

Minutes of the
48th Faculty Senate Meeting
on
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
prepared by
Alexander W. Taylor
Faculty Senate Secretary

Attendance:

All Senators present with the exception of:

- Kristina Alexander
- Robert Arndt (Rick Toomey attended as alternate)

Called to Order promptly at 1530

Approval of Agendum

- Alterations to Agendum:
 - Lt. Cullin and Dr. Wilmes will be at 1600
 - No Provost Report
 - Passed by majority vote (show of hands)

Approval of Last Minutes

- Approved by majority

Reports:

Provost Report

- No Report (Hooyman not present)

President Report

Covid-19 mitigation changes

- Oversight committee no longer active
- NLT is deciding body (with input from Wilmes/Cullin)
 - Question about relationship between Green teams and oversight committee – Oversight committee oversaw green teams (all are paused/defunct)
 - PJA requested that faculty and staff have input on future decisions

Curriculum Flow (Reading 1)

- Stems from previous remarks concerning awareness of changes in curriculum and its impact on advising
- Two areas where information should be disseminated for review
- Chairs/Directors should be assessing impact and notifying faculty Affected (not always happening)
- Final changes in curriculum are released to Chairs/Directors for dissemination to faculty on an annual basis (Fall P+D) (not getting to faculty)

Academic Calendars for 2022-23 (Reading 2) and 2023-24 (Reading 3) (from Provost's Council meeting, 11/9/21)

- Salient features:
 - Change due to realization that 50 minutes face time is counted as whole hour by accreditation group
 - Changed to also help flow of OPT
 - Monday start to classes (we lose two days)
 - Walkout Day is tentative
 - Full week at Thanksgiving and Spring Break
 - Summer 2024 with (rare) week-long break between two blocks (not typical)
- Questions/Comments
 - Changes in scheduling and definition of an "hour" cause problems for faculty scheduling content
 - Wilcox questions – are the following considered?
 - Lengthening Winter Break so that Faculty get a better recharge
 - Aligning breaks with local schools schedules

Academic Goals (Reading 4) (from Provost's Council meeting, 11/9/21)

- Initiatives and Themes – and nested Objectives
 - Action items removed – we are asked to see if any themes/objectives missing as they start to build new Action Items.
 - Comment: We need more lead time on things like this. Adam will gather items by 12/01/21 and pass forward

Cyber Security (Reading 5) (presented at Provost's Council meeting by Brennan Lehman, 11/9/21)

- Salient features:
 - Higher Ed is target of 80% of cyber attacks
 - Cyber insurance is disappearing
 - NW is using multiple back-up and storage areas for data
 - New/growing areas of NW labyrinth of systems require double password authentication
 - Internal phishing exercises are taking place (comment from Executive committee on identifying external surveys, etc)
 - Issues raised about multi-factor authentication using cellphones – Eloie brought up the Authy app <https://authy.com> as a pc-based second level

Provost's charge to Chairs and Directors regarding Faculty absences, leave, office hours, work week, and class scheduling

- Discussion of faculty absences, leave for university business, rescheduling/cancelling office hours, etc.
- At least one Chair/Director indicated that radical changes are being proposed, including:
 - faculty being required to be on campus for essentially a regular, 8-5, 40 hour work week like staff and employees
 - Ad Astra course scheduling software is now purchased and faculty and departments will lose control of the scheduling of their classes at given times and at the whim of the software's AI
- Provost assured Adam that these radical changes were not on the table, and that she had charged the Chairs and Directors with reviewing their practices so that things could be equalized/standardized across all units

- Adam-asked of Provost: what will be faculty input to HR, the provost, or whomever is driving these Proposals?
- Question about what constitutes attendance. (Live feeds versus cardboard cutouts)

Original Proctoring Center issues

- Potential cheating allegations – Sabio gave a talk on procedures – Everyone and Chairs and Directors Meeting satisfied – but perhaps poor understanding on Canvas security features by some faculty
- Canvas security issues charged to Alice Foose and Teaching/Learning

Survey of Senate Committees – dissemination of agenda, minutes, and documents; quorum issues

- Like clockwork – Adam got an email from Chairs and Directors asking why agenda, minutes, and attendance records had not been published for the last 3-4 years... they want to see records for Promotion and Tenure

Committee Reports

- **Petitions (Miller)**
 - Will meet tomorrow - 17 cases under consideration
- **Appeals (Bandi)**
 - Have not Met
- **Curriculum and Degree Requirements (Meyer)**
 - Met yesterday 11/16/21 (over 100 passed) done for semester
 - Back in business in Jan
 - No representation from Math and Ag
- **Designated Curriculum Matters (Wall)**
 - Met on Interdisciplinary courses to be removed from catalog
 - Some chairs were unsupportive
 - Lack of awareness
 - Will meet with chairs and directors
 - Have decided to not remove any yet until more people have an opportunity to suggest new courses
 - Asking for submissions
- **Assessment (Voss)**
 - Met on 11/08.21 about changes to NPS - will be introduced to NW faculty and moving forward with changes (at P&D)
- **Faculty Welfare (Gallaher)**
 - Update on Evaluation Task Force (Note Faculty eval):
 - Charges:
 - Look at the annual evaluation forms/ documents and procedures to make them more user-friendly and easy to navigate;
 - Look at the content of the forms/ documents/ procedures to see if they capture best what we're needing/wanting to evaluate

- Two areas where faculty are evaluated generally that aren't on the documents are in regards to those who have reassigned time and in regards to faculty professionalism;
 - Create a "guidance document" to help unit leaders and faculty think about how what they do and how they are evaluating aligns with Chapter Two.
 - Not changing Chapter Two!
 - Senators should talk to their represented Faculty and forward to Gallaher – feedback by end of semester (but NLT than P&D)
 - Comment that some faculty would prefer being evaluated by academic rather than calendar year
- Budget and Finance (Symonds)**
 - Received a request from faculty senate fund (memorial fund) – will move to Exec committee
 - Request for being involved in the Salary Matrix discussions (in early Feb – but date is not set in stone)
- Teaching and Learning (Foosse)**
 - Canvas exam security faculty survey
 - Will work with Sabio and Gail
 - Get initial results before break
 - If we have issues or best practices get to Foosse or other committee members
- Legislative (Chloupek/Bergland)**
 - Pre filing in about two weeks
 - The only thing on the radar is discussion about the return of performance-based metrics
- COTE, Graduate Council, Research, IRB, Animal Welfare, University Seminar**
 - Nothing to report

Old Business

- I. Provost's response to Medical Insurance question
 - I talked to Dr. Green and Mrs. Barcus and they both indicated that we are being proactive, as we always are, but it may take a little while for more information to come out. The university is considering options (different providers, different plans, etc.) and working with our consultant on plan design. Currently the institution pays for approximately 80% of the premium and the employees share is 20%. As information comes out we will continue to keep senate informed.
Thank you for bringing the question forward (email to PJA from Provost, 11/5/21)
- Tabled Proposals (see table, below)

ID	Initiator	Proposal	Type	Name	Notes
1	Kasey Ragan	121-46-01	New Course	CRIM 46475 Applied Criminology	Returned and Tabled by Faculty Senate 18-0-0 on 11/03/21 – Course number must be changed from 46495 to 46475 throughout proposal per previous notes by H. Kline and D. Gilley
2	Blackford/Lim	121-54-09	Change Course	MGMT 54417 Strategy and Decision Making	Returned and Tabled by Faculty Senate 18-0-0 on 11/03/21 – New title for course should be entered on curriculum form and not only on syllabus

- Votes**
 - Proposal to untable – these proposals
 - Vote: 19:0:1 to untable

- Move to approve
 - No discussion:
 - Vote: 19:0:1 to pass these proposals

New Business

- Covid-19 Update
 - Wimes and Cullin
 - 142 cases in the county, 23 active at NW
 - Not looking at changing any mitigation measures
 - 56% student vacc rate
 - 67% employee vacc rate
 - COVID increasing across MO, esp in NW MO
 - Our region highest in the state
 - Neighboring states increasing even faster than MO
 - Question: VACC rates (Are total or eligible?) A: it is total being reported
 - Question: Any new mitigation strategies in the works for Spring?
 - No recommendations made yet
 - Anticipating – as least what we have currently, potentially increasing – unlikely lessening
 - Question: considering total masking for the first few weeks of Spring? A: considering it – nothing definite. Adam contended this would be a wise move to stop primary infections from the holidays spreading fast and wide on campus when we return
 - Question: Predictions about Post Thanksgiving break – A: no way to predict
 - Last semester we did see a bump (and predicted one)
 - Question: Pediatric vaccines information
 - Question: Data about proof of transmission in enclosed spaces. A number of schools participated in studies – results were inconclusive.
- Curriculum Proposals

ID	Initiator	Proposal	Type	Name	Notes
1	Alex Kirt	121-20-03	New Course	MMED 20408 Music Business	
2	Robert Voss	121-26-01	Course Deletion	HUM 26105 Information Technology and Culture	
3	Dawn Gilley and James Richardson	121-42-02	Change Program	Military Science Minor, 23 hours	
4	Charles Hoot	121-44-01	Change Course	CSIS 44517 Big Data	
5	Kamala tabor	121-46-02	Change Program	Criminology Comprehensive Major, 63 hours: B.S.—No Minor Required	
6	Blackford/Lim	121-54-12	New Program	Bachelor of Science in Business Administration	

- Nomination to consider
 - No discussion
 - Voting on the Six Proposals
 - 20:0:0 all passed

- Update on Presidential Search
 - No New information
- Final letter submitted to Board of Regents, 11/17/21 (Reading 6)
 - Adam pulled letter from meeting invitation after being advised not to post signed letters that were not yet distributed
- Board of Regents Workshop is tomorrow (recruitment and retention)
- Letter will be redated and submitted with call for agenda items for January meeting and will be read at that meeting
- Call for individual Faculty Senators to submit 3-10 questions to PJA (deadline 12/1/21) to be asked of candidates. All areas: funding, finance, covid, classroom, facilities, teaching, campus dining, sports, car and van pools, policies, openness to faculty, student tuition and fees, classroom upgrades, KC center, etc.

Items from the Floor

- Foote – Invite all faculty to interactive exhibit (final project) 11/30/21 1630-1800 in Martindale 302
- No December Meeting

Move to close – and seconded

Adjourned at 1706