

Volume XVI, Number 1
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
September 22, 2022

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Kate Sheppard at 2:00 pm. Roll was called by Secretary Dave Westenberg. Those whose names are grayed out below were absent.

Lana Alagha, Venkat Allada, Stuart Baur, Matthew Burmeister, Devin Burns, Jeff Cawlfeld, Alex Chernatynskiy, Amitava Choudhury, Steve Corns, Kathryn C. Dolan, William Fahrenholtz, Mahelet Fikru, Darin Finke, Mark Fitch, Mary Gillis, Michael Gosnell, Sarah Hercula, Kelly Homan, Wenqing Hu, Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani for Ali Hurson, Kurt Kosbar, Umit Koylu, K. Krishnamurthy, Alanna Krolikowski, Bih-Ru Lea, Kelly Liu, Ashok Midha, Parthasakha Neogi, Jorge Porcel, Prakash Reddy, Melissa Ringhausen, Paul Runnion, Chaman Sabharwal, William Schonberg, Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani, Jeff Smith, Shoaib Usman, Dan Waddill, Jee Ching Wang, David Westenberg, Daniel Willis, Vincent Yu, Maciej Zawodniok

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 22, 2022 meeting were distributed prior to this meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion passes.

III. President's Report

Dr. Kate Sheppard opened the meeting at 2:00 pm

- Dr. Sheppard presented and reviewed modifications to the structure of the Faculty Senate and General Faculty meetings to enable Faculty Senate to focus on legislation and policy. (See PowerPoint presentation for specifics)
- Informed the Senate that the open-ended responses to the campus climate survey are being presented today and to encourage questions from the Senate for the chancellor and provost
- Informed the Senate that we were looking into a referral about emeritus faculty and access to email
- Asked for a volunteer from Faculty Senate to serve on a committee to establish an annual memorial service.
- Informed the Senate that a COACHE survey will be occurring this coming year.
- Informed the Senate that the FRRC committee is being “rebooted” with a more focuses role to address specific issues.
- Informed the Senate that a Library Dean search will be underway soon.

IV. Campus Reports

A. Staff Council

- Jacquelyn Sansone reported for Megan Fowler
- Informed the Senate that Fall Staff Day will occur on October 28
- Informed the Senate that a Simone Waldon has been selected to run the new Staff Success Center.

B. Student Council

- Wulfe Retzlaff presented student concerns about the differential tuition model, Expansion vs quality of education, and the use of teacher evaluations

C. Council of Graduate Students

- No report

V. Special Topic-Campus Wellness Initiative

- Jessica Cundiff, PI of the ADVANCE Grant, presented on the implementation of evidence-based strategies supported by the ADVANCE Grant program. The strategies are designed to identify and address barriers to women on campus. Strategies will include a speaker series, leadership workshops, mid-career workshops, and training. More details can be found in the meeting slide deck.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Public Occasions

- Dr. Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani presented a motion to accept the proposed academic calendars for the next 3 academic years.
- An amendment was proposed to coincide Fall break with Career Fair – proposed amendment turned down (5 – 30)
- *Motion passes.*

B. Campus Curricula

- Dr. Petra DeWitt presented for the Curriculum Committee (CC). The CC met on September 29 and reviewed 28 course change forms (CC forms), 3 Program Change forms (PC forms), and 5 Experimental Course requests (EC form).
- The CC moves that Faculty Senate approve the 6 CC and 7 PC form actions.
- *Motion passes.*

C. Committee for Effective Teaching

- Dr. Devin Burns presented on behalf of the Committee for Effective Teaching (CET) and presented a motion to enable department chairs (but not other administrators) to review students comments on end of course evaluations.
- Arguments were presented for and against the motion
 - Concern about sharing offensive comments
 - Support for comments providing context
 - Concern about chairs misusing information
 - Support for comparison of instructors in common courses
 - Faculty already have ways to share comments
 - Questions about policy at other campuses
 - Questions about anonymity
- Motion fails 8 - 20

D. Information Technology & Computing

- No report

E. Budgetary Affairs

- Dr. Mark Fitch informed the Senate there were no new referrals
- Continuing referrals:
 - Report on the “big picture balance sheet”
 - Current and next FY budget
- More details can be found in the meeting slide deck.

VII. Unfinished Business

- None

VIII. New Business

- Dave Westenberg presented the open-ended results of the Faculty Senate Climate Survey on behalf of the Personnel Committee. The presentation included recommendation based on evidence based strategies.
- Provost Potts presented information on how the administrations has begun to address many of the concerns raised as well as future strategies with a focus on the 5 main topic areas that were raised - Pay, rewards, benefits and promotions, Work structures, Resources, Employee investment, Leadership and campus direction
- More details can be found in the meeting slide deck.

IX. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M. Respectfully submitted,
- Dave Westenberg, Secretary