

Faculty Senate Minutes
October 22, 2015

1. Call to order

Richard Sher called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

2. Roll Call

The following voting members were present: W. Barnes, D. Blackmore, A. Bose, D. Bunker, I. Gatley, S. Gopalakrishnan, H. Grebel, W. Hunter, Q. Jones, A. Klobucar, E. Michalopoulou, Z. Qiu, A. Rosato, A. Saadeghvaziri, A. Schuman, R. Sher, L. Simon, R. Sodhi, A. Sohn, G. Thomas, and A. Zarzycki

The following non-voting members were present: J. Bechtold (for K. Passerini), B. Baltzis, C. Fey, K. Riismandel, M. Rusinkiewicz, R. Sweeney, D. Ullman, and John Vito d'Antonio-Beratagnoli

The following Chairpersons of FS standing committees and guests were present: S. Brito, E. Farinas, N. Steffen, L. Valente, and S. Ziavras

3. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting

The minutes from the October 8, 2015 meeting were approved.

4. Report of the President of Faculty Senate

Faculty meeting on Oct. 14: the proposed motions were approved, but we need a better turnout to ensure a quorum by the end of the meeting

Faculty meetings next semester are scheduled for Feb. 24 and Apr. 6

5. Committee Reports

CUE Report – E. Michalopoulou

The Senate approved, by a vote of 17 in favor and 1 abstention, a motion supporting the following action by CUE: “The following Humanities 3xx courses with the COM prefix were approved as fulfilling the "Open" portion of the HSS GUR requirement: COM 303: Video Narrative, COM 350: Digital Video Production, COM 351: Documentary Studies, COM 352: Photojournalism, COM 369: Digital Poetry, COM 390: Electronic Writing Workshop.”

CGE Report – S. Ziavras. It was moved and seconded to approve the new PhD coursework requirements approved by CGE. The motion passed unanimously. It was moved and seconded to approve the modified dissertation registration requirements approved by CGE. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Committee on Honors Education – J. Bechtold

A motion was made and seconded to establish a Committee on Honors Education as a standing Faculty Senate Committee. After an amendment to add a position on the committee for an LEC representative was defeated, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Faculty Handbook Revisions

Streamlined Faculty Handbook Contents:

A motion was made and seconded to approve Part 1: University Administration and Shared Governance. The motion passed, 21 in favor and 1 abstention.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Part 2: The Faculty and Instructional Staff. There was discussion about Section 2.3.3: Faculty Emeriti. It was decided to replace the words “for an extended period of time” with the words “with distinction” in the following sentence in Section 2.3.3.1: “Faculty members who have served the University for an extended period of time may be granted the honorary title of Professor Emeritus or Professor Emerita upon retirement.” It was also decided to reconsider at the next meeting whether to add text on the benefits of Emeritus/Emerita status and an appeal process.

Regarding Section 2.4.1.1.1, on General Guidelines for Faculty Searches, Nancy Steffen will work with the Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities on adopting an appropriate set of guidelines for Faculty searches.

The motion on Part 2 passed, 20 in favor and 1 abstention.

There was preliminary discussion of Part 3: Academic Units and Their Administration. Regarding Department Bylaws, it was agreed that the Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, working with the Provost, will update the standard/default department bylaws. Departments will be encouraged to review their Department Bylaws, using the procedure in the Faculty Handbook for making changes and getting them approved by the Provost after review by the Dean and the Faculty Senate.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.