

UNO Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2023

Attendance

Present: Sarah Black, Chris Broadhurst, Dimitrios Charalampidis, Christy Corey, Ryan Gray, N. Tina Johnson, John Kiefer, Simon Lailvaux, David Lambour, James Logan, James Marchant, Ariya Martin, Randall Menard, Dinah Payne, Connie Phelps, Lindsey Reno, Steve Rick, Nicola Anthony, Donald Barbe, Laszlo Fulop, Andrea Mosterman, James Roe, Lisa Verner, Michelle Wade, Phoebe Zito

Absent: Angelo Charles, Greg Price, Ray Rodriguez, Kabir Hassan, Donald Barbe, Vincent Yu, Dan Rule, Robert Stufflebeam, Brian Seeger, Adlai Depano, Simon Lailvaux, Rachel Clostio, Linxiong Li

The minutes from the 4/5/23 meeting were approved.

Updates from President's Office (J. Nicklow)

President Nicklow provided a Legislative update. There will be funding in HB2 for the renovation of an HRT lab. Faculty raises were removed from the Governor's budget, but this is not necessarily a done deal. He gave an overview of Senator Cathey's bill about tenure and other bills that call for the reporting of DEI activities.

There is no news about the appointment of an interim president.

A search committee is being formed for the President position.

Updates from Academic Affairs D. Kruger

The nursing program was approved at the UL System board meeting. UNO's Model UN team was successful. DK introduced Mamie Gasperecz, the new VP of Business Affairs.

Tina Johnson provided an update on the Canvas implementation

She reminded faculty to read the emails that are being sent out about Canvas. Faculty should submit courses that they want migrated by the start of the fall semester by May 10. Training has already started. The Center for Teaching Innovation has a Canvas sandbox available for faculty. Self-paced courses will be available through the summer. Discussion followed.

Updates from Faculty Senate President (C. Broadhurst)

The Presidential search committee members will be announced soon and an open forum will also be scheduled soon. CB will offer small forums to gather input, as the campus representative on the search committee.

Updates from the Academic Committee (S. Black)

The investigation into sabbaticals is on hold while administrative turnover takes place. They have decided that the committee should look into academic dishonesty next year and the lack of reporting.

They will hold off on the investigation into artificial intelligence until faculty have had more experience with it. Discussion followed about sabbaticals and about gathering data about past sabbaticals (how many people get them, etc.).

Updates from the Administrative Committee (C. Corey)

The committee has not met since the last senate meeting and does not have a charge. They are still waiting on approval of policy changes from Human Resources and will follow up.

Updates from the Budget Committee (R. Gray)

James Marchant will be interim chair of the budget committee to make sure that the information that we've received will be carried forward to the next academic year. The committee discussed how to determine salary benchmarks, but did not come up with a solution. They may meet with Deans to discuss how compression and inversion affect their colleges in particular.

International Education Advisory Committee Report (M. Landry)

Most study abroad programs are paused. International exchanges are paused. The committee is developing a three year strategic plan to resume programs and exchanges. They are creating a list of first principles on which to base the strategic plan. There are three issues that need to be resolved: Space, staffing (assurances that staff will be rehired) and, budget (ensuring that Innsbruck stays strong and subsidizes other programs).

The Provost agreed that principles were good, need to act quickly to be able to restore programs. Provost wants to keep international staff/programs together in that building, but that rentals are still being investigated. Staffing is dependent upon enrollment/budget. Will draft a plan for how to relaunch study abroad.

Election of Faculty Senate officers for 23-24

President

Steve Rick was nominated by Connie Phelps and seconded by Dinah Payne.

Andrea Mosterman was nominated by Laszlo Fulop and seconded by Steve Rick, but she did not accept the nomination. Steve Rick was elected President by acclamation.

Vice President

Connie Phelps was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Secretary

Lindsey Reno was nominated and elected by acclamation.

New senators for the 23-24 academic year introduced themselves.