UK has had one since 2016, so they are ahead of the curve. Anyone interested in looking at an open resource may look at [OpenStax](#), out of Rice University. Ms. Grote mentioned that she could attend any departmental meetings to explain to faculty what is available.

- **Comment:** About four or five years ago when we were developing the new competency-based Education Healthcare Leadership Program, which was from the ground up, we were trying to build a value proposition for the students. Your team took requests that we had for specific areas and domains of health administration, health management, leadership and gave us a list of potential sources that we could use and evaluate. There was a little bit of screening and quality assurance that your team conducted, and in many cases we used those as supplemental resources. We continued to use the traditional textbook publishers, but the effort was definitely useful and helped in our course development.

This presentation is online and linked above.

INFORMATION ITEM: [INTRODUCTION TO THINKIR INITIATIVES - FRANKEL/HOWARD](#)

ThinkIR is the institutional repository that University Libraries is launching. Ms. Alexandra Howard, a business librarian and Ms. Sarah Frankel, the library's Open Access and Repository Coordinator reported on this initiative. They included their colleague, Ms. Renesha Chandler, the library's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Coordinator, who could not attend this meeting. IR stands for the University of Louisville's institutional repository. It is essentially a digital open access archive of scholarship created by the UofL community, which includes faculty, staff and students, and is managed by library staff. The repository started in 2015 by importing the existing collection of graduate theses and dissertations and the

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undergraduate and senior honors theses. Both of these projects are now required to be deposited into ThinkIR and the students are able to self-submit their work prior to graduation. And since the pandemic, many undergraduate research projects, including posters have been deposited into the repository. In 2016, recruiting faculty content for the repository began. This includes articles, book chapters, presentations, etc. At this time, the depositing was done for you. Another aspect of this is a creation of scholarly research profile. A library staff person will build the profile. It consists of two pages – an 'About' page lists your positions, education, research interests, any grants that you've been involved with, and a place to put links and connect social media profiles. The other page is for your works, and that will also be populated by library staff. Ms. Frankel reviewed other ways this service can assist faculty. Ms. Howard continued by reporting on UofL's commitment to being a premier anti-racist Metropolitan Research University. The libraries thought one way to help accomplish this would be to create a collection and ThinkIR dedicated to UofL scholars of color. The idea was presented to both the university libraries diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group and our colleague Renesha Chandler. It was also presented to the University's Diversity Council to gather feedback and input about this initiative. The library will officially launch this project this semester and will announce an open call for participation. The project is called 'The Collective: A BIPOC ThinkIR Initiative' and the mission is to uplift BIPOC faculty at UofL by highlighting their research and providing Open Access to BIPOC produced scholarship. A brief discussion took place on the services offered to faculty. This presentation is online and linked above.

REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION - GARDNER

Dr. Gardner updated the Senate on several topics.

- **Awards** – A review of awards for fiscal year 2021 showed new records were achieved over the records set in fiscal year 2020.
- **Personnel** – Dr. Leigh Botner has been hired as the Director of Research Development and Support. Dr. Botner is a Kentucky native and comes to UofL from the University of Delaware. She is developing an orientation program for new research and innovation.
- **Procurement Policy** – Recently, a new procurement policy was approved to make it easier to purchase equipment on a research account. Because of severe financial challenges in the past, restrictions were put in place that were stricter than the state and federal requirements. This made it very difficult to make purchases on research accounts.
- **Other Issues** – Another area of concern is the procurement of research software. The review of research software can take several months to complete. Also, purchasing some software is not authorized because in some contracts the vendor is only liable for losses equal to the price of the software but the university's liability policy begins at \$100K. These are some of the roadblocks to be removed to make it easier to research at UofL. A brief discussion took place on various research software products and how they impact research.
- **New Research Website** - A new website for research and innovation will go live next week. It will look different - streamlined, efficient and easy to navigate. It is an improvement in our website, but the navigation will be very different from what you may be used to seeing.
- **New Organization** - There will be an announcement coming out about a new organization called UofL Ventures. This is a reshuffling in the EVPRI office to shepherd the new startup businesses more effectively.

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REPORT: STANDING COMMITTEES

- [ACADEMIC PROGRAMS](#) - NG
 - This committee met and received its charge earlier today. Senator Karen Hadley was elected as chair.
- COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES & CREDENTIALS – JEMIAN
 - This committee received its charge earlier today and Senator Rebecca Jemian was reelected as chair.
- [EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE](#) - MUELLER
 - This report is online. The committee received its charge earlier today. Senator Eugene Mueller is chair by default as he serves as the Faculty Senate's vice chair.
- PART-TIME FACULTY COMMITTEE (PTF) – FULLER
 - This committee had no report. It will be charged at a later date and elect a chair.
- PLANNING & BUDGET COMMITTEE (P&B) – HARRIS
 - This committee received its charge earlier and Senator Pat Harris was reelected as chair.
- REDBOOK COMMITTEE (RB) – DETMERING
 - This committee received its charge earlier and Senator Robert Detmering was reelected as chair.

OTHER REPORTS

- AAUP REPRESENTATIVE – CUNNINGHAM
- [CODRE REPRESENTATIVE](#) - HARRIS
- [COSW REPRESENTATIVE](#) - NASRAOUI
- [FACULTY ATHLETIC REPRESENTATIVE \(FAR\)](#) - WALLACE-BOAZ

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

- A brief discussion took place regarding the action steps an instructor can take if a student reports to them that the student tested positive for Covid and would not seek treatment. Provost Gonzalez said she would find out the protocol and report back to the Senate.
- Asked about the shared governance committee, Chair Shultz said that he is working with the President's Office and that the committee is ready to convene, once a student representative is named.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry
Faculty Senate Coordinator

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