

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Morris Library, Room 752/754 or Teams Option
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order: Yueh-Ting Lee

II. Roll Call: Michael Hylin

Present: Randall Auxier, Lingguo Bu, Christopher Chiasson, Kwangho Choiy, Marissa Ellermann, John Farrish, Laurel Fredrickson, Ghassan Ishak, Mehdi Ashayeri Jahan Khanemloo, Yueh-Ting Lee, Sarah Lewison, Khalid Meksem, Cinzia Padovani, Kaitlyn Poirier, Amber Pond, Louis Premkumar, Jeffrey Punske, Jun Qin, Jonathan Remo, Julia Rendleman, Seyed Yaser Samadi, Mohtashim Shamsi, Jennifer Sherry, Ahmed Torky, Rachel Whaley, Jennifer Walker, Lichang Wang, Geoffrey Young

Absent: Nwamaka Anaza, Gary Apgar, Daniel Bronke, Timothy Hurley, Michael Hylin, Walter Ray (Proxy Matthew Gorzalski), Lorelei Ritchie (Proxy Dale Aschemann-absent), Christopher Wienke

Guests: Jebaraj Asirvatham, Julie Dunston, Rachel Frazier, Shelly Gehrke, Melissa Laake, Kimberly Morgan, Mark Peterson, Constantinos Tsatsoulis, Sheryl Tucker, Juliane Wallace

III. Approval of Minutes from March 18, 2025

Motion: K. Meksem

Second: C. Padovani

A vote commenced: 23 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Abstentions. The minutes from March 18, 2025, were approved as presented.

IV. President's Report: Yueh-Ting Lee

YT Lee stated we sent off the March Issue of *FS Update/FYI* Publication. I wish to express my appreciation to Mr. Jeff Harmon for his help in gathering information for us on behalf of the Chancellor's Office. I am very grateful to Senator Amber Pond and Ms. Melissa Laake for their assistance in this issue. On March 27, 2025, I attended a team meeting with the Chancellor's cabinet about an international student's visa issue. On March 31, 2025, I attended a team meeting organized by the Department of Public Safety. Chief Newmann reported on campus statistics and other related issues. On the same date, I attended a team meeting by the Provost Office on the ad hoc or special committee on the background issues related to Faculty Emeritus Status with a few other Senators. On April 3, 2025, I attended Chancellor Lane's takeover event at Apple Creek Country Club in Makanda to represent the Faculty Senate. On April 7, 2025, I attended recruitment visits at Webber High School in Bluford and Mt. Vernon High School in southern Illinois. On April 8, 2025, as part of the takeover tours, I attended the Chancellor's event in Marion where we met with local business leaders and alums, and on April 10, 2025, I went to the Chancellor's takeover tour in Benton where we engaged with the local business leaders and alums. On April 14, 2025, I also went to four high schools (Century, Cairo, Meridian, & Cobden) in southern Illinois for takeover tours. I would like to express my genuine appreciation to three Faculty Senators (Dr. Jennifer Sherry, Dr. Amber Pond, and Dr. John Farrish) and two faculty members (Professor Taylor Hills from biochemistry and Professor Probir Kolay from engineering) for their voluntary participation in the takeover tours in southern Illinois. Thanks are extended to them for joining the recruitment team by visiting many high schools in southern Illinois. Student enrollment (including recruitment and retention) is very important to our faculty members. I also thank you for your support in our student success every day. We are here because of students. On April 11, 2025, I went to the SIU Translational Research Center Ribbon Cutting event to represent the Faculty Senate. On the same day, both our UEPC Chair Dr. Jeffrey Punske and I met with the faculty members at the School of Earth System and Sustainability about their BS program RME, its process, and shared governance.

V. Q and A Session with Chancellor and Provost

A. Chancellor Austin Lane – (no report)

[On behalf of Chancellor Lane, a PowerPoint slide showing six pictures that was taken at the southern Illinois Saluki Takeover events was shown to the Faculty Senate. A special thanks was given to the faculty/staff who participated in the events: Dr. Yueh-Ting Lee, Dr. Amber Pond, Dr. Prabir Kolay Dr. John Farish, Dr. Tayler Hill, Dr. Jennifer Sherry, and Susan Graham.]

