FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
March 12, 2024

Present: Beyer, Belnap, Cole, Demezas, Elannani, Feldman, Fuller, Graf, Groves, Gutow, Hudson, Kim, Kreider, Loiacono, Manning, Otto, Panske, Purse-Wiedenhoeft, Schmitt, Siemers, Stuart, Szydlik, Wagoner, Williams
Excused: Kurtz, Tipps
Absent: Matson
Guests: Josh Garrison, Anne Stevens, Renee Anderson, Christine Roth, Andrew Smock

Administration Representative:	Provost Martini
Senate of Academic Staff Representative:	Bobbi-Jean Ludwig
University Staff Senate Representative:	Danielle Juan
Oshkosh Student Association Representative:	Caprice Swanks
FDL/FOX Cities Campus Reports:	Evan Kreider

Minutes in Brief
At the March 12, 2024, meeting of the Faculty Senate, we heard reports from the Senate of Academic Staff, University Staff Senate, and the Access Campuses. The minutes of the February 13 & 27, 2024 Faculty Senate meetings were approved. Action Items included a Form C, the Faculty Referendum on Academic Restructuring, and two policies. No action was taken on the Faculty Referendum on Academic Restructuring; it will be the sole agenda item at a special meeting of the Faculty Senate to be held on March 19th, 2024. The Policies were discussed and will be action items at the next meeting. Discussion items included Committee Information Forms from the IOI and USP Committees and AI Generative AI – Syllabus Language. The Information Items included Faculty Referendum on University Restructuring documents. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

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

I.   Welcome – President Manning welcomed everyone to today's meeting, reminding Senators and guests joining the meeting online to avoid posting substantive comments to the Teams chat, and emphasizing the day's demanding agenda. Guests were reminded that Senators' input will be prioritized but that guests wishing to contribute will be called upon where possible.

II.   Guest: Liz Whalley & Caroline Geary – Advisory Council for Comprehensive Academic Advising Recommendations – *Postponed to the next regularly-scheduled meeting to allow necessary time for their presentation*

III.   State of the University

    A. Senate of Academic Staff (Ludwig) – Highlights: At their last meeting they acted on the academic calendar and proposed policies and discussed their Senate bylaws revisions.
    B. University Staff Senate (Juan) – Highlights: The date for this year's University Staff Professional Development Day has been set for June 3rd. This is the annual professional developed day for university staff from all three campuses. Despite the consideration of postponing the event this year with the budget crises, it is moving forward with the hopes to help with moral and may even be hosting a dunk tank at which someone in leadership will be sitting. Raffle items are being collected for prizes, and anyone that would be interested in volunteering to help for the fun event portion in the afternoon would be welcomed. Please contact Danielle with any questions, volunteers, or donations.
    C. OSG (Swanks) – Highlights: They recently hosted a Senate leadership debate and shared updates on their food pantry.

D. Access Campus/Collegium – FOX (Kreider) – Highlights: At their last meeting it was mostly local business in addition to a discussion related to the upcoming referendum on academic restructuring. AVC Geary attended their meeting to share updates and offered administrative feedback.

Access Campus/Collegium – FDL (Demezas) – Highlights: At their last meeting their main order of business is to have fun as they wind down and remember to support each other. Dr. Jurmu took over as Collegium chair.

IV.   Minutes of February 13, 2024 & February 27, 2024
The February 13, 2024, & February 27, 2024, minutes stand approved as distributed.

V.   Discussion Items
   A. Faculty Senate Committee – Committee Information Forms
      1. Improvement of Instruction – It was noted that this form looks good.
      2. USP – President Manning shared that the updates made to the USP form shows the alignment of USP and APC. The Senate also discussed the way in which items from both USP and APC are brought forward on the Senate agenda.

   B. Generative AI – Syllabus Language
      Discussion included:
      - Drafting guidelines for allowable or prohibited use of Generative AI tools;
      - The sample guidelines shared in the meeting packet and which of the Faculty Senate committees should be tasked with collating and synthesizing existing draft guidelines to create boilerplate language for inclusion in faculty syllabi;
      - Whether the Faculty Senate should call for a university-wide policy on Generative AI or whether instructors should set their own policy on a course-by-course basis. The latter was preferred, but Senators did also discuss whether the university should identify overarching prohibited use and the importance that any policy articulated in faculty syllabi will be supported by the administration in an appeals process;
      - The importance of working with the Dean of Students Office, which houses relevant resources, to avoid reproducing already-completed work;
      - The importance of not violating FERPA;
      - The question of how to involve CETL, which has already done significant work on this matter;
      - Senator Groves noted that he has data garnered from his Psychology 101 course that may be shared on a case-by-case basis.

      President Manning thanked everyone for a great discussion. She will task the Improvement of Instruction Committee to work with CETL, the library, and Dean of Students Office to work collaboratively toward university policies and tools.

VI.   Action Items
    A. APC Form C: COLS: English MA – Remove GRE requirement.
        MOTION: Szydlik/Cole moved to approve the APC Forms C item 1. (24 Yes), (0 Abstentions), (0 No). <u>Passed Unanimously</u>

        FS 2324-20 The Faculty Senate approved the following Form C from APC: COLS: English MA – Remove GRE requirement.

    B. Faculty Referendum on University Restructuring
        MOTION: Szydlik/Cole moved to approve the Faculty Referendum on University Restructuring.
        Discussion included:

- The referendum vote itself will be conducted through Qualtrics ballot;
- The Faculty Senate will host two open forums to provide faculty an opportunity to ask questions of members of the Transition Team and discuss concerns or make suggestions;
- Gratitude was expressed from several Senators for all the work put into this process;
- Concerns over a lack of complete financial information were voiced;
- Concerns were expressed about the appointment process for Deans, Directors, and Area Coordinators, especially given faculty concerns that, with the loss of department chairs and their replacement with Area Coordinators, individual departments will lose discipline-specific faculty representation to the Dean's office;
- Senators discussed the ranked ballot and emphasized the importance of including a "no" vote;
- Senators discussed the need to move forward with one of the models but also the importance that faculty preferences be recorded and inform future decisions, especially if "no" receives a majority of votes;
- Senators discussed concerns that faculty voices will be diluted in the proposed restructure models;
- It was suggested that the academic and administrative restructure could be voted on separately;
- Concerns were expressed about departments or units with smaller faculty numbers (e.g., CON, which has 15 faculty and a large number of IAS, who will not vote in the Referendum);
- Senators discussed the fact that faculty have been involved in this process from the beginning;
- Senators discussed the need to vote on a model so that the very necessary open feedback and discussions across campus can begin.

        As time was running short, it was agreed that a special Senate meeting would be scheduled for March 19 to allow for further discussion.

        The Senate did not act on the motion on the floor.

President Manning thanked everyone for attending and participating in these meaningful and important conversations.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Dutscheck,

Recorder