

UNIVERSITY of LOUISVILLE

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2024

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on September 4, 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, Rachel Neal, Natalie Polzer, David Roelfs, Christopher Tillquist, Sherri Wallace, Gerard Williger **BUSINESS:** Jose Fernandez, Ben Foster, Kathleen Gosser, Dale McIntosh **DENTISTRY:** James Harrison, Tiffany McPheeters **EDUCATION:** Seth Eckler, Meg Hancock, Ann Herd, Jon Lee **KENT:** Shantel Crosby, Emi Ramirez, Andrew Winters **LAW:** Daniel Canon, Lisa Nicholson, Enid Trucios-Haynes **LIBRARIES:** Angel Clemons, Rachel Howard, Courtney Stine **MEDICINE:** Forest Arnold, Robert Bert, Matthew Black, Barbara Clark, Geoffrey Clark, Jennifer Hamm, Patrick Harris, Lauren Herrmann, Saeed Jortani, Guillermo Rougier, Ben Schoenbachler, Scott Silva, Victoria Statler, Brian Williams **MUSIC:** Amy Acklin, Rebecca Long, 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:** Thomas Berfield, Adrian Lauf, Olfa Thompson, Angela Thompson

GUESTS ATTENDING

UNIVERSITY PROVOST: Dr. Gerry Bradley

SENIOR VICE PROVOST: Dr. Gail DePuy

INTERIM EVPRI: Dr. Jon Klein

AVP-RESEARCH: Dr. Cindi Logsdon

AVP-RESEARCH: Dr. Kevyn Merten

SPEED SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES: Dr. Patricia Soucy

STAFF SENATE REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Becky Patterson

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Macy Waddle

PROVOST OFFICE DESIGNEE: Dr. Cherie Dawson

ULARP REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Elaine Wise

ALSO ATTENDING

Fannie Cox, Greta Noble, Whitney Sweeney-Martin

SENATORS NOT REGISTERING ATTENDANCE

DENTISTRY: Justin Whitney, Jolene Zirnheld **MEDICINE:** Joshua Choo, Hugh Shoff, Alexander Williams

ACTION ITEM: Approval of the [July Minutes - Mueller](#)

The minutes of the July meeting are linked above and were approved.

REPORT: University Provost - Bradley

Provost Bradley reported on the following topics.

Enrollment and Retention – The preliminary enrollment numbers for fall 2024 appear to be record-breaking at 23,781, which surpasses the 1990 record of 23,630. In addition, the fall freshmen total

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is an all-time record. The fall 2023 to fall 2024 retention was 81.5%, an increase of one percent. To put this achievement in perspective, retention was at 76% in 2019, so the efforts on retention, student success, and academic interventions are working. The new goal for the next few years is to reach 85% fall-to-fall retention.

Administrative and Dean Searches – The following searches are underway or about to begin.

- College of Business Dean – Committee members were elected and the final selection of non-unit members will be made.
- School of Dentistry Dean – This search will begin in late October.
- Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration/CFO – This search is underway with Dr. Bradley chairing the search committee.
- Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation – This search is underway with Dr. Jeff Bumpous chairing the committee.
- Vice President for Philanthropy and Advancement – Dr. Douglas Craddock will chair this committee.

REPORT: Student Government - Waddle

Ms. Waddle reported that she is working on textbook affordability with the Open Educational Resources Committee (OER) through University Libraries. She is also working on a networking event for pre-med students in the School of Medicine for October 9th in the Red Barn.

REPORT: Staff Senate – Patterson

The Staff Senate did not meet in August. The next scheduled meeting is on September 10th.

REPORT: Faculty Senate Chair - Mueller

Chair Mueller reported on the following topics.

- **Annual Academic Report** – Chair Mueller asked senators to review the report and to offer any feedback before it is presented for endorsement in its final form at the October meeting. It will eventually be presented to the Board of Trustees. The report is attached.
- **Search Committees** – Provost Bradley has requested faculty representation on several administrative searches listed below.
 - Executive Vice President for Finance & Administration/CFO – Dr. Mueller will serve.
 - Executive Vice President for Research & Innovation – Dr. Jose Fernandez will serve.
 - Vice President for Philanthropy and Advancement – Dr. Mueller will serve.

Provost Bradley is convening a new committee to review and recommend changes to policies and procedures by which merit-based salary increases are determined to ensure consistency across all units. Chair Mueller will submit Dr. Sherri Wallace and Dr. Andrew Winters as candidates from the Belknap Campus and will seek a senator from HSC as the three faculty senators of the committee.

