

UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2024

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on November 6, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chao Auditorium in Ekstrom Library and online on the TEAMS Platform, Chair Eugene Mueller presiding.

SENATORS REGISTERING ATTENDANCE

A&S: Thomas Edison, Bonnie Fonseca-Greber, Karen Hadley, Eugene Mueller, Natalie Polzer, David Roelfs, Christopher Tillquist, Sherri Wallace, Gerard Williger **BUSINESS:** Jose Fernandez, Ben Foster, Kathleen Gosser, Dale McIntosh **DENTISTRY:** James Harrison, Jolene Zirnheld **EDUCATION:** Seth Eckler, Ann Herd **KENT:** Emi Ramirez, Andrew Winters **LAW:** Daniel Canon **LIBRARIES:** Rachel Howard, Courtney Stine **MEDICINE:** Forest Arnold, Robert Bert, Matthew Black, Barbara Clark, Patrick Harris, Lauren Herrmann, Saeed Jortani, Guillermo Rougier, Scott Silva, Hugh Shoff, Brian Williams **MUSIC:** Amy Acklin, Allison Ogden **NURSING:** Rudy Clark, Frances Hardin-Fanning, Amy Higdon **PART-TIME FACULTY:** Aaron Ellis, Roy Fuller, Joseph Gutmann, Tina Johnson, Ramie Martin-Galijatovic, Tim Roberts **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Jelani Kerr, Michael Sekula, Kira Taylor **SPEED:** Adrian Lauf, Olfa Nasraoui, Angela Thompson

GUESTS ATTENDING

UNIVERSITY PROVOST: Dr. Gerry Bradley
SENIOR VICE PROVOST: Dr. Gail DePuy
VICE PROVOST-FACULTY AFFAIRS: Dr. Cherie Dawson
VICE PROVOST-INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS: Mr. Bob Goldstein
UNIVERSITY OMBUDSMAN: Dr. Diane Tobin
DELPHI CENTER: Dr. Il Barrow
DELPHI CENTER: Dr. Caroline Boswell
FACULTY AFFAIRS: Dr. Whitney Sweeney-Martin
ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY: Ms. Krista young
UNIVERSITY CLUB: Mr. Dereck Barr-Pulliam
STAFF SENATE REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Becky Patterson
STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Macy Waddle
ULARP REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Elaine Wise
UofL TODAY: Mr. Chris Wooton

ALSO ATTENDING

Fannie Cox

SENATORS NOT REGISTERING ATTENDANCE

A&S: Rachel Neal **DENTISTRY:** Tiffany McPheeters, Justin Whitney **EDUCATION:** Meg Hancock, Jon Lee **KENT:** Shantel Crosby **LAW:** Lisa Nicholson, Enid Trucios-Haynes **LIBRARIES:** Angel Clemons **MEDICINE:** Joshua Choo, Geoffrey Clark, Jennifer Hamm, Ben Schoenbachler, Victoria Statler, Alexander Williams **MUSIC:** Rebecca Long **SPEED:** Thomas Berfield

SPECIAL ELECTION: Ballot Planning & Budget Committee – Acklin

Chair Mueller informed the Senate of General Counsel Angela Curry's determination that despite a contrary provision in the Faculty Senate Bylaws, the lack of a Redbook requirement for Board of Trustees approval means that amendments to the bylaws become effective upon adoption by the

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Faculty Senate. An electronic ballot for this election is therefore prescribed by recent amendment of the bylaws.

Senator Acklin presented the special ballot and sought floor nominations. None were made and nominations were closed. The online ballot will remain open for 48 hours.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of the [October Minutes – Mueller](#)

The October meeting minutes were approved and are linked above.

REPORT: [University Provost – Bradley](#)

Provost Bradley reported on the following topics. This report is online and linked above.

- **Enrollment and Retention** – The fall 2024 enrollment numbers are at an all-time high as are the first time in college and freshmen class. The retention from year one to year two increased 4% over last year to 81.5%. The six-year graduation rate was predicted to fall below 60% because of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic, but the actual number was 61.1%. The highest rate is 62.2%, in 2022. Sights are set on reaching 70% over the next few years.
- **Faculty Compensation Review Committee** – Dr. Bradley reported that he has put together a committee to address compression issues, lack of including years and service and inconsistencies in merit raise procedures across units. This committee is charged with making recommendations on how to move forward on these issues, including the resumption of merit-based salary increases. The committee charge and membership are in the presentation.
- **Library's Journal Subscriptions** – The rapid rise journal subscription costs is a huge problem across higher education. Libraries Dean Dr. Bob Fox and his staff have been working on trying to unbundle journals from a single publisher to be able to subscribe to particular journals with high utilization. The publishers are not inclined to unbundle their offerings.

INFORMATION ITEM: [Course Modalities Standards | Summary – DePuy](#)

Senior Vice Provost Dr. Gail DePuy explained the increase of teaching modalities from two (in-person and online asynchronous) to four (in-person, online asynchronous, online synchronous, and blended). This expansion gives faculty greater choice in modalities for delivering their courses, and students will be better informed before registering. Additional modalities are not a requirement to change the modality of individual classes. Blended courses will not have an online fee. This information is online and linked above.

REPORT: [Student Government – Waddle](#)

Ms. Waddle reported that the SGA provided funding to the library to extend hours during finals and to the Mail Room for postage for mail-in ballots. Ms. Waddle was appointed as the student representative to the Council on Post-Secondary Education. the SGA provided funding to the Mail Room for postage for mail-in ballots. SGA is putting together care packages for Metro College students and covering the \$15 Testing Center fee during finals.

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REPORT: [Staff Senate - Patterson](#)

Ms. Patterson reported that the Staff Senate met last month and heard reports from President Schatzel, the Ombuds Dr. Diane Tobin, Mr. Nick Peak on governmental matters, and Ms. Danna Williams on cyber security. This report is online and linked above.

REPORT: [Faculty Senate Chair – Mueller](#)

Chair Mueller reported on the following topics.

Library Journal Subscriptions – Dr. Mueller reported that he continues to advocate for one-time funding to preserve current journal subscriptions this fiscal year. He serves on the University Budget Steering Committee and will work on a solution for the Library to maintain journal subscriptions appropriate for an R1 institution.

Rave Alert – The alert that came out on Halloween should have been labeled a ‘timely warning’ and not an ‘alert’, as there was no immediate danger to anyone on campus. He spoke with ULPD Chief Steve Green about the mislabeling of the message.

Faculty Compensation – As a matter of fairness, Dr. Mueller is advocating for a second phase of the Faculty Compensation Study parallel to that in response to the Staff Compensation Study and the resumption of merit-based salary increases.

REPORT: [University Ombudsman – Tobin](#)

Dr. Diane Tobin, the University Ombuds, provided an annual report highlighting trends including communication issues, budgetary concerns, hierarchical issues, and the need for supervisor training. She emphasized the importance of positive recognition in the workplace.

ACTION ITEM: [Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Analytics for Decision Making – Ng](#)

After a description of the certificate program, it was noted that the College of Business has a similar certificate. The proposal was tabled until further investigation into the possible overlap. The proposal is online and linked above.

ACTION ITEM: [Proposed Closure of Dentistry Certificates – Ng](#)

Due to the replace of these certificates with master degree offerings, these closures are only administrative and will have no impact on faculty, students, or staff. The certificate closures were approved and are linked above.

INFORMATION ITEM: [Course Equity Grade Dashboard - Barrow/Boswell/Sweeney-Martin/Young](#)

The team presented the Course Grade Equity Dashboard, which provides easy access to data concerning equity gaps in student outcomes in particular courses. The dashboard is offered as a first step to improve equitable course outcomes towards increase the graduation rate. The team gave a demonstration of the dashboard and various data sets. The presentation is linked above.

INFORMATION ITEM: [University Club - Barr-Pulliam](#)

Dr. Barr-Pulliam, treasurer of the University Club, provided updates on the club's reopening and improvements. He highlighted the benefits of membership, including great food, convenience, and various events.

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REPORTS: Standing Committees

- **Academic Programs – Ng**
This report is online and linked above.
- **Committee on Committees & Credentials – Acklin**
As above with the special election.
- **Executive Committee – Wallace**
This report is online and linked above.
- **Part-time Faculty - Fuller**
This report is online and linked above.
- **Planning & Budget – Harris**
This committee had no report.
- **REDBOOK & Bylaws - Winters**
This report is online and linked above.

OTHER REPORTS

- **AAUP Representative – Cunningham**
Senator Cunningham reported that the AAUP is working on three initiatives.
- **CODRE Representative – Rougier**
Senator Rougier reported that CODRE will host a panel discussion on November 14th at the Yearling Club. Panelists include former mayor Mr. Greg Fischer, Dr. Ricky Jones, Ms. Rosalie Welch, and Reverend Andrew Miller. State Senator Gerald Neal will moderate.
- **COSW Representative - Nasraoui**
This report is online and linked above.
- **Sustainability Council - Tillquist**
At its meeting this morning, a discussion took place on upcoming changes to TARC routes. The report is online and linked above.
- **ULARP Representative - Wise**
This report is online and linked above.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Follett Bookstore – Senator Dale McIntosh shared that he met with a Follett representative and discussed various solutions to issues facing faculty and students – more communication, training, and web site updates. He also provided information on the bookstore scholarships.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 M.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry

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