

Special Meeting of the University Faculty Senate
Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 8:00 – 9:30 am
Location – Zoom

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. Present at the meeting were Brent Cochran (TUSM), Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Sonia Hofkosh (A&S), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Carl Kirker-Head (Cummings), Jette Knudsen (Fletcher), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Michael Malamy (TUSM), Nirupa Matthan (HNRCA), Douglas Matson (Engineering), Melissa Mazan (Cummings), Mitch McVey (A&S), Aikaterini Papathanasiou (TUSDM), Mary Shultz (A&S), Maher Tabba (TUSM), Roger Tobin (A&S), Parke Wilde (Friedman), Henry Wortis (TUSM), and Chantal Zakari (SMFA). *Ex officio* members Vice Provost Kevin Dunn and Provost Nadine Aubry were also in attendance, and President Lynne Pepall presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Remco Chang (Engineering), Greg Gottlieb (Friedman), Nicole Holland (Dental), Dominique Penninck (Cummings), Ellen Pinderhughes (A&S), Mai Vu (Engineering),

1. Approval of 4/14 Minutes
 - a. Motion and second; unanimously approved
2. *Executive Committee*: Proposal for voting on motions brought by Standing Committees (see appended document)
 - a. Discussion
 - i. Wordsmithing changes proposed by several members
 - ii. Changes will be incorporated and document will be circulated for a vote via email
 - iii. ***Update: Revised motion passed via electronic vote as of May 7, 2021***
3. *Nominating Committee*: Discussion of upcoming election of Executive Committee, and experience criteria for the office of Senate president
 - a. Idea of having Vice President be President-Elect was not popular
 - b. Consensus is that president should have at least been on EC for at least one year
 - c. Discussion
 - i. President-Elect idea has advantages of continuity, relationship-building with administration, distribution of effort
 - ii. Suggestion to keep status quo for this year – no change will be made at this time
 - d. More self-nominations requested for Executive Committee – only two received so far
 - i. Nominations are due by May 12 meeting
 - ii. Melissa will resend letter – nominations should include the following
 1. Office you would like to run for, as well as any other office in which you would be willing to serve
 2. Short bio
 3. Brief statement of what you feel you would bring to position
 - iii. Consensus is for Nominations Committee to assemble slate as in previous years, taking into account self-nominations and nominations of others
4. *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Committee*: Discussion on University DEI training and education proposal and committee recommendations, (see appended documents)
 - a. DEI committee generally approves document from CDO, but offers some recommended adjustments
 - b. Letter has been sent to CDOs
 - c. The Provost reports that the Senate recommendations have been well-received and feedback is being incorporated into education program
 - d. Associate Directors of DEI Education, Maren Greathouse and Adriana Black, have been working on developing program for launch in the fall
 - e. Schools being asked to create for-credit mandatory courses as part of the initiative
 - f. Training will be required across all of university community
 - g. Suggestion for some word-smithing

- h. Observation that Senate was deferential to committee in this task, a process that worked well; such a process might be an example to emulate going forward, to save time in plenary sessions
- i. Suggestion to make training part of Senate orientation
- j. Vote to support recommendations as presented by the DEIJ Committee
 - i. Motion passed with 2 abstentions

5. *Executive Committee:*

- a. Proposed creation of *Ad Hoc Committee on Guiding Principles* to guide University budgetary decisions
 - i. Would like a member of each standing committee to serve
 - ii. Would be a way to codify how Senate committees provide input to university discussion
 - iii. Handing off to Nominations Committee to form the ad hoc for the next academic year
- b. Jim Hurley & Mike Howard coming to May 12 meeting to talk about FY22 budget
 - i. Committees are asked to submit 3 questions to Executive Committee by May 3 at noon
 - ii. Discussion of some general questions
 - 1. What are the university's priorities?
 - 2. Review of COVID-planning scenarios from last year's forecast vs. how things played out
 - a. Establish precedent of admin keeping Senate informed
 - b. Suggestion for annual visit to present prior year-in-review and forecast of coming year
 - 3. How do measures taken in the last year shape the priorities for the coming year?
 - 4. Request for a report to review prior to meeting, or limit report time during meeting to allow sufficient time for questions and input
 - 5. Follow report with executive session to formulate response
- c. End of year UFS Newsletter
 - i. Goal is to make people aware of Senate
 - ii. Committees will be writing short summaries
 - iii. Chantal and Lynne are working to put out newsletter by commencement
 - iv. Feedback requested

6. Other business

- a. Suggestion to do more Senate community-building – getting together to socialize

7. Adjourn at 9:32