

2023-2024 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
Morris Library, Room 752/754 or Teams Option
1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order

The February meeting was called to order by President Bethany Rader.

II. Roll Call: Michael Hylin

Members: Nwamaka Anaza, Gary Apgar, Lingguo Bu, Ying Chen, Marissa Ellerman, Scott Gilbert, Michael Hylin, Ghassan Ishak, Seung-Hee Lee, Yueh-Ting Lee, Sarah Lewison, Stacey McKinney, Amber Pond, Louis Premkumar, Jeffrey Punske, Bethany Rader, Diana Sarko, Jennifer Walker, Lichang Wang, Cherie Watson, Rachel Whaley, Christopher Wienke, Geoffrey Young

Members Absent with Proxy: Walter Ray (Proxy Mary Taylor)

Members Absent: Mehdi Ashayeri, Randall Auxier, Daniel Bronke, Elaine Jurkowski, Arash Komae, Khalid Meksem, Lorelei Ritchie, Seyed Yaser Samadi

Guests: Scott Collins, Rachel Frazier, Josh Frick, Gireesh Gupchup, Austin Lane, Costas Tsatsoulis, Sheryl Tucker, Carroll Walker, Juliane Wallace, Wendell Williams, Nick Wortman

III. Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2023

Motion: C. Watson

Second: J. Punske

A vote commenced: 17 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Abstentions; The minutes from 12/12/2023 were approved as presented.

IV. Remarks

A. President's Comments: Bethany Rader – B. Rader reported attending a Master Planning Committee meeting in December. Rader also attended the Faculty Advisory Committee for the SIU System meeting last Monday. They discussed equity and diversity in faculty hiring along with results from the 2022 faculty climate survey to produce a set of guidelines for hiring.

V. Guests

A. Chancellor and Provost

1. Chancellor Austin Lane Report – Chancellor Lane reported being in Nashville, TN for the Saluki takeover. They signed a deal with Nashville State College and will have a reception this evening, along with meetings and interactions to increase our presence in the area. The Chancellor asked Nick Wortman to give an update on the faculty equity study. N. Wortman reported having three viable bids from consulting firms. They've received committee feedback from those three firms and looking to finalize scores to submit for pricing. The committee will then start making recommendations for a final candidate. The total project timeline is looking to be 6-12 months. Chancellor Lane reported Spring enrollment was up 4% overall. W. Williams added that numbers for fall are looking pretty good. The Chancellor spoke on the annual report, that was shared, and focused on top priorities within the institution. Chancellor Lane provided an update on the \$12M payback deficit. To date, they have paid around \$4.1M. If they can't get to \$12M they will try for \$6M

this fiscal year. The academic affairs area is lowest priority for reductions, looking more toward administrative areas. The Chancellor anticipates a tight budget this fiscal year and the governor will give his state address on February 21st.

2. Provost Sheryl Tucker Report – J. Wallace thanked everyone’s efforts to identify enrolled students who are not participating in classes by census date. The no show grade option will be removed when submitting your final grades so faculty will give a WF or F. Academic affairs is asking faculty to join a small working group with the Registrar to create a mechanism to collect this data every year. J. Punske stated UEPC will take this on and has invited Rachel Frazier (Registrar) to their next meeting.
 3. Q and A Session – R. Whaley asked for an update on school level budgets concerning GA budgets and a new budget strategy. Provost Tucker stated to keep GA budgets flat. Chancellor Lane added Susan Simmers will be doing budget training with managers across campus in the next few weeks. Y. Lee asked about faculty support in comparison to the payback and if faculty hires were new or replacements. Chancellor Lane stated the faculty equity study is underway and the Provost’s plan is to reallocate resources in the existing budget to areas of growth for new faculty spots. B. Rader passed along an issue from Faculty Senator Randall Auxier while working with an international students and admissions. W. Williams provided his cell number and stated to contact him directly if anyone has trouble connecting with admissions.
- B. Gireesh Gupchup, Vice President for Academic Innovation, Planning and Partnerships, Southern Illinois University System – Gireesh Gupchup provided an update on the Faculty Advisory Committee for the SIU System (FACSS) and answered questions from members.

VI. Reports

- A. Executive Committee: Chair, Bethany Rader
- B. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee: Co-Chairs, Yueh-Ting Lee and Jennifer Walker
Y. Lee reported the EOC has met a couple of times to discuss having another active threat drill on campus.
 1. Resolution on faculty emeritus criteria by the Faculty Senate’s Faculty Status and Welfare (FSW) Committee – Y. Lee reported the committee took suggested comments and revised the resolution. Y. Lee asked for other feedback and/or suggestions. Council members discussed their thoughts, understanding, and provided additional edits. The resolution was shared on screen while edits were made.
Motion: Y. Lee
Second: J. Walker
A vote commenced: 19 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The resolution on faculty emeritus criteria was approved by Faculty Senate with amendments made as shown on screen.
- C. Election Committee: Chair, Elaine Jurkowski – J. Frick reported nominations closed yesterday for the JRB elections. Emails to confirm nominations were sent out today with a one-week deadline to respond. Then, those nominees will be turned over to FSEC and CoC.
- D. Undergraduate Education Policy Committee: Chair, Jeffrey Punske – J. Punske reported meeting last Friday afternoon. The committee approved 3 RMEs that will be on next

months agenda. UEPC also received a request dealing with no show grades reporting and student course evaluation issues.

