

Faculty Senate Meeting  
November 11, 2019  
Minutes

Present: Heather Bailey, Bill Beardsley, Uchenna Baker, Laura Behling, Megan Gessel, Alison Tracy Hale, Sarah Moore, Tiffany MacBain, Jung Kim, Jairo Hoyas, Julia Looper, Regina Duthely, Heather White, Mushawn Knowles, Rebecca Lumbantobing, Chris Kendall.

Guests: Ariela Tubert

**Call to Order**

As Senate Chair Sara Freeman was unable to attend today's meeting, Vice Chair Gessel called the meeting to order.

**Announcements**

Gessel asked if there were any announcements; there were none.

**Approval of Minutes from October 28, 2019**

Hale, minute taker from the 10/28/19 meeting, commented that she had questioned in the notes whether it was acceptable practice to reference a report that was written following the meeting. Several senators remarked that it probably was not good practice and that reference to such a report should be removed; the minutes were approved pending this revision.

**Updates**

ASUPS President Knowles provided updates on the following topics:

- (1) ASUPS is still investigating a new software system that would help consolidate various types of student information and activities – “like Facebook but for our campus.” He noted that it provides many useful forms of communication for students but is expensive.
- (2) Free tampon and pad access is expanding into the residence halls.
- (3) They are continuing to move forward on the Rendezvous Room renovations (now called The Den).
- (4) Knowles clarified a comment he made at last week's faculty meeting related to the VP Search for Diversity; namely