B. Provost Sheryl Tucker

Provost Tucker stated I want to thank all of you who have been participating in our takeover events. It really raised the profile for the institution. The law school is seeing a significant uptick in interest regionally. The Honors Director position and the Core Curriculum Director positions are both out there. There was a mistake in the UCC position – it's associate or full professor, not just associate. It's essentially looking for someone who is tenured and above before you take on a role because it's harder to maintain one's scholarship and ultimately be promoted. We are moving forward with new catalog software and course scheduling software. We're looking at probably fall 2027 by the time the contract is done. It's a 12-18 month implementation. This is a project we've been working on since I got here with SIUE. It's a system level purchase, Course Dog, which will run our catalog, course demand, course scheduling, etc. It will give us a lot more data analytics to help us know by reading Degree Works plans of study what classes we need in the fall based on the students' degree plans. So, I'm excited about that. One of the things that came up recently, we were not compliant with federal regulations about textbooks being posted at the time of students registering. Our textbook adoption deadlines will move up next year. We are supposed to have the textbook material available to the students at the time they register, in terms of them knowing what's going to be required. So, we'll be pushing on that come fall for the spring. And so, you'll see that in September. We are also going to be working really hard to get people into D2L. We're looking at a target of fall 2026 for lower division classes. Our coursework learning management system, D2L Brightspace, really allows us to facilitate student success. It allows you to push your grades out of D2L directly into Banner, it allows the grades to be available to students and advisors to help students when they're not being successful, and it allows us to easily pull early alerts. It will facilitate supporting our student learning outcomes, which HLC is coming to visit us in May 2026 (they are not satisfied with our student learning outcome work). The days that we have available to you now in your contract prior to the fall term starting, that's an opportunity to take advantage of that professional development and attend, whether it's the CTE training or whether it's through SIU online, we have lots of trainings to help people move into D2L or to learn about new techniques one might use in your classroom, etc. So, we're going to strongly encourage that in the fall, that people start taking advantage. This aligns with Faculty Senate's resolution in summer 2023, I believe where we were asked to do more professional development for faculty.

R. Auxier stated can you be explicit about what the university policy is as to whether it owns what I put on D2L? Provost Tucker stated she can check with legal and see what the IP policy is and report back to you at the next meeting.

APAP Julie Dunston stated we (David Shirley, Josh Daniel - our faculty Provost Fellow, & Craig Engstrom) have been requesting meetings with individual schools to talk about the Higher Learning Commission expectations for the upcoming focused visit. We've been providing guidance. We do a PowerPoint presentation that talks about how you can look at your student learning outcomes in those co-convened courses with graduate and undergraduate students - how you can address different learning outcomes or different activities that distinguish the work from those two student populations. That's one part of it. The other piece is we modified the annual assessment templates; that started fall

2024. So, next week we're reviewing all of those, and we're creating a brief rubric to give feedback to the academic units. The second round will be this upcoming fall. So, we're hoping we're in a pretty good position come the end of the spring 2026 semester for this focused visit, but we have made ourselves available to answer any questions that come up.

Provost Tucker stated the other piece of this is we were not able to produce artifacts, examples that support our student learning outcomes. I've been told in our core curriculum classes this is already built in and are supposed to be collected, but we could not produce those. UCC Director **Jebaraj Asirvatham** stated in terms of core curriculum, yes, we do have the assessment plan and everything. I've been working with individual faculty to put those plans on the syllabus because that is what we didn't have. We didn't have the learning outcomes, LEAP, or the institutional on the syllabus. We have it on the plan. We also don't have how it is measured. I don't anticipate it being finished by spring because there are so many courses. ELOs are Essential Learning Outcomes for the university core curriculum and the rest are SLOs, Student Learning Outcomes.

VI. Update/report by VCR/Dean of Graduate School: Dr. Costas Tsatsoulis

Our admission numbers in terms of master students are down by about 20%. We have not admitted as many as last year, but our Ph.D. admission numbers are up by about 6%. As far as research is concerned, thank you everybody who helped for us to certify the Rule 889 that had to do with Chinese manufactured equipment, telecommunications equipment. Because we could certify that, our SAM.gov portal, which allows us to submit proposals and also invoices and get reimbursed (we need to be current with that, both for federal and state grants), that has been certified and is now active. Last Friday was the ribbon cutting for the Gower Translational Research Center. It was a great celebration, and if you are following our Foundation on LinkedIn, you can find some videos and some other information. Since this is a Translational Research Center, we had a number of our faculty talk about their research that's translational. We had Dr. Ken Anderson, Dr. Matt McCarroll, Dr. Punit Kohli, Dr. Scott Hamilton-Brehm, Dr. Lahiru Jayakody, and Dr. Jia Liu give 15-minute presentations about how the research is translated into small businesses, companies, and so on. The previous day on Thursday, we had a great celebration of our students' research. We had the Creative Activities and Research Presentation (CARP) Forum. Almost one hundred of our students had posters, both graduate and undergraduate students. Faculty and graduate students helped review these posters, and it was amazing to see the quality and breadth of research that our students are doing. At 3:30 p.m. the same day, we gave awards to the best posters of that day in addition to recognizing the students who received the REACH Award, the Susan C. Thrasher Undergraduate Research Award, the Sigma Xi, also, the Outstanding Thesis and Outstanding Dissertation Award. And finally, we recognize our faculty, who this year have received the Foundation Award. And last but not least, in two days on Thursday, we have the Board of Trustees meeting here in Carbondale. Illinois is producing the most soybeans in the nation, and the United States is producing the most soybeans in the world. Illinois is producing more soybeans than many countries. So, what we're going to highlight is the SIU Illinois Soybean Center. We have a beautiful video that University Communications made, and it will be presented by Dr. Boyd Goodson, who is the director of the Soybean Center.

VII. Reports

A. Executive Committee: Chair, Yueh-Ting Lee – *(no report)*

B. Election Committee: Chair, Amber Pond

A. Pond stated we sent out all of the results from the election and then Melissa noted this morning that we have too many senators. Last year there was no election for this year. So, we started the year with vacancies, and we had the elections in the fall and filled those seats in December. When I determined what seats were needed to be filled for this spring, instead of grabbing the updated Faculty Senate membership list, I grabbed the old one,

not noticing. But there are seven schools with one too many senators, although I've already been informed that CALPS has a person who's going to probably resign. So, CALPS who did get an extra one is going to lose that person, but the School of Medicine, the School of Education, CECTM, the School of Law, COBA, and even CAM I found out has an extra person. So, we have six extra Senators. I make the motion that we accept all the Senators. I know I've already been told of one resignation and there's another potential one and both in those schools have an extra Senator, so I'm going to make a motion that we accept and keep these extra Senators for the year and then we'll be able to run with the right list. (YT Lee asked for any more discussion or questions before the vote.) A. Pond stated three of the seven schools who got the extra Senator were so close to getting an extra senator anyway. Their numbers are very high in terms of the Huntington Hill equation we used, but because we're limited normally to 30, they didn't get the Senator. So, it's probably going to work out well, I think as we normally have some people leave anyway. That's just my comment on that and I apologize for the mistake. It was my oversight; Melissa's done a fantastic job. She updated the list. I just grabbed the wrong list. YT Lee stated I would like to make a special comment to thank you, Dr. Amber Pond for your outstanding job. It's really hard work.

*Note: Due to an error during the spring 2025 election, there are extra senators. A motion was made to keep the election results as is. ***Motion to be revoked on 4/29/25.***

| Faculty Senate Spring 2025 Election Results: | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| CECTM: | Jia Liu | Chao Lu | Haibo Wang |
| CHHS: | Erica Blumenstock | | |
| SOM: | Frances Lee | Erin Hascup | Nicole Roberts |
| CAM: | Seung-Hee Lee | | |
| Library Affairs: | Catherine (Cassie) Wagner | | |
| COLA: | David M. Johnson | Joseph L. Smith | |
| SOL: | Cheryl (Shelly) Page | | |
| COBA: | Terry Clark | | |
| SOE: | Lavern Byfield | | |
| CALPS: | Sally Potter-McIntyre | | |

Motion: A. Pond

Second: K. Meksem

A vote commenced: 19 Yeas, 3 Nays, 3 Abstentions. The Spring 2025 Election results were approved as presented. (The extra Senators were approved.)

C. Undergraduate Education Policy Committee: Chair, Jeffrey Punske

- *Resolution in Support of the Elimination of the BS in Behavior Analysis and Therapy and the Addition of Behavior Analysis and Therapy Minor*
- *Resolution in Support of the Addition of an Aircraft Dispatch Minor and Elimination of Unmanned Aircraft Systems Minor*
- *Resolution in Support of the Addition of the Financial Analytics Specialization within the BS in Finance*

J. Punske stated UEPC met on Friday. We heard from both Provost Tucker and Associate Provost Dunston about considerations for new programs and types of questions we should ask when addressing RMEs with new programs. Related to that, as Dr. Lee mentioned in his opening remarks, we (myself, Associate Provost Dunston and Faculty Senate President Lee) attended a meeting of the Earth Science and Sustainability regarding an RME that they advanced on environmental science. We will have a resolution into part of that RME going forward at the next Senate meeting. We also have three RMEs before us (see list above). They're all presented as separate resolutions here. They're

making sure our programs are in alignment with what we're actually offering. They all passed UEPC unanimously. YT Lee thanked J. Punske for his hard work.

Motion: J. Punske

Second: A. Pond

A vote commenced: 24 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention. The three resolutions listed above were approved as presented (together as a group).

D. Budget Committee: Co-Chairs, Rachel Whaley and Khalid Meksem

- Salary Compression and Equity Study Report

R. Whaley stated I'm on the Steering Committee for the Compensation 2030.

We had two meetings in April, and we have another meeting scheduled for May 12, 2025. The goals right now of the study are being focused on fixing the most compressed people and dealing with internal equity issues first and foremost. We may not be able to do the peer equity plan; it's not clear to me yet at this point if that's just going to drop. For staff, they're working really hard on developing job families, career paths, and salary ranges that would go with those to make it clear what starting salaries are and how you can move up in different areas. You are all welcomed and invited to and should share the announced forums that are coming up on May 7, 2025. There'll be a morning and afternoon forum to answer questions. The Steering Committee will continue to meet with CBIZ during the summer. That's when most of the implementation decisions are going to occur, so you won't hear implementation information at the forums. The goal is to have things pretty much wrapped up by early fall, if not by the start of the fall semester. This is my last year as a Senator, but I will be continuing that role until that committee is disbanded, and so, I can certainly visit the Faculty Senate July meeting if I have any updates for you from the salary compression study. YT Lee thanked R. Whaley for her continuous commitment to this important project.

- Travel Reimbursement and Recreation Center Benefit for those 20+ Year Employees

K. Meksem stated the fees for faculty members with 20 years of service has been okayed now for \$125.00 (for the Rec. Center). I asked Director Corne Prozesky about having spouses/partners to qualify too. We'll wait to hear from him and then communicate the results to everybody. We will have a meeting on Friday with Vice Chancellor Susan Simmers on travel vouchers. A. Pond stated I want to thank you so much for taking on these charges, especially for the travel vouchers. I once waited four months (to get it processed). YT Lee stated yesterday I received a draft resolution from the Governance Committee about the Travel Reimbursement. I would like to forward it to the Budget Committee and have the Chair of the Governance Committee also attend the meeting with Vice Chancellor Susan Simmers, so then we are on the same page.

