

**2023-2024 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 19, 2024**  
**Morris Library, Room 752/754 or Teams Option**  
**1:00 – 3:00 P.M.**

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Roll Call: Michael Hylin**

Members: Nwamaka Anaza, Gary Apgar, Randall Auxier, Lingguo Bu, Marissa Ellerman, Scott Gilbert, Michael Hylin, Ghassan Ishak, Seung-Hee Lee, Sarah Lewison, Stacey McKinney, Amber Pond, Louis Premkumar, Bethany Rader, Walter Ray, Diana Sarko, Jennifer Walker, Lichang Wang, Cherie Watson, Rachel Whaley, Christopher Wienke, Geoffrey Young  
Members Absent with Proxy: Lorelei Ritchie (Proxy Dale Aschemann)

Members Absent: Mehdi Ashayeri, Daniel Bronke, Ying Chen, Elaine Jurkowski, Arash Komaaee, Yueh-Ting Lee, Khalid Meksem, Jeffrey Punske, Seyed Yaser Samadi

Guests: Taegan Carpenter, Scott Collins, Rachel Frazier, Josh Frick, Jessica Hall, Melissa Laake, Austin Lane, Bridget Liggett, Julie Lindsey, Costas Tsatsoulis, Amy Turpin, Sheryl Tucker, Carroll Walker, Nick Wortman

**III. Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2024**

Motion: A. Pond

Second: R. Whaley

A vote commenced: 16 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The minutes from 02/13/2024 were approved as presented.

**IV. Guest Speaker**

A. Amy Turpin, Access Solutions Director for Follette

Follett Access Program is launching this summer on campus.

Follette has been around 150 years. In order to reduce the cost of books for students, they would buy back the books from students instead of buying books from the publisher. In 2009, they dealt with textbook rentals which helped the students get up to 80% off the textbook cost. Now they have gotten to E-books and courseware or also known as access codes. They started working with publishing partners to come up with a plan to reduce the cost of books (they sell to 24% to SIU students now). Of that 24% they sold to last year, 39% of those students purchased access codes or e-books, 25% of what they bought was consumable, and 24% was an older copyright. Only 12% of what they were selling over last year was a standalone textbook. Publishers are changing additions every year and a half now. Sixty percent of students are waiting until they actually go to class for the first time to decide if they're going to buy their book. Out of that 60%, 65% of them don't buy their book due to cost. And out of that 65%, 95% of them know that they're going to get a worse grade, but they don't buy the book due to cost. Follett started negotiating with publishers and now they can buy in bulk from the publishers to reduce the fees. If the cost of course materials are put into the cost of tuition or fees, and the required textbooks are put into digital format, Follett can deliver the required materials to the students before the first day of class at a much discounted price. The Department of Higher Education actually mandates that the prices they put on the program are the lowest cost on the marketplace.

If you don't use an access code, Follett can take a physical book and put it on the program in an e-book format. Students can download books and print 20-50% of the book. Follette can provide text to speech, dyslexic font, and 180-day rental for e-books. There will be a summer pilot program through COBA. COBA's books are some of the most expensive books of any program on campus and the cost savings for students is substantial. Any questions about courses that would be on the program, contact Chad Nale (Market Leader for our campus) for questions.

Provost Tucker said that in the state of Illinois we can't bill students textbooks to their bursar accounts. That is a regulatory prohibition.

**V. Remarks**

**A. President's Comments: Bethany Rader**

Josh Frick our administrative assistant is leaving at the end of the week. The constituency groups have greatly benefited from his work. Provost Tucker announced they have identified a replacement (Melissa Laake). B. Rader attended the Posthumous Degree Policy Committee meeting. The Posthumous degree policy is being updated. Full Senate meeting will be April 9, 2024 and the second meeting is April 30, 2024. During the second meeting, this full Senate will meet for the first half and then the Senate members rotating off will leave at the hour mark and the new members will join. The Senate will then choose their officers.

**VI. Q and A Session with Chancellor and Provost**

**A. Chancellor Austin Lane Report**

The legislative session is now in Springfield. The governor has proposed his budget. For us it means \$1.7 million that will go towards our state appropriation. We have our hearing with the House and Senate that is scheduled for March and April. A summary sheet will be provided to Dr. Rader (retention rates, how much we spend/receive, map grants, Aim High).

Assistant Vice Chancellor Nick Wortman reported on Cbiz (consultant hired to do our faculty equity study). Contract has not been signed yet.

**B. Provost Sheryl Tucker Report**

We are watching legislation in Illinois that would grant college students two unscheduled mental health days. We've built in a mental health day next year and in the 26<sup>th</sup> calendar as well. It's the Friday before Homecoming. Also, once fully approved in the system, we will have an Associate Provost for Student Success.

**VII. Guest Speakers**

**A. Jessica Hall: Eclipse Weekend engagement/recruitment opportunities at SalukiCon**

A flyer was passed out to everyone. The Expo space can be used to talk about your department or major. SalukiCon is April 6-7, 2024.

