

FACULTY SENATE

PLENARY MINUTES

DATE: February 21, 2024

TIME: 3:00 pm

LOCATION: MCOB 265

In Attendance: Jamie Adams, Robin Bates, Donald Beebe Michael Black, Casey Brock, Catherine Brock, Greg Brower, Glen Borchert, Jaclyn Bunch, Sinéad Ní Chadhain, Missy Curtis, Jacob Dasinger, Clay Davidson, Amanda Donaldson, Romulus Godang, Caitlyn Hauff, Alma Hofmann, Jingshan Huang, Ying Huang, Geoffrey Hudson, Jeremy Kersey, Zoya Khan, Taralynn McMullan, Preethi Marri, David Meola, Hosik Min, Brooks Rabideau, Christopher Raczkowski, Jonathan Rayner, Joe Richardson, Beth Shepard, Jim Swofford, Vicki Tate, Eleanor ter Horst, Rebecca Thomas, Christina Thompson. Tara Thompson, Arie VandeWaa, Elizabeth Vandewaa, Laura Vrana, Sean Walker, Christina Wassenaar, Bret Webb, David Weber

- Call to Order 3:05
- Approval of Minutes November 15, 2023 & January 17, 2024
- Approval of Agenda
- President's Report (In writing)
 - Reminded caucus leaders to conduct elections for new senators.
 - Ongoing searches
 - Police Chief-on campus interviews to begin in March
 - VP Research & Economic Development position posted
 - AI Committee appointed by the Provost to explore the role and impact of AI on the university
 - JagPak program will start next fall to make it easier for students to have access to books on the first day of class. The cost will be included in student's tuition (\$21/credit hour).
- Old Business:
 - Faculty Qualifications Manual-SACs COC report-criteria developed, exceptions will need portfolio- College of nursing
 - Questions regarding faculty input and process-
 - A&S reports it was shared with chairs and then faculty.
 - Questions/comments were raised based faculty hiring- digital document forthcoming

- Reports from Senate Committees: Attached (If submitted)-There were no reports sent or loaded on the Google Forms from the Faculty Senate Website.
 - Academic Development & Mentoring Committee-none
 - Evaluation Committee-none
 - Environmental Quality & Sustainability Committee-none
 - Faculty Salary & Benefits Committee-Fringe Benefits: Committee-potential changes to insurance-adding a high deductible health insurance
 - Research & Creative Activities Committee: R1 Committee meeting next week to begin putting a business plan together for pursuing R1. A research mixer is being scheduled to look for research connections and collaborations. A workload institutional baseline salaries consultant to come to the university and look at policies.
 - Teaching, Learning, & Technology Committee: Some are taking AI course through the ILC.
 - University Planning Committee: Currently taking nominations for FS community awards.
 - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee: Handicap parking issues have been resolved.
 - University Policies & Handbook Committee:
 - Ombudsperson policy revisions discussed. A friendly amendment to change language to strike the first sentence. A vote to adopt the amendment resulted with 47 yeas, 0 nays, and no abstentions. Motion approved. Vote to adopt the policy resulted in 34 yeas, 0 nays, and no abstentions. Motion adopted to approved the Ombudsperson policy. The proposed policy will go to the Council of Deans for their considerations.
 - NTT Faculty Policy revisions presented and questions/comments from the floor. Sinead to share with full senate for vote at the March meeting.

- Reports from Caucus Leaders-No reports have been sent or uploaded.

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- New Business
 - SB129 Divisive Concepts Bill-Communication with Nick Lawkis is ongoing. He will call together a meeting with the working group and will provide more information as it is available.
 - FS Past President Council started to honor service of past FS presidents to the university and to develop a consultative body with years of service and institutional knowledge for the FS.

- Adjournment

Submitted by Susan Ferguson; edited by Vicki Tate