- E. Budget Committee: Chair, Rachel Whaley – No report.
- F. Committee on Committees: Co-Chairs, Amber Pond and Cherie Watson – C. Watson reported confirming previous appointments on the AI Committee and two appointees are no longer interested in serving. CoC recommends Cassie Wagner and Kalyan Kandra as two new appointees to the AI Committee.
Motion: A. Pond
Second: L. Wang
A vote commenced: 20 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The Faculty Senate approves Cassie Wagner and Kalyan Kandra to serve on the AI Committee.
- G. Governance Committee: TBD – B. Rader asked the committee to select a new chair. Rader is interested in asking to committee to provide more criteria in forming ad hoc committees in the Senate Operating Paper.
- H. Faculty Advisory Council to IBHE: Lichang Wang – L. Wang reported the FAC to IBHE held two meetings on December 15, 2023 at the Northeastern Illinois University and on January 19, 2024 at the Kishwaukee College. There were two presentations during the December meeting in addition to various reports by FAC members. One item is that the state is in the process of selecting a faculty representative for IBHE committee since the current representative Jennifer Delany, Professor at UIUC, moved to University of California at Berkeley in January 2024. The first presentation was given by Dr. Glenda Gallisath, Senior Associate Director for Talent and Workforce Development, IBHE, who discussed two topics that are related to the mental health. “The Illinois Behavioral Health Workforce Center: Educational Pipelines, Pathways, and Partnerships” and “An Update on the Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act: Technical Assistance Center”. The second presentation by Dr. Ray Schroeder, Senior Fellow, UPCEA, and Professor Emeritus, UIS; and Katherine Kerpan, Project Manager, Loyola University-Chicago on AI policy in higher education: “Preparing for the Unanticipated: AI Applications in Higher Education”. A very useful information for developing a campus wide policy is the website: <https://sites.google.com/view/unanticipated/home>. There were two presentations during the January meeting by the President of Kishwaukee College, Dr. Laurie Borowicz, and by the vice president of instruction Barbara Leach and Assistant Kim Jordal. The most interesting discussion was about the increase in offering the 8-week courses. One key issue being discussed among FAC members during the January meeting was the proposed IBHE funding model. Further FAC IBHE meeting details can be found in meeting minutes at <http://www.facibhe.org/meetings/minutes.php>. The next FAC to IBHE meeting will be held on February 16, 2024.
- I. Graduate Council Representative: Scott Collins – S. Collins reported the resolution to expand accelerated master’s program was modified to clarify that it can count 400 and 500 level courses as long as approved for graduate credit and that the APAP office will generate a template that the unit will complete to have approved. CoLA proposed a resolution for center of virtual expression. This was sent back and a letter of concurrence has been requested. There’s a discussion to require a 3.0 GPA on all graduate work for graduate certificates, the committee is reviewing the graduate level grievance process, and will discuss the faculty emeritus policy during there next meeting the first Thursday in March. B. Rader asked if there is a deadline to send offers to graduate students. S. Collins suggested getting offers out as quickly as possible and April 15th is the deadline. C. Tsatsoulis suggested the same for international students,

continuing students don't have the April 15th deadline, and domestic have the right to refuse up to the April 15th date.

- J. VC of Research: Costas Tsatsoulis – C. Tsatsoulis shared his screen and gave an update on the graduate admissions funnel for Spring 2024. Tsatsoulis also reported in Fall 2023 the largest international admissions were from Ghana and domestic students were from Illinois. April 5th will be the Graduate & Professional School fair hosted in the Student Center Art Gallery. FY 24 Q1+2: Requested funding increased 20.2% (\$65.72M FY23 \$51.36M); Expenditures \$37.26M; Awards decreased 7.5% (\$44.59M FY23 \$48.23M). They will have two let's talk research events on February 14th and 27th. C. Tsatsoulis shared the HERD report and reviewed new criteria. Members briefly discussed the criteria.
- K. Ad Hoc Committee on Institutional Ranking/Educational Quality: Co-Charis, Elaine Jurkowski and Yueh-Ting Lee – B. Rader reported the December 1st meeting notes were shared. The committee met on February 9th and those meeting notes will be shared in March.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Adjournment

Motion: R. Whaley

Second: L. Wang