

Faculty Senate Minutes, November 18, 2021

Attendance

COS	Nicola	Anthony	Present
COLAEHD	Diane	Baas	Present
COE	Donald	Barbe	Present
COS	Sarah	Black	Present
COLAEHD	Chris	Broadhurst	Absent
COLAEHD	Elaine	Brooks	Present
COE	Dimitrios	Charalampidis	Present
COS	Rachel	Clostio	Present
COBA	Christy	Corey	Present
COLAEHD	Chris	Day	Present
COS	Adlai	Depano	Absent
COS	Kraig	Derstler	Absent
COLAEHD	Laszlo	Fulop	Present
COLAEHD	Ryan	Gray	Present
COE	Martin	Guillot	Present
COBA	Kabir	Hassan	Present
Administration	N. Tina	Johnson	Present
COLAEHD	John	Kiefer	Present
COS	Simon	Lailvaux	Absent
Adjunct	David	Lambour	Present
SG President	Amber	Lemelle	Absent
COS	Linxiong	Li	Present
COBA	James	Logan	Present
COS	Leszek	Malkinski	Absent
COLAEHD	James	Marchant	Present
Staff Council	Randall	Menard	Absent
COLAEHD	Andrea	Mosterman	Present
COLAEHD	Steven	Mumford	Present
Alumni Assoc	Dinah	Payne	Present
COBA	Dinah	Payne	Present
Library	Connie	Phelps	Present
Library	Lindsey	Reno	Present
COS	Steve	Rick	Present
COLAEHD	James	Roe	Present
COBA	Gina	Rosa	Absent
COLAEHD	Brian	Seeger	Present
COLAEHD	Robert	Stufflebeam	Present
COLAEHD	Chris	Surprenant	Present
COE	Vincent	Yu	Excused

Guests & Visitors

Brandon Adler
Kristy Askam
Mahyar Amouzegar
Nancy Biggio
Eileen Dooley
Carolyn Golz
Juana Ibanez
Kim Martin Long
James Mokhiber
John Nicklow
Caroline Noyes
Jeanne Pavy
Scott Pentzer
Gloria J Walker
Ray Wang

Meeting called to order at 3:30pm

Motion to accept minutes, seconded

Vote – minutes approved, no objections

Notes from Chris Day

- All employees female and male can apply for family leave. Now in line with federal guidelines. AP BA-31.4 updated to reflect this.
- Faculty Senate meeting dates set for Spring semester
- Committees have been doing great work with big agendas and charges. Thank you.

President Nicklow Updates

- Thanks for finishing trainings. 1564 required to complete – 1555 completed training. None of the 9 non-completers were tenured faculty.
- Met with Commissioner Kim Hunter Read. Advocating for change of appropriations formula. Advocating for a different categorization for UNO's funding. Advocating for urban-serving classification which does not currently exist. The good news is she is not immediately dismissive of this proposal.
- Improving testing services on campus. Updating infrastructure and looking at other services. Make testing services serve students and faculty better.

- Business Dean search update.
- Internal search for Vice-president for Enrollment then national search
- Commencement – 2 ceremonies Dec 10, one grad, one undergrad. No seating restrictions.
- Holiday Party, December 7 UC ballroom
- December 14, naming of Dr. Robert A. Savoir College of Engineering. Five million dollar gift, looking for a sixth. Another naming might be coming soon for another college.
- Woman's Basketball game at 5pm today against Xavier

Question: What is the status of the mask mandate? Covid task force recommends leaving it in place. UL system will keep it at least until graduation. We will leave it in place through the holidays and then reevaluate in January. President's hope is to lift it in January but he is waiting to see what the conditioners are then.

Chris Day – thanks to President Nicklow

Committee Updates

Academic Committee: no major report. Mini-report – working on retention of graduate students

Administrative Committee: Christy Corey – talking about gen ed committee – bringing it under faculty senate. How to populate it and transition smoothly.

Thanks to Dr. Noyes and Dr. Long for their help. Working on other issues.

Budget Committee: James Marchant – waiting on information from Administration. Working on how to get information and when it will be distributed.

