
FACULTY SENATE MEETING

April 8, 2021

12:50 P.M.

Chan Auditorium

- ***Present: Tobias Mendelson, Sophia Marinova, Kevin Bao, David Allen, Dilcu Barnes, Joey Taylor, Kwaku Gyasi, Andrei Gandila, Kristin Weger Christina Steidl, Mike Banish, Abdul Salman, Emil Jovanov, George Nelson, Kader Frendi, Susan Alexander, Elizabeth Barnby, Azita Amiri, Donna Guerra, Amy Hunter, Darlene Showalter, Mark Reynolds, Leiqui Hu, Jeff Weimer, Huaming Zhang, Seyed Sadeghi, Sarah Roller Dyess, Ron Schwertfeger, Carmen Scholz, Carolyn Sanders, Laird Burns, Tim Newman***
- ***Absent: Jose Betancourt, Jeremy Fischer, Seong-Moo Yoo, Bryan Mesmer, John Mecikalski, Jerome Baudry, Sivaguru Ravindran, Paul Whitehead***
- ***Absent with Proxy: Fat Ho, Candice Lanius, Christina Carmen, Melissa Foster, Harry Delugach, Andrea Word***
- **Faculty Senate President Tim Newman called the meeting to order at 12:54 pm.**
- **Meeting Review:**
 - **Bill 454 failed to pass on third reading.**
 - **Bill 455 passed on third reading.**
 - **Bill 459 amended and then passed on second reading.**
 - **Policy 02.02.XX passed.**
 - **Policy 02.01.67 passed to be sent forward as amended.**
 - **Bill 461 passed second and third reading.**
- **Approve FS Meeting Minutes from March 11th. I need a motion to approve. Kader moves. Mike seconds. Ron suggest amendments. Need to correct Elizabeth Barnby's name. Mike moves to make the correction. Carmen seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Page 2 corrections, Provost report second to last report "classrooms" to "classroom's" and Tigerson to Thygerson. Carmen moves to make the corrections. Member seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Strike "housing it in the media library". Mike moves to make this strike. Christina seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Page 5, Bill 459, Jeff Weimer first bullet – "institute" to "instituted". Under Tim's comment, "a" to "are". Mike moves to make the corrections. Dilcu seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. In Carmen comment, member moves to insert "are". Kader seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Ron then says in Bill 454 discussion, change "PTEC" to "PTAC" several places. Mike moves to make these changes. Tobias seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Ron suggests that in Carmen comments, change "partiality" to "impartiality". Member moves to make this change. Carolyn seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Ron suggests on Page 7, Bill 454, Jeff's comment, "change PTAC there" to "PTAC being fair". Jeff moves to make this change. Kader seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Member moves change to Jeff's comment: change "originators" to "originator's". Carmen seconds. Is (then) approved unanimously. Time then calls for vote on Motion to approve minutes as amended. Ayes carry.**
- **Accept Special FSEC Report from March 17th. Tim: I need a motion to receive. Mike moves. Kader**

seconds. On ensuring vote, ayes carry.

- Accept FSEC report from April 1st. Tim: I need a motion to receive. Mike moves. Carmen seconds.
 - Christina – Page 6, motion to approve on first reading. This says it doesn't pass on *third* reading.
 - Tim – It should state *first*. Mike moves to change to "first". Kader seconds.
 - Christina – Since it was the first reading, does that change anything?
 - Tim – I took that as a parliamentarian inquiry. I stated that it failed so it wouldn't be on April 8th senate agenda. It could be on future agenda's. On ensuing vote on receipt as amended, ayes carry.