E. Committee on Committees: Co-Chairs, Jennifer Sherry & Gary Apgar

- Bookstore Advisory Council rep.: *Amber Burtis*
- Faculty Emeritus Ad Hoc Committee: *Walter Ray, Sarah Lewison, Carolyn Pointer, Julia Rendleman, James Conder, Khalid Meksem, & Elaine Jurkowski*

J. Sherry stated the Bookstore Advisory Council rep., Amber Burtis, was unanimously approved by Committee on Committees. For the Faculty Emeritus Ad Hoc Committee, half will be made up of Faculty Senate/faculty and the other half will be Grad. Council. There will be a Co-Chair from Faculty Senate and one from Grad. Council. The members listed above were unanimously approved by the Committee on Committees. YT Lee thanked J. Sherry and the Committee on Committees for their work.

Motion: J. Sherry

Second: A. Pond

A vote commenced: 19 Yeas, 2 Nays, 1 Abstention. The council and committee listed above were approved as presented (together as a group).

F. Governance Committee: Chair, Christopher Wienke/Proxy Senator M. Shamsi
M. Shamsi stated we met virtually and voted on two things. I was elected as the new Chair of the Governance Committee. (C. Wienke's teaching schedule was during Senate meetings.) The other item was for the Resolution on Reimbursement Process. It was forwarded to Dr. Lee. It will probably be presented at the Faculty Senate meeting on April 29, 2025. YT Lee thanked M. Shamsi for his willingness to serve as Chair and hopes he continues to serve.

G. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee: Co-Chairs, Gary Apgar & Dale Aschemann
(no report)

H. Faculty Advisory Council to IBHE: Lichang Wang
The FAC to IBHE meeting was held on March 21 at the DeVry University (DVU), following my previous report at the FS meeting on March 18, 2025. There were two presentations. The first was given by Paula Ure, Dean of Accreditation and Academic Quality, DeVry University, on the DVU Experiences with Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Programmatic Accreditation. The second presentation, titled "Continued Success at the DeVry University Advantage Academy", was given by Dr. Brian Niro, Assistant Dean of Teaching and Learning at DeVry University. The DEI resolution that we voted on during the previous Faculty Senate meeting was passed. FAC IBHE also expressed its opposition to the state proposal authorizing community colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees. Details of the meeting can be found at <http://www.facibhe.org/meetings/minutes.php>. The next FAC to IBHE meeting will be held on April 25, 2025. YT Lee thanked L. Wang.

I. Graduate Council Representative: Mark Peterson
M. Peterson stated since the last faculty Senate meeting Andy Wilber, who's the Vice Chair of the Grad. Council, and I met with the ombudsperson to discuss the Grad. Council's role in student grievances. It was an informative meeting. Andy Wilber will be taking up the lead on the Faculty Emeritus issue that was just mentioned. In our most recent meeting, we approved a Resolution in Support of Modification to the Graduate Alternative Tuition Rate Policy. Recently, we provided feedback to the Registrar on Fall Break schedule changes or proposed changes. There wasn't a strong opinion in the Grad. Council or their membership on that, but we tend to oppose the change. At our last meeting, we had a first reading on the Resolution in Support of the MS in Population Science. I will have a second reading and vote on that, hopefully in May.

VCR Tsatsoulis stated the Graduate Alternative Tuition Rate Policy, also known as the High Achiever Tuition, required that the graduate student have 70% in the GRE verbal or quantitative or the GMAT or MAT. The changes were that the student must have an average of 70% in the verbal and quantitative. We had students who might have had 80% in one and 10% in the other. Also, the GPA must be 3.25. There was no GPA requirement in the past. And finally, for master students the time is limited to two years where they can receive that, and for PhD students six years with the opportunity to extend it to eight years.

VIII. Old Business – YT Lee stated the DFW Committee will report in May.

IX. New Business – A. Pond stated I just want to remind everyone to be sure to nominate for officers for the next year. I sent out two calls with descriptions of the offices.

X. Adjournment
Motion: J. Sherry
Second: L. Wang