Chris Day: a word about faculty coffee hour: We do intend to bring it back.

Restart discussion about Prof. Fulop's proposal to restrict membership of the faculty senate to members of the Senate.

Fulop: it just makes sense. Full respect to everyone else, but we should have our own faculty unit where voting members are only full-time faculty.

Floor open for discussion.

Connie Phelps offers historical perspective: Prior to UL transition, we had a University Senate, that included representatives from students, staff, alum and 7 administrators. This is where we came from. Options could include invitations to other constituencies without membership.

Dinah Payne: we should abide by open meetings law.

Chris Day: would like to forward this to the administrative committee to work on.

Fulop: asks if we should have a vote on this first?

Jim Logan: Senate should bring transparency to the University. Hesitant to make changes. Faculty members can have discussions outside of the meetings. Does not believe excluding people is a good thing.

Dinah Payne: I agree

Fulop: I am not proposing that we should close our doors to anyone. Does the administration and student body always have faculty at their meetings? He finds that the bylaws seem strange that the membership is described with faculty last. Psychologically, it could be good for some faculty members to have a senate without membership of non-full-time faculty.

Sarah Black: The problem of faculty inclusion is not solved by membership changes if everyone is still invited.

Logan: Thinks we need to transact business in public. Administrators also should do the same. More openness is better than less. Understands concerns of junior faculty.

Lindsey Reno: If we don't make this change, we still should have a mechanism for unfettered faculty conversation.

Donald Barbe: Faculty need a safe place to bring up things. We need better joint governance. It seems that joint governance has disintegrated.

Andrea Mosterman: Interdisciplinary Studies has gone to the board without any faculty input.

Mayhar Amouzegar: Not true, went to the chairs and the SEB president and vice-president to consult on the IDS application to the UL.

Mosterman: As a chair, she does not recall seeing any query about this.

Fulop: This is not against anyone, but it is a common sense measure. It is possible that we would not invite people, and they would not come, and this would possibly open discussion more.

Nicklow: He thinks this is an opportunity for full communication opportunity. He feels put off by this discussion. He wants to be available, and thinks unavailability in the past has been part of the problem. If we don't want him to come, he won't come. He is trying to be helpful and responsive.

Fulop: Your presence is appreciated. Sometimes there might be times that we would like a discussion just among faculty. I very much appreciate that the administration has come to the meetings.

Day: I appreciate and welcome that the administration comes and gives announcements and answers questions. This is about membership/makeup of the faculty senate, not who may or may not come or observe the meetings.

Barbe: We can have a University Senate if we want to have a body that represents numerous campus-wide factions.

Logan: We are talking about two different things. We should not lose the communications channel. We should not shut down transparency. Maybe we need a University Senate with more members from varied constituencies.

Fulop: Restricting membership will not cut off dialog.

Chris Surprenant: Clarification of procedural issues. Request for an actual proposal.

Day: Can we vote on a proposal without it being submitted in writing first?

Phelps: I would like to see it in writing.

Day: Can we do a straw vote?

Fulop: Shows current part of the bylaws with suggested revisions and reads through them.

Surprenant: Offers clarifications of Lazslo's proposals re: the bylaws. Suggest we could have a vote.

Phelps: points out that faculty senate changes to the bylaws can only be done with one week notice and by a two thirds super majority vote.

Surprenant: moves to end debate

Fulop: seconds to end debate

Vote on ending discussion: 18 for and 0 against closing discussion. Debate closed.

Vote on changing bylaws:

The Senate bylaws should be changed to state that membership should only be open to faculty members (as defined in the current bylaws).

Roll Call Vote

For (Yes) 13

Against (No) 13

Abstain 1

Resolution is not passed

Surprenant: motion to send the recommendation to the administration committee for consideration.

Brian Seeger: seconds

Motion passes 21 For, 1 Against

Surprenant and Phelps clarify that although they voted against a change in the bylaws by this method, they support the administration committee looking at it.

Other informal discussions about the administrative committee looking at this issue.

No old business

No new business

Meeting adjourned at 4:58