➤ Administrative Reports

- Tim – I did receive a written report from the President. I will scroll through the report for you to see.
 - Carmen– Can someone explain what dredging means?
 - Jeff – It means they are going to dig in the lake and pull out dead stuff, mud, and widen the channel.
 - Carmen – Is that extensive or easy?
 - Jeff – It can be extensive. It would be good to ask that question.
 - Laird – Is the Campus Planning Committee involved in these decisions?
 - Kader – Yes, we are. We have met a couple of times.
 - Tim – The prior item is on the board agenda for tomorrow.
 - Kader – We had a discussion about dredging. The idea is to make the north side of the lake as healthy as the other side.
 - Sophia – Can I ask a question about Respondus? We can't use the camera?
 - Tim – The camera is still active but the face recognition is deactivated.
 - Sophia – Is it still secure?
 - Tim – That is a loaded question. Some say it was never secure. If you are relying on Respondus to ensure that the student was there and stayed the whole time, you can't anymore.
 - Mike – We are tearing down Executive Plaza. Ron, you have archives there, right?
 - Ron – Yes, we do in storage.
 - Mike – Have you made plans for that to be moved?
 - Ron – I will have to check into that.
 - Sophia – Do we know the enrollment differences per colleges?
 - Tim – I don't think that was presented to us.
 - Sophia – Do we have any explanation for the decrease in enrollment?
 - Mike – I don't think there was one given.
 - Tim – Summer 2020 was equivalent to Summer 2019 per my recollection of the Provost's statement.
 - Joey- Is this driving the faculty to teach in person?
 - Tim – I don't want to speak for the administration this is my personal impression. I am not speaking for them. Those two points have not been linked to statements from administration. My understanding is the system health task force wants the system to position back to normal operations. The hope is that fall will be back to normal. My understanding is the move back to classrooms is not related to these numbers. I was in a Communicable Disease Management Meeting and it was quoted students do not like all online. It is hurting us in retention. Those are all my opinions not the administrations word.
 - Carolyn – Our Dean has advocated all classes this summer be online.

- Joey – I am talking about the fall.
- Tim – The Department of Management, Marketing, and IS is splitting. The Provost initially asked for input by April 2nd. The only mechanism we had to do that was the FSEC meeting. The Provost later extended that to today or tomorrow. FSEC did pass a resolution on that. If you have any responses on the division, please see me right after this meeting. It has been stated this is an ideal model of splitting departments.

➤ **Officer/Committee Reports**

- Tim Newman, President
 - We did have a Communicable Disease Management Team meeting. The Excellence Awards met. I need University Committee Reports. If you are on a committee, part of that is reporting back. If they never met, state they never met. We really want that for our next meeting. I was asked to provide a name for the Strategic Planning Committee. Carmen has agreed to serve on this committee. Carmen and I met with the President and Provost. We discussed IT, Single Sign On. We proposed a COVID pay supplement. We asked again on the status of bylaw changes. Bylaws have not been sent to system council for consideration. I was asked for names for the CISO search committee. We received responses to bills and policies. They are on the website.
- Carmen Scholz, President-Elect
 - I would like to add on to your report. Russ Ward is leaving IT or assuming another position. There is supposed to be a search committee. I haven't seen or heard on that.
 - Tim – I was asked for names and they were sent. They could only be from two areas from UAH.
 - Our request to recognize the pandemic situation with extra pay is always answered the same way. There is no extra consideration to the faculty's extra expenses.
- Laird Burns, Past President
 - No report.
- Mike Banish, Parliamentarian
 - No report.
- Carolyn Sanders, Ombudsperson
 - I have been working on three cases. Two have concluded. I am still working with an individual on one.
- Kader Frendi, Governance and Operations Committee Chair
 - We have candidates for President-Elect and Ombudsperson. We will hold campus wide elections. We have nominees for the Appeal Committee. We need volunteers for some of the university committees. We will hold elections during the last meeting. We need a nursing representative for Student Conduct Board.
- Azita Amiri, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
 - We have about 20 outstanding forms. We are also working on changing the forms. You will probably see new format of the form in the fall.
- Jeff Weimer, Finance and Resource Committee Chair
 - We approved and provided stipends for 28 RCEU proposals of 30-some submissions.
- Emil Jovanov, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
 - No report.
- Kwaku Gyasi, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
 - No report.

