

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

February 22, 2022

Present: Basler, Chrobak, Cortes, Dilkes, Elannani, Heath, Hudson, Jurmu, Kim, Krueger, Loewenstein, Manning, Otto, Palmeri, Panske, Stuart, Szydlak, Tirel, Wagoner, Weglarz, Williams, Wren

Excused: Kurtz, Matson, Stojilovic,

Absent:

Guests: Druscilla Scribner, Darryl Sims, Charlie Hill, Brad Spanbauer, Carmen Faymonville

Administration Representative: John Koker
Senate of Academic Staff Representative: Erin McArthur
University Staff Senate Representative: Linda Koon
Oshkosh Student Association Representative: Jacob Fischer
Access Campus Report: Jurmu/Tirel/ Weglarz

Minutes in Brief

At the February 22, 2022 meeting of the Faculty Senate reports of the Senate of Academic Staff, University Staff Senate, and the Access Campus were given, and the minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting were approved. Guests included Darryl Sims with an Athletics Update, AVC Charlie Hill with Academic Planning updates, and Brad Spanbauer spoke to a discussion item on considering endorsement of a new Campus Climate Leadership Statement. Action items included an appointment to the Budget Committee. President Szydlak provided updates from Faculty Representatives, Conference on Shared Governance, and Board of Regents meetings. The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

President Szydlak called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm and welcome our newly seated Senator, Evan Williams. Senator Williams is filling a COLS-Humanities seat while Senator Cole is on sabbatical this semester.

- I. Guest: Darryl Sims – Athletics Updates
Athletics Director Sims shared the successes of UWO sports teams, upcoming events and contests, awards, and new hires in their area. He added that the new Bolt Band is a great addition to sporting events.
- II. Guest: AVC Charlie Hill – Academic Planning. AVC Hill noted that the Academic Planning process includes assessment, program reviews, curricular changes, and program changes. He described a new initiative to fund online versions of programs that already exist in a face-to-face mode. OCE is working on instructional design support, reaching out to students, a viable financial model and plans for a roll-out. It may be a few years before new programs provide a return on investment.

Additional items AVC Hill noted included work on a process for proposing programs on campus and the upcoming HLC (Higher Learning Commission) visit in Spring of 2023. We were re-accredited until 2028, but we have a four-year “checkup” in 2023.

- III. State of the University
 - A. University Updates – Provost Koker asked Senators to assist AVC Hill as he prepares for the HLC visit; he explained upcoming changes to the mask policy; and he encouraged attendance at sporting events as it is great to see our student athletes be successful outside of the classroom as well as in it. Provost Koker asked Senators to share their opinions on when to lift mask requirements in UWO classrooms (before or after spring break or at the end of the term).

- B. Senate of Academic Staff (Smolinski) – AVC Faymonville reported at their meeting that she is working on the IAS titling process; Dr. Nathan Stuart attended to discuss the new policy on Joint University Committees that will replace GOV 6.2; they gathered input from Senators for the incoming System President feedback document; and they made a few committee appointments.
- C. University Staff Senate (Koon) – The USS welcomed a new Senator; they shared a TTC update (38 titling appeals were made and will be reviewed this spring); and they shared their upcoming election dates.
- D. OSA (Fischer) – Provost will meet with OSA tomorrow to discuss fall break options and survey results OSA received from students related to those options; they are discussing a partnership with Counseling to work on suicide prevention; and they will meet with Governor Evers to share items that OSA is working on.
- E. Access Campus/Collegium - FOX (Tirel/Weglarz) - They discussed bylaws revision. They had a good turnout at an Academic Open House they hosted.
- F. Access Campus/Collegium - FDL (Jurmu) - They will be hosting an Academic Open House tomorrow; they are thrilled to be making an offer to a candidate in the Psychology department.

IV. Minutes of February 8, 2022

The February 8, 2022 minutes stand approved as distributed.

V. Action Items

- A. Committee Appointment – Budget Committee – Kathleen Wren

MOTION: Jurmu/Tirel moved to approve the appointment of Kathleen Wren to the Budget Committee. (22 Yes) Passed

FS 2122-19 The Faculty Senate approved the following committee appointment – Kathleen Wren - Budget Committee.

- B. Faculty Senator Seat - APC

MOTION: Loewenstein/Jurmu moved to approve the appointment of Hassan Elannani to APC. (21 Yes) Passed

FS 2122-20 The Faculty Senate approved the following committee appointment – Hassan Elannani - APC.

VI. Discussion Items

- A. Endorsement of the Climate Leadership Statement, Campus Commitment to Sustainability – Brad Spanbauer. Brad shared the history of the commitment to sustainability made by our campus in 2012. We continue to work toward our goals. The Climate Action Committee would like Chancellor Leavitt to sign the Climate Leadership Statement from Second Nature. This would commit our campus to actions that lead to carbon neutrality. The document will come back at the next meeting as an action item to endorse the Climate Action Committee's request that Chancellor sign.
- B. Handbook & GOV 6.2 Updates – Senator Stuart shared progress on a UWO centralized policy website as required by System. This website will provide uniformity and ease of access to policy documents. The new policy on Joint University Committees that will replace GOV 6.2 will allow us to incorporate the Collegium (for each Access campus) into our official committee structure.

- C. UW System President Transition (Additional Feedback) – Senators were reminded that feedback can still be shared with President Szydlak. Faculty and staff representatives from across the System are gathering final input to share with the Board of Regents and incoming System President Jay Rothman.

VII. Committee Reports

- A. IOI Committee – Reminder of revised SOS policies - Senator Jurmu reported that the committee is willing to meet with departments if there is confusion. The committee is creating a video explaining updates to SOS, and they reminded everyone to be aware of the policy changes approved last year.
- B. Bylaws Committee – Senator Stuart reminded everyone that departments need to have new policy updates in their bylaws.

VIII. Information Items

- A. Faculty Workload Policy Update (Policy on Reassigned Time for Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity) – A document has been shared with the Executive Committee and they provided suggestions. We are hoping to have the revised version back for consideration this spring.
- B. Reminder about Access Campus Elections – Elections will be held February 23rd and 24th on the Fond du Lac campus.

IX. Items from Members - None

X. President's Report

- A. Board of Regents – Highlights: The application fee will stay at \$0 as it has increased applications and enrollment. Outgoing Madison Chancellor Blank provided a report highlighting fiscal problems caused by the dearth of state funding for the UW System.
- B. Faculty Representatives – They are nearing completion of the transition document for the new system president.
- C. Shared Governance – Covid and masking updates were shared and discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Dutscheck,
Recorder