

Minutes of the December Session of the Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate held the December session on Thursday, December 3, 2020, via Zoom. Chair Cameron Wickham called the session to order at 3:30 p.m. Mike Hudson served as parliamentarian.

Substitutes: None.

Absences: Damon Bassett, GGP; Ashlea Cardin, OT; Dave Cornelison, PAMS; Melissa Fallone, PSY; Richard Johnson, IT; Robert Joseph, DSS; Cedric Mbang, FGB; Mark Paxton, MJF; Kyler Sherman-Wilkins, SA; Matthew Siebert, CH; and Margaret Weaver, ENG.

Non-Voting Delegates Present: Will Hader, Staff Senate Representative

Guests: Subhasree Basu Roy, Comm on Budget and Priorities; Chris Craig, Office of the Provost; Ryan DeBoef, Office of the President; Ching-Wen Chang, Chair Grad Council; Katrina Chavez, Office of the Registrar; David Hall, University Safety; Kathrine Nordyke, Comm on Citizenship and Service Learning; Cathy Pearman, Faculty Handbook Revision Comm; Clif Smart, President; Alan Tinkler, Comm on Citizenship and Service Learning; and Kelly Wood, Office of the Provost.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November minutes were approved as posted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1-If necessary, a carry-over meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 8, at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom.

2-As we did last month, in order to better facilitate Faculty Senate meetings virtually, we are using special rules to guide this meeting. These rules were sent out in the email with the agenda and Zoom link. In particular, to seek recognition from the chair, use the “raise hand” function on Zoom. If multiple hands are raised, the chair will progress through each member in the order presented on the Zoom screen. When a Senator or Delegate has an interrupting motion, the member may unmute their microphone while another attendee is speaking and address the chair with their motion.

3- In September the Faculty Senate voted on and passed Senate Action 14 on Salary and Equity Adjustments and Senate Action 15 on Dental Benefits. Both were reviewed by the Provost and President. Action 14 was disapproved with the Provost writing that “the current process relating the equity adjustments is appropriate.” Action 15 was disapproved with the President writing that “Benefit enhancements must go through the budgeting process so all constituencies can weigh in. Such proposals must also be costed out.” The Provost wrote that while he disapproved, he “would support any effort to bring it to the executive budget committee.”

REPORT ON COVID-19 POLICIES

Clif Smart, President, reported on the status of online classes and seated classes. David Hall, Director of University Safety, presented the report. President Smart and Mr. Hall answered questions from the Senate.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & PRIORITIES

Subhasree Basu Roy, chair, presented the report.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE LEARNING

Alan Tinkler presented the report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cathy Pearman, Faculty Handbook Revision Committee chair, resumed discussion of the inclusion of Policy 15.2.2.7. The FHRC accepted the recommendation from Faculty Senate.

Original language:

15.2.2.7 Legally Mandated Changes

In the event that regulatory or legislative mandates require immediate changes to this Handbook, the president of the university is hereby authorized to establish and implement provisions or make appropriate modifications to the provisions as set forth here with notification of such provisions sent to the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Such provisions will be immediately effective upon action by the president but will be reported to the Board at the next meeting of the Board by either the president or designee.

Faculty Senate recommended language:

In the event that regulatory or legislative mandates require immediate changes to this Handbook **that precludes meeting of Faculty Senate, then** the president

Senator Simmers made a motion to move the revision to the floor.

The motion passed.

The motion to revise the handbook with the revision as recommended by the Senate passed.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wickham adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Lanya Lamouria

Secretary of the Faculty