

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 1, 2021

3:30-5:00 pm Virtual meeting held via Zoom

Senators Present: Allen, Asmatulu, Bailey, Bann, Billingham, Bowen, Bray, Buerge, Byun, Carlson, Celestin, Connor, Decker, Dowling, Figy, Flynn, Hakansson, Hammond, Hull, Jarman, Kalomo, Lee, Lockard, Ma, Marble-Flint, Millar, Mirasol, Moody, Mozzani, Muthitacharoen, Myose, Navarro, Newman, Parham, Price, Pulaski, Ramanan, Rawson, Robinson, Ross, Schwartz, Small, Solomey, Sternfeld-Dunn, Sylvester, Tamtam, Weheba

Excused: Core, Markova

Absent: Bukonda, Johnson, Mullins

[Attendance 2020-2021](#)

Agenda Item	Notes / Discussion / Process / External Link	Outcome/Action/Completed
Call to order	3:30	
Informal statements and proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senator Myose Clarifies that class size limitations are determined by guidelines set in schedule building, not the event size limitations noted in WSU Today• Senator Asmatulu inquired about vaccinations for faculty; at present only K-12 educators are considered educators in the Kansas vaccine Phase 2 group.	
Approval of minutes	November 30, 2020	MSC
President's Report Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• President Search Town Halls will be open to whole university community; three times available; search firm is just beginning to seek candidates. It is clarified that the WSU committee is indeed 50% of the hiring committee.• This Government Contact List has been updated; Senators are encouraged to reach out as private citizens to contact legislators and executives to share concern for higher education.	
Committee Reports	Rules Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senate membership in Health Professions and At Large• First reading of Proposed Temporary Electronic Voting Policy Revision; The policy applies for only this semester. Senators addressed concerns that it may need to be extended to the fall - this would be taken up by the new senate when seated in May. A senator also proposed that this model should also be considered for full faculty meetings as large gathers will be difficult for the near future.	Vote is unanimous to accept the new senators
Old Business:	None	

<p>Discussion of COFSP statement Regarding KBOR COVID-related Dismissal Policy</p>	<p><u>Council of Faculty Senate Presidents (COFPS) Joint Statement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President Sternfeld-Dunn explains concerns for the process followed by KBOR in adopting the policy, specifically having no time for public comment. Some senators expressed positive support for the letter. A senator shared the AAUP statement and pushed for stronger action by the Faculty Senate, specifically calling for a vote of no confidence in KBOR. Others expressed concern that such a confidence vote would harm the position of the university, specifically unintended consequences and ‘blowback’ in the future. Many senators spoke to the feeling that this policy undermines academic freedom in general and tenure in particular. • Five senators in three divisions agreed to support putting a vote of no confidence on the agenda and therefore it will be taken up at the next senate meeting. 	
<p>As May Arise</p>		

Next Senate Meeting: February 8, 2021, 3:30-5:00 pm, via Zoom.

Adjourn: 4:52 pm

Prepared by John Hammond