- Mike Banish, Personnel Committee Chair
 - You have before you today an amendment to Chapter 9. Personnel Committee did finish Chapter 7. They were turned over to Committee Chairs. It is a massive chapter and confusing. I'd like to get it out this year. It did not pass FSEC last time. I would not like to have an extensive discussion about nitpicking items. Last item for us is going back to Chapter 6. I noticed off of the committee list there is no campus safety committee anymore. We have reengaged that. If you would like that, please let me know.

➤ **Bill 454**

- Tim – I need a motion to approve the bill on third reading. Mike moves. Kader seconds.
 - Carmen – I move to amend.
 - Tim – Is there a second on the motion? Mike seconds. On ensuing vote, ayes carry.
 - Andrei – I still have a problem with the vocabulary of academically qualified. I think we should discuss the issues that this can open.
 - Carolyn – I agree, Andrei. This can open up major issues. My college alone there are so many disciplines. Laird made an important comment. There is an issue. I don't see this as a solution. I see it creating larger issues.
 - Joey – I want to echo Andrei and Carolyn. We already nominated vote on PTAC faculty. We are already evaluating them. It may cause controversy and put more burden. This places more burden on those who are already active and engaged.
 - Carmen – I don't have a dog in that fight per say. I understand where the bill comes from to not turn tenure into a popularity contest. If there is another way to word it, I would be all for it.
 - Jeff – As I understand, one concern is the imbalance that can arise on the PTAC committees for faculty who may be active in research. The standing I have is really what we are seeing on PTAC is faculty that are balanced. What strikes me is the concern that faculty not involved in service evaluating those who were. We are after appreciation of fairness.
 - Andrei – In our college, we are given an evaluation for teaching, service, and research. Those members who are below expectations in one area, they are not eligible anymore.
 - Joey – This came out of education?
 - Carmen – No.
 - Carolyn – My impression may be totally wrong. My sense is it came out of business.
 - Carmen – If we were to change the language on the second whereas where to only academically qualified are in the position to evaluate other faculty. Would that help?
 - Emil – I believe this will not solve the problem because by definition everyone that is faculty should be qualified. Overall qualification is a balance of all three. I do not have suggestions. This language will solve the issue being discussed.
 - Sarah – Academically qualified, is that defined somewhere in the document? I don't know what we are trying to define.
 - Mike – I didn't write this. It does say the faculty in each college should determine the standard of academic qualifications. If a college wants to say to be on PTAC you have to have these expectations on certain categories. That is the colleges right as I read what it says.
 - George- We already have a nomination and voting process. This is redundant.
 - Jeff – Nominations are not setting criteria. Names are being put forward and there

aren't metrics. It is a balance of nominating and qualified.

- Tim - Any member to motion to make the change? None. I will undo the change.
- Sophia – I do think it is problematic that academic qualified isn't defined.
- Mike – When we do PTAC, I don't know that many members of your faculty anymore.
- George – Maybe a college could provide a paragraph justification of their nomination. This doesn't address that.
- Mike – It does. It lets us say as a college, you have to follow these terms.
- Joey – I agree with George. I am sympathetic to this. My concern is doing something as simple as what George stated starts to label qualified and disqualified.
- Andrei – Do you write the paragraph yourself or the Chair? Is it just formality or a campaign? I don't see a way to come up with something that is measurable.
- Sarah – That was summed up real well. If we start labeling "academically qualified", this would encourage those to keep moving forward. If I was labeled disqualified, I would shut down.
- Carolyn – I think these are excellent points. The spirit of this is to have consistency. We are talking about seven colleges. We are talking about having the same foundation and having seven different sets of criteria. It is going to lead to more inconsistency.
- Jeff – Where do we stand on this?
- Tim – Should the bill be adopted on third reading? What happens today is the final decision on this bill. On ensuing vote on passing on third reading as amended: 7 ayes, 24 nays. The bill fails to pass on third reading.

➤ **Bill 455**

- Tim – I need a motion to approve the bill on third reading. Mike moves. Tobias seconds. Shall the bill be adopted on third reading? On ensuing vote on adopting on third reading: ayes carry. Bill passes on third reading.

