

UNIVERSITY OF
LOUISVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

DATE: JANUARY 12, 2022

TIME: 3:00-5:00 PM

SITE: ONLINE TEAMS

[LINK TO FULL VIDEO RECORDING](#)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order and conducted by Vice Chair Eugene Mueller.

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE [DECEMBER MINUTES](#) - MUELLER

The minutes were unanimously approved as distributed. The minutes are online and linked above.

REPORT: INTERIM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT - GONZALEZ

Dr. Gonzalez reported on the following topics.

- **Interim Provost Announced** – An announcement was made today that Dr. Gerard Bradly, Dean of the School of Dentistry will become the Interim Provost. Dr. Gail DePuy will become the Interim Senior Vice Provost. We look forward to having them on board very much. They will serve us all very well as we continue the initiatives that we started in the fall and that we can move on and make progress.
- **Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs** – Dr. Tracy Eells stepped out of the position in December, although he's helping us bridge right now. He is returning to teaching in the School of Medicine. The announcement of that will be coming very soon, certainly within the next week or so.
- **Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion** – The search for the Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion was stalled a bit during the transition. This week, Dr. Gonzalez will meet with the finalist and a decision will be made about that soon.
- **Enrollment** - We continue to enroll students for the spring term with the final add drop on Friday. Undergraduate enrollment as we expected is down from the previous year, but we had some increases in the fall to spring retention so that will help us reduce the fall losses. For example, the enrollment in the fall was down about 442 students at the undergraduate level, and now we're down 225 students, so that's making the bad news just a little bit better. Our fall enrollment is looking good. Applications are up 6%. Admissions are up 14%, at this time and deposits are up 30%. We usually admit more students than actually come, so the increase in deposits is a good sign.
- **Retention** - The one thing that I want to say is our fall to spring retention for our first year students is really brought back to pre-pandemic levels, which is pretty amazing. We are at 91% retention this year over last year's 86%. Getting students back in class and having the right kind of experience I think has made a big difference.
- **COVID** – Dr. Gonzalez mentioned a few things about dealing with the pandemic that's moving into endemic stage. There has been great concerns over COVID, and particularly the Omicron variant. We are back in class, in person and I just wanted to share with you some of the rationale for why we are where we are. We know that our classrooms are some of the safest places for our students and our faculty to be. We still require masks, and we are distributing K-95 masks for every person on campus. We've delivered some of those to the colleges and we've been replenishing them in some of the main places where students are. Since campus health and our contact tracing team has been tracing infections or positivity, we have no record of cluster transmission from any classroom environment.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 2:04

FACULTY SENATE

REPORT: STUDENT GOVERNMENT – MEZA

Ms. Meza reported on the following topics.

- **Final Semester Plans** – SGA leadership met with Interim President Gonzalez to let her team know what SGA's plans are for the next 100 days of the term.
- **SGA Elections** – Work is underway for the election of the next student leaders.
- **Cardinal Core Textbook Collection** – This is a collection of textbooks that will be housed in the library. Ms. Meza has been working with Dean Kiesling and Dean Fox on this project for the past few months.
- **Course Materials for Student Success** – Ms. Meza has been working in partnership with the Student Success Center to create a loan project partnership to give students more access to course materials. These include clickers, calculators and other items at no charge.
- **Masks** – Masks are available now, but some faculty and students have had issues finding them. Many locations are out of them already. The SGA has a large quantity in their SAC office that are available to students .
- **Covid Concerns** – The SGA leadership is very concerned about the current state of course delivery. When it comes to COVID, we are all very scared and we're hearing the concerns of students. There's currently a petition going around encouraging the university to make some changes in terms of course delivery and making sure that our frontline employees are protected and safe. There are about 1500 signatures so far, and it just got out the other day.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 19:00

REPORT: STAFF SENATE – BROWN

Ms. Brown reported on the following topics.

- **President Update** - The Staff Senate met on December 14 and received a similar update from Interim President Gonzalez.
- **Branding Campaign** - Ms. Kim Butterweck updated the Senate on the new university branding campaign.
- **Next Meeting** - The next meeting is February 8, 2022 at 2:30 on TEAMS.

This report is online and linked above.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 22:08

REPORT: FACULTY SENATE CHAIR - MUELLER

As Chair Schultz was out today, Vice Chair Mueller presented his report.

This report is online and linked above.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 25.20

INFORMATIONAL ITEM: UNIVERSITY BUDGET AND FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT - DURBIN/SHERMAN

Mr. Dan Durbin, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration and Mr. Keith Sherman, Executive Director and COO of the UofL Foundation reported on the university budget and the foundation funds available to units. Mr. Durbin began the presentation with information on the university's fiscal year 2022 budget and where current funding is disbursed. Mr. Sherman followed with information on foundation funds in the units. The presentation is online and linked above.

To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 28.30

ACTION ITEM: SPHIS BYLAWS REVISIONS TRACKED/UNTRACKED – FIRST READING - DETMERING

As this was the first reading, there was no discussion. At the second reading in February, questions and discussion will be allowed.

The documents are online and linked above.

FACULTY SENATE

REPORTS: STANDING COMMITTEES

- **ACADMIC PROGRAMS - HARRINGTON**
 - This committee had no report.
- **COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES & CREDENTIALS – JEMIAN**
 - This report is online and linked above.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 55.35**
- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - MUELLER**
 - This report is online and linked above.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 56.56**
- **PART-TIME FACULTY - FULLER**
 - This committee met and discussed an appreciation event for part-time faculty. With Dr. Gonzalez's support, it is hoped that this will become a new tradition.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 58.50**
- **PLANNING & BUDGET – HARRIS**
 - This report is online and linked above.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 1.00.39**
- **REDBOOK & BYLAWS – DETMERING**
 - This report is online and linked above.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 1.01.45**

OTHER REPORTS

- **AAUP REPRESENTATIVE – CUNNINGHAM**
 - The AAUP continues to advocate for faculty autonomy in the choice of course delivery modality over the short term as a function of the current pandemic. Interim President Gonzalez will respond to these concerns with respect to possible implications for accreditation.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 1.03.06**
- **CODRE REPRESENTATIVE - HARRIS**
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 1.04.47**
- **COSW REPRESENTATIVE – NASRAOUI**
 - There was no report.
- **ULARP REPRESENTATIVE - WISE**
 - This report is online and linked above.
 - **To hear more of this report, [please go to the video](#) at minute 1.05.40**

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The Faculty Athletic Representative's (FAR) report will be made every other month. The next report will be made in February .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 P.M.