REPORT: Research Strategic Plan - Klein/Logsdon/Merten

Dr. Jon Klein, Interim Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation presented an overview of the draft Research Strategic Plan. There is still time for feedback before the plan is completed. An advisory committee was formed in the summer of 2023 under the leadership of Dr. Kevyn Merten and Dr. Cindi Logsdon. They performed competitive intelligence, a bibliometric analysis,

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and held a wide variety of listening sessions. The units were asked to develop and review their own basic strategic plans. Once Dr. Klein was made the Interim Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation, meetings were once again held with units, the Council of Academic Advisors and reviewed by the provost. Recently, it was presented to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for feedback. Efforts are being made to include comments and constructive feedback into the plan. The plan will be released to the public next week for feedback, and comments can be made for two weeks. The presentation is online and linked above.

UNIT DOCUMENTS: First Reading - College of Business Revised Bylaws - Winters

As this is a first reading, there was no discussion. A discussion and vote will be taken at next month's meeting. [Clean](#) | [Redlined](#) | [Explanation of Changes](#).

ACTION ITEM: Proposed Changes to Faculty Senate Bylaws - Winters

Senator Winters reminded senators that the Senate bylaws regarding electronic voting for elections were revised in the spring. Chair Mueller explained the changes to the Senate's bylaws regarding non-election electronic voting. A discussion took place on the finer points of the changes. As specified in the Faculty Senate bylaws, a vote on the proposal will be held at the October meeting. The changes are online and linked [Clean](#) | [Redlined](#).

ACTION ITEMS: Academic Programs Committee - Ng

- [Proposed Program Closure – B.S. in Health & Human Performance](#)
This closure is due to the rebranding of the B.S. in Health & Human Performance to the B.S. in Exercise Physiology. There will be no impact on students in Health & Human Performance, for they can remain in that program or transition to the new program. There are also no impacts to faculty or staff. This closure was approved by the Academic Programs and Planning & Budget committees. The proposed closure is linked above and was approved.
- [Program Proposal – Ph.D. in Translational Bioengineering](#)
Though there will not be a change to the program itself, it will move from the Graduate School to the Speed School. As it is new to the Speed School, it must be approved as a new program. Dr. Patricia Soucy from the Speed School's Department of Bioengineering gave a brief overview of the program. The proposal is linked above and was approved.

FEEDBACK: Proposed Policy for Use and Display of Signage on Campus – Mueller

Chair Mueller led a lively discussion on the proposed policy which is online and linked above. This policy has taken four years to get to this point and was presented for public comment this summer (2024). Chair Mueller pointed out that the timing was bad as few stakeholders were on campus to offer feedback. The current proposal would ban chalking in all its forms and institute a stringent process for yard sign approval. The SGA opposes the policy as many Student Registered Organizations (SRO) use yard signs to communicate with the student body. Dr. Mueller will summarize the discussion and send it to Provost Bradley.

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REPORTS: Standing Committees

- **Academic Programs – Ng**
This committee is reviewing a proposal for a graduate certificate in Analytics for Decision-Making in Industrial Engineering.
- **Committee on Committees & Credentials – Gosser**
There was no report.
- **[Executive Committee](#) - Wallace**
This report is online and linked above.
- **Part-time Faculty - Fuller**
There was no report.
- **Planning & Budget – Harris**
This committee is reviewing a proposal for a center and is awaiting requested revisions.
- **REDBOOK & Bylaws – Winters**
There was nothing beyond what was reported above in the College of Business unit documents and the revisions to the Faculty Senate bylaws.

OTHER REPORTS

- **AAUP Representative – Cunningham**
The AAUP is interested in the overall results and early implementation strategy of the Faculty Compensation Study. These have been studied, and requests for more information have been sent to various groups.
- **CODRE Representative – Rougier**
A meeting was held last month, and the discussion focused on the Forum of Inclusive Excellence.
- **COSW Representative – Nasraoui**
There was no report.
- **[Sustainability Council](#) - Tillquist**
This report is online and linked above.
- **[ULARP Representative](#) - Wise**
This report is online and linked above.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Senator Dale McIntosh (CoB) reported that the Follett Access Program has been fraught with issues at the start of this semester. Textbooks were not ordered, and digital access codes were not available to faculty or students. He contacted senior leadership at Follett, and they have agreed to work through the campus bookstore to remediate issues. Senator McIntosh asked senators to send him any issues they or their students have encountered with the Follett Access Program so he can share those with management.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Astronomy on Tap – An academic discussion will take place at 7 p.m. tonight at Monnik Beer Company, located at 1036.E. Burnett Street. All are welcome.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Henry
University Senates