➤ **Bill 459**

- Tim – I need a motion to approve the bill on third reading. Mike moves. Kader seconds.
 - Carmen – I would like to make an amendment to add language.
 - Tim – Motion is to add this language to the end. Second? Carolyn seconds. Any other discussion on this amendment? On ensuing vote on amending this bill, ayes carry.
 - Christina – The Senate Governance Committee will nominate from the senate membership. I would like to amend it say will seek the nomination process.
 - Tim – The motion would be in order but will reset the clock on the bill. Is there a second to the motion? Kwaku seconds.
 - Andrei - I think it should say collect nominations.
 - Tim – The motion has been moved and seconded. Any discussion on the change?
 - Carmen – I have a question. This is our original bylaw language. Does this change other sections of the bylaw? That is the bylaw for the Ombudsperson.
 - Tim – I think the answer is no, but I can't answer. On ensuing vote on motion to amend, ayes carry. This is no longer the third reading of this bill due to this being bylaws. The motion is thus replaced with the motion for second reading. On ensuing vote on adopting the bill as amended on second reading, ayes carry.

➤ **Policy 02.02.XX**

- Tim- This policy is back. You asked for language in this to provide capability to insert electronic signature. I need a motion to approve with the language that came from the FSEC

meeting and the administration. Mike moves. Sophia seconds. On ensuing vote on sending this forward as amended, ayes carry.

➤ **Policy 02.01.67**

- Tim – You may remember you passed an Academic Misconduct Policy in the past. I don't think it was formally approved by the Administration. The Associate Provost brought forth a revision. I need a motion to approve. Mike moves. Carolyn seconds. My understanding is the changes are to shorten the length of the policy.
- Christina – I would like to fix typos. Page 4, Section C at the bottom, as a means of monitoring and ensuring equitable. On the second to last thing on the document under d. I would like to strike "the" and add "in".
- Tim – Is there a second? Sophia seconds. On ensuing vote on motion to amend, ayes carry.
- Mike – Under definitions, "with consent of the college faculty". Joey seconds.
- Carolyn – Just so everyone is aware, this phrase was in our original passed policy. We worked from the interim. I can see both sides. We did have in there each college Dean shall appoint. We weren't specific on how the faculty would consent. I don't know if that is enough for the faculty to not approve. This academic misconduct policy started back in 2018. There were three goals. We need to get a permanent policy in place.
- Tobias – The faculty has invested interest in the monitor. They are at least one step out of the loop as Chair.
- Joey – This did originate way back.
- Tim – Shall the policy be amended with this statement? On ensuing vote: 22 ayes, 2 nays. Now we need a vote on the policy as amended. On that vote, ayes carry. We will send forward as amended.

➤ **Bill 461**

- Tim – I need a motion to approve on second reading. Carmen moves. Mike seconds.
 - Mike – This has been a long and continuing discussion in Personnel. We need to be like most modern universities and be at a 20% buyout. There is a slight reminder to faculty that you aren't being effective in teaching if you are buying out.
 - Carmen – I strongly support this bill. If you want to buyout one course, which is 20%, the university will take 40% of your money. Almost no one is buying out anymore. We want to encourage that and encourage research. This is a move in the right direction.
 - Tim – Let's vote on adopting on second reading. On ensuing vote, ayes carry unanimously. Bill passes second and third reading due to unanimous vote.
 - Ron – May I reiterate the work that Kader Frendi has done for Governance and Operations Committee.
 - Emil – You have skipped a brief report from Research Council. I can do that for you now. This is a brief report from our last meeting in November. There was information about the pandemic. There was also discussion of changes to the budget. One big change is the reduction in OVPRED Budget. They will have less funds to support certain proposals. We have externally expenditure that was increased to \$116M.
 - Carmen – Reduction in state appropriations what does that entail?
 - Emil – They reduced it because of other areas of increase of funds.

➤ Meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM.