

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 30, 2021– 1:00-3:00 PM  
Minutes

Attendance :

Present: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (Pres., TFMA), Lisa Ferretti (V. President, SSW), Ashley Stewart (Secy., SSW), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-Pres., Law), Shohreh Amini (CST), Cheri Carter (SSW), Erin Coyle (KMC *Alternate*), Maia Cucchiara (CEHD), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Dale Haines (LKSM), Robin Kolodny (CLA), Barry McCarthy (Law), Sharyn O'Mara (TYL), Vallorie Peridier (Engr), Rick Ridall (STHM), Michael Schirmer (FSB), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Ryan Tierney (CPH), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Quaiser Abdullah (KMC), Shinya B. Watanabe (TUJ)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM. The President welcomed the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

2. Approval of Minutes of November 9th, 2021:

Meeting minutes were not provided for review. November 9th and November 30th meeting minutes would be approved together.

3. Guest: Jonathan Nyquist, Director, General Education & Chair of GEEC

- General education students handled the pandemic well; assessment showed that instructors were stressed. Jonathan provided thoughts on supporting instructors and talked through things that went very well.
- Online instruction is here to stay, and we need to figure out how to do it right. Many things went well, and some areas to improve include gaining control over the delivery of courses, different standards for transfer students, and RCM challenges.
- As a group, we processed how to provide better support for general education faculty and some of the barriers around funding.
- Jonathan challenges everyone to think about the importance of the format of course offerings and best practices pedagogically.
- Jonathan talked about some of the challenges of teaching equity courses online and getting support for teaching online. Jonathan also addresses issues around course enrollment numbers online.
- Jonathan shared that the slides will be shared for the minutes

4. President's Report: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon

Item 1: The Provost Office would like to figure out a way to better incorporate the Assessment of Instruction Committee into the faculty senate rubric.

Item 2: Considering extending exam time by eliminating a study day. It was also suggested by the student governance the need to institute a wellness day.

Item 3: Creating space to honor and bring light to the conversation and possible issuance of a statement around gun violence and considering how to support bereaving families.

Item 4: Provided information around the process for giving recommendations as a unit for individuals to be considered for the provost. We would need to come together rather quickly to do this.

#### 5. Vice President's Report: Lisa Ferretti

##### Candidates for Senate Committees

- Sharyn O'Mara (TYL), Faculty Senate Personnel Committee [self-nominated]: No nays, one abstention. Elected
- Matt Tincani, CEHD, Faculty Senate Personnel Committee: No vote, the position was filled.
- Laura Johnson, SSW, Committee for International Programs: No nays, no abstentions. Elected
- Gabriel Kaprielian, TYL, Committee for International Programs: No nays, no abstentions. Elected
- Kelly Holohan, TYL, Tenure and Promotion A: Humanities & the Arts: No nays, no abstentions. Approved

#### 6. Old Business None noted.

#### 7. New Business

- A conversation requesting the names of any names that FSSC members would like to put forward for Provost. A couple members of FSSC recommended that we recommend that it be a national search and related concerns and requested a draft of a letter to the President.

- The group consensus was to not make any recommendations or put names forward. There was a consensus to recommend a search committee with faculty representation.

#### 8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM.

**Next Meetings:**

Thursday, December 9, 2021, 1:45 pm University Faculty Senate Meeting  
(Guests: Provost Greg Mandel, Bryant Simon (Great Teacher Award recipient))

Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 1:00 pm – FSSC Luncheon Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

*Ashley Stewart Faculty Senate Secretary*