

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

February 21, 2023

Present: Alnsour, Belnap, Chrobak, Cole, Dilkes, Feldman, Heath, Hudson, Krueger, Kurtz, Manning, Matson, Otto, Palmeri, Purse-Wiedenhoeft, Robson, Schmitt, Siemers, Stuart, Szydluk, Tipps, Tirel, Vaz, Wagoner, Williams, Wren

Excused: Elannani, Hersey, Jurmu

Absent: Kim

Guests: Carmen Faymonville, Kathryn Zuckweiler

Administration Representative:	John Koker
Senate of Academic Staff Representative:	Andy Miller
University Staff Senate Representative:	Lauren Burgbacher
Oshkosh Student Association Representative:	Vacant
Access Campus Report:	Jurmu/Tirel

Minutes in Brief

At the February 21, 2023, meeting of the Faculty Senate, we heard a report from the Senate of Academic Staff, University Staff Senate, and the Access Campuses. We approved the minutes of our February 7, 2023, meeting. The new AVC for Research & Innovation and Dean of Graduate Studies, Kathryn Zuckweiler, was introduced and welcomed. She shared her background and expressed her enthusiasm to be working at UWO. We approved the Journalism Department bylaws. Discussion was held on the Policy on Applying Graduate Credits Toward Baccalaureate Degree Requirements and the recommendations from the Personnel Policies Committee. Information items included the vacancy of a senator seat on the Assessment Committee. President Szydluk provided University and System updates. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

President Szydluk called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

- I. Welcome – President Szydluk welcomed our newest Senator from the College of Business, Yazan Alnsour. Senate now has a full roster!
- II. Guest: AVC for Research & Innovation and Dean of Graduate Studies, Kathryn Zuckweiler– Dean Zuckweiler shared her background and her plans and encouraged colleagues to stop by her office or reach out to her anytime.
- III. State of the University
 - A. Senate of Academic Staff (Miller) – Highlights included: They had Dean Zuckweiler and Dean Braun as guests. They updated their policies/handbook by rescinding outdated chapters and making changes related to TTC updates.
 - B. University Staff Senate (Burgbacher) – Highlights included: a presentation on a new Standard Operating Procedure by AVC for Human Resources, Shawna Kuether; welcome and introduction of Dean Zuckweiler; discussion of updating their bylaws; and preparation for their annual University Staff Professional Development Day.
 - C. OSA (Vacant) – No Report
 - D. Access Campus/Collegium – FOX (Tirel/Vaz) – No report.
 - E. Access Campus/Collegium – FDL (Jurmu) – No Report
- IV. Minutes of February 7, 2022
The February 7, 2022 minutes stand approved as distributed.
- V. Unfinished Business - None

VI. New Business

A. Bylaws - Journalism

MOTION: Belnap/Williams moved to approve the Journalism Bylaws. (21 Yes), (0 No), (0 Abstentions). Passed Unanimously

FS 2223-15 The Faculty Senate approved the Journalism Bylaws.

VII. Discussion Items

- A. Policy on Applying Graduate Credits Toward Baccalaureate Degree Requirements – Senate discussed details of the proposed policy and its effects. Suggestions were made to clarify language and to reference relevant HLC documents.
- B. Personnel Policies Committee Recommendations – The Senate discussed the recommendations at length: that IAS should not elect the person who recommends their reappointment each year; and that the dean (and not the Chancellor) appoint chairs based on the recommendation of departments. Senators shared feedback they gathered from their constituents. The feedback varied not only by department but among colleges as well. Discussion included talk of IAS morale, the number of IAS vs faculty positions in various departments, the fact that many IAS are long-term staff, concerns for conflicts of interest, addressing issues before problems arise, what counts as “personnel decisions,” support for offering longer contracts to IAS, IAS annual reviews and who administers them, the fact that chair positions are pathways to leadership, concerns with ability to get longer IAS contracts at the access campuses; and valuing IAS for their work. A straw poll was taken on faculty positions on IAS voting rights for department chairs: (1) Leaving the current policy on voting rights in place – 10 votes; (2) Allowing only ranked faculty and IAS with 3-year contracts to vote – 14 votes; (3) Allowing only ranked faculty to vote – 4 votes. Several ideas to change the structure of IAS evaluation and reappointment were also discussed. President Szydluk thanked the Senate for their feedback on the recommendations. The Personnel Policies Committee will draft a policy to bring forward taking into consideration all the ideas discussed.

VIII. Committee Reports – None

IX. Information Items –

- A. Senator Seat- Assessment Committee: VACANCY

X. Items from Members

- A. Senator Purse-Wiedenhoefl reminded Senators of the next show that opens soon through the Theatre department: Peter and the Star Catcher (a prequel to Peter Pan.)

XI. President's Report

- A. Provost Administrative Staff - University website overhaul; the upcoming HLC visit on March 13 and 14th; the registration deadline for upcoming Provost Summit; a discussion of having graduate teaching assistants at UWO; and upcoming budget announcements.
- B. Chancellor's Leadership Council - Counseling services is seeing increased usage due to anxiety; HLC updates; new hires; retention rates; the completion of the Children's Center at the FOX Cities campus; and the recent call for nominations for the distinguished alumni award.
- C. Board of Regents – A presentation was given at the Education Committee that focused on the need to increase international student numbers; two searches for

Chancellor are in the works; UW System is focused on expanding dual enrollments and considering a direct admission model.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Dutscheck, Recorder