**B. Taegan Carpenter: Sustainability curriculum student presentation**

Her original project was about the composting system here at SIU. As she progressed with the project, she made it a visibility issue. She took a survey of a couple of honors courses last semester. Of the students surveyed, 40% had never before talked about any sustainability issues in an academic setting. Taegan proposed Saluki sustainability

curriculum changes. She suggested that every undergraduate student take at least one class (3 credit class) that is sustainability related. The University Core Curriculum could be green highlighted for the courses that relate to sustainability. She would like it to be a graduation requirement to take a “green” course. Data will be collected by the Sustainability Hub to see how many students are taking more than one green highlighted course at a time to prove desire for sustainability education. The Sustainability Hub organizes the day-to-day affairs and the Sustainability Council vote on the green fee.

## VIII. Reports

- A. Executive Committee: Chair, Bethany Rader  
(Nothing new to report.)
- B. Election Committee: Chair, Elaine Jurkowski (presented by B. Rader)  
We are currently starting the process of general election. This is replacing Senate seats. One third of the Senate should rotate off every year. Using the spring faculty list from HR, the total FTE for those that fit the description of voting faculty through the Senate operating paper and the total number of seats per unit will be sent to the elections committee. They will need to approve that information. Once that’s done, notification emails will be sent for nominations from those units. New members should be ready for the April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. We are trying to get the JRB seats filled. To be eligible, one must be a full professor. There are some restrictions as well.
- C. Undergraduate Education Policy Committee: (presented by B. Rader)
  - a. Resolution to Recommend Approval of the RME for the elimination of the BA in Mathematics
  - b. Resolution to Recommend Approval of the RME for the elimination of the Respiratory Therapy Specialization in the B.S. in Healthcare Management

Information was emailed and posted in the Teams group. B. Rader asked that both RMEs be voted on together for the elimination of the two programs.

Motion: Rachel Whaley

Second: Cherie Watson

A vote commenced: 17 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention; The RMEs from 3/19/24 were approved as presented.

- D. Budget Committee: Rachel Whaley (no report)
- E. Committee on Committees: Co-Chairs, Amber Pond and Cherie Watson (no report)
- F. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee: Yueh-Ting Lee and Jennifer Walker (no report)
- G. Governance Committee: Chris Wienke
  - C. Wienke is now the Chair of the Governance Committee. Yesterday we found out the Faculty Senate Operating Papers were last updated in 2022. We will postpone updating it.
- H. Faculty Advisory Council to IBHE: Lichang Wang  
February 16, 2024 and March 15, 2024 is when there were faculty advisory committee meetings to IBHE. Presentation in the Feb. meeting given by Dr. Newman was focused on teaching students to think critically which was based on his book. The presentation in the March meeting given by Prof. Gallaher, Assistant Dir. for Food Systems Innovation, and Chef Fuller from NIU spoke about NIU Edible Campus. Two presentations were given by Prof. Weffer of NIU who is engaged in the development of the most recent IBHE model

and also by the chair of IBHE on the importance of developing funding models.

I. Graduate Council Representative: Scott Collins

From the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting there was a resolution approved regarding a RME for degrees in multidisciplinary biomedical and biological sciences. There was a resolution approved to rename the School of Law to the Simmons School of Law. There was a resolution that was passed defining the GPA requirements for post baccalaureate certificates, and that's where it's now 3.0 is required for all coursework in a postgrad certificate. There was a resolution passed for defining a second master's degree. Now it has to be different than the original master's degree earned. A resolution passed that SIUC is no longer going to sign on to the Council of graduate schools' resolution that required every student that was offered a position within our programs that they had until April 15<sup>th</sup> to respond. The resolution does require that we give any student that we offer position to at least two weeks, but we don't have to give them until April 15<sup>th</sup>. That was by the original Council graduate schools type of proposal and the rationale for that is not all units on campus were following the April 15<sup>th</sup> requirement by us being signed on as a member of that resolution. Discussion for the next meeting: transfer credit requirements/limitations for Masters and Doctoral degrees, elimination of Mining & Mineral Resources Engineering Concentration, and resolution for the Center for Virtual Expression.

J. VC of Research: Costas Tsatsoulis

Applications for Graduate students for the fall are more than 10% up compared to last year. The admitted students are up 35%. There are three events coming up. April 5, 2024 is the Graduate & Professional School Fair at the Student Center Art Gallery from 10-2pm. March 27, 2024 from 11-12pm in the Student Services Building faculty will discuss mentoring. March 28, 2024 from 1-2pm at the Student Services Building room 307 will be a workshop for R&D Funding through Illinois state agencies.

K. Ad Hoc Committee on Institutional Ranking/Educational Quality: Co-Chairs, Elaine Jurkowski and Yueh-Ting Lee (no report – information available on Teams)

**IX. Old Business – n/a**

**X. New Business**

Committee Reports please submit the week before the last meeting to state what was done for the year.

**XI. Adjournment**

A. Motion: A. Pond

B. Second: C. Watson