

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on April 3, 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: Michael Cunningham, Bonnie Fonseca-Greber, Karen Hadley, Eugene Mueller, Natalie Polzer, Christopher Tillquist, Sherri Wallace, Gerard Williger **BUSINESS:** Ben Foster, Kathleen Gosser, Dale McIntosh **DENTISTRY:** James Harrison, Tiffany McPheeters, Jolene Zirnheld **EDUCATION:** Seth Eckler, Meg Hancock, Ann Herd, Carla Vidoni **KENT:** Shantel Crosby, Andrew Winters **LAW:** Daniel Canon, Lisa Nicholson, Enid Trucios-Haynes **LIBRARIES:** Angel Clemons, Tiffney Gipson-Goodwin **MEDICINE:** Forest Arnold, Matthew Black, Barbara Clark, Geoffrey Clark, Lauren Herrmann, Saeed Jortani, Guillermo Rougier, Scott Silva **MUSIC:** Amy Acklin, Allison Ogden **NURSING:** Lynette Galloway, Frances Hardin-Fanning, Amy Higdon **PART-TIME FACULTY:** Aaron Ellis, Roy Fuller, Joseph Gutmann, Tina Johnson, Ramie Martin-Galijatovic, Tim Roberts **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Lee Bewley, Jelani Kerr **SPEED:** Thomas Berfield, Adrian Lauf, Olfa Nasraoui

GUESTS ATTENDING

UNIVERSITY PROVOST: Dr. Gerry Bradley

SENIOR VICE PROVOST: Dr. Gail DePuy

VP-UNDERGRAD EDUCATION: Dr. Beth Willey

VP-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Dr. Douglas Craddock

VP-ONLINE STRATEGY & TEACHING INNOVATION: Dr. Kelvin Thompson

PROVOST CHIEF of STAFF: Ms. Sarah Lopez

STAFF SENATE REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Becky Patterson

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Alexandria Underwood

ULARP REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Elaine Wise

ALSO ATTENDING

Bob Goldstein, Derek Hottel, Alan Smith

SENATORS NOT REGISTERING ATTENDANCE

A&S: Rachel Neal, Xiang Zhang **BUSINESS:** Jose Fernandez **DENTISTRY:** Justin Whitney **KENT:** Martin Hall **LIBRARIES:** Rachel Howard **MEDICINE:** Joshua Choo, Jennifer Hamm, Patrick Harris, Ben Schoenbachler, Hugh Shoff, Victoria Statler, Jonathan Warawa, Alexander Williams, Brian Williams **MUSIC:** Chad Sloan **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Kira Taylor **SPEED:** Roger Bradshaw

ACTION ITEM: [Approval of the March minutes](#) - Mueller

The March meeting minutes are attached above and were approved as distributed.

REPORT: [University Provost](#) - Bradley

Dr. Bradley reported the hiring of Dr. Karlis Kaugars as the Vice Provost for Information Technology Services and Chief Information Officer, Dr. Kathryn (Katie) Cardarelli as the Dean of the School of Public Health and Information Sciences, and Dr. Whitney Nash as the Dean of the School of Nursing. Dr. Bradley also reported on the positive impact on UofL of the Kentucky biennial budget and presented a timeline for the faculty compensation study. The report is linked above.

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UPDATE: [Course Catalog Policy Revisions—Class Attendance - DePuy/Willey](#)

At last month's meeting, the Faculty Senate endorsed proposed changes to the Course Catalog Policies except for Class Attendance. Dr. Gail DePuy presented altered language based on the discussion at last month's meeting (highlighted in green in the attached document). The Senate voted to endorse the changes.

REPORT: Student Government – Depp

There was no report.

REPORT: [Staff Senate – Patterson](#)

Ms. Patterson reported that the Staff Senate met on March 13th and received updates from the UofL Foundation's Keith Sherman, Dakota Walker from the Center for Military-Connected Students, and Dean of Students Michael Mardis and Dr. David Parrot from Student Affairs. The report is online and linked above.

REPORT: Faculty Senate Chair - Mueller

Chair Mueller stated that the new hires announced by the provost will be invited to future Faculty Senate meetings to introduce themselves. At the May meeting, senators will be presented with the report of the AI Committee. Dr. Mueller has followed up with the administration on several topics raised by the Executive Committee, including grade inflation, the benefits portion of the total rewards study, and the resumption of merit-based faculty raises.

INFORMATION ITEM: [Community Engagement Strategic Plan - Craddock](#)

Dr. Douglas Craddock from the Office of Community Engagement reported on the progress of UofL's 2023-2025 Community Engagement Strategic Plan goals. He explained what the goals are and the paths to achieve them. This report is online and linked above.

UPDATE: Blackboard Ultra - Thompson

Dr. Kelvin Thompson reported on the Blackboard updates from Original Course View to Ultra Course View. This planned update started with a small pilot group last summer and will continue over five semesters. The feedback he received from faculty and students was overwhelmingly positive with some very notable exceptions. As the updates moved out of the pilot stage, heavy Blackboard users encountered issues with some of their most-used features. Often, these are still available in Ultra but need to be implemented differently. [Training on the Ultra version](#) is available.

ACTION ITEM: [B.S. in Communication Sciences and Disorders - Ng](#)

Dr. Chin Ng, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee introduced the proposed B.S. Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. The proposal was approved by both the Academic Programs and Planning & Budget committees of the Faculty Senate. The program proposer, Dr. Alan Smith, explained the program and its purpose. After a clarification on reciprocity between A&S and other units requiring Cardinal Core courses in new programs, the program was unanimously approved. The proposal and supporting documents are linked above.

ACTION ITEM: Second Reading – Revised Library Unit documents [Clean Version](#) | [Redlined Version](#) - Winters

The revised Libraries unit documents were approved without discussion. The documents are linked above.

ACTION ITEM: Faculty Senate Bylaws changes – Elections - [Clean Version](#) | [Redlined Version](#) - Gosser/Winters

No changes had been made to the proposal (linked above) discussed at the April Senate meeting, and no one offered additional points of discussion. The changes were approved by a vote 42 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions, which cleared the threshold (35) of a majority of the total voting membership of the Faculty Senate (69). The bylaws changes took effect immediately upon passage.

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REPORTS: Standing Committees

- [Executive Committee](#) – Wallace
This report is online and linked above. Dr. Wallace explained that she is willing to run for the vice chair position for another year.
- **Academic Programs – Ng**
There was nothing more to report beyond the proposed program listed above.
- [Committee on Committees & Credentials](#) – Gosser
This report is online and linked above. Senator Gosser encouraged senators to read her report as it also contains the current ballot for the May elections.
- [Part-time Faculty](#) - Fuller
This report is online and linked above. Senator Fuller added that Senator Joseph Gutmann has received the Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching for Part-time Faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences.
- [Planning & Budget](#) – Harris
This report is online and linked above.
- [REDBOOK & Bylaws](#) - Winters
This report is online and linked above.

OTHER REPORTS

- **AAUP Representative – Cunningham**
Senator Michael Cunningham reported that AAUP is delighted that the state legislature did not pass particular bills related to DEI and tenure.
- **Commission On Diversity & Racial Equity (CODRE) Representative – Rougier**
The commission met on March 6th and will meet again on April 11th.
- **Commission On the Status of Women (COSW) Representative – Nasraoui**
The commission held its annual open house on March 20th and 21st and is also accepting applications for new commissioners through April 12th. Please visit the [web site](#) to apply.
- [Sustainability Council](#) – Tillquist
A sustainability tour of the Belknap Campus will take place next month on May 1st at 2:00 pm. The Sustainability Council will not be advocating for more electric vehicle charging bays at this time. This report is online and attached above.
- [ULARP Representative](#) – Wise
This report is online and attached above.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Alexandria Underwood presented the [SGA Resolution 13.16](#) regarding the potential closing of the Rauch Planetarium.
- Senator Gerry Williger distributed a [handout](#) and made the following motion in support of the Rauch Planetarium. The motion was seconded and unanimously endorsed by the Senate.
 - 1) Endorse the Executive Committee statement of Oct. 25, 2023: "The Planetarium is an asset to UofL and the community and should remain open."
 - 2) Set up a Supervisory Committee composed of faculty and administration, and including at least one astronomer, to consult with astronomical and planetarium experts inside and outside the University to determine
 - (a) how the University can successfully run the Gheens Science Hall and Rauch Planetarium long-term, or
 - (b) why the University is different from those that do and therefore cannot support a planetarium.
 - 3) Request the delay of any irrevocable decision about the Planetarium or commencement of any repurposing, until this Committee releases its findings to the full Faculty Senate and University administration to make an informed decision.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Astronomy on Tap, an academic discussion will be held this evening at 7 p.m. at Monnik Beer Company, 1036 East Burnett Street. All are welcome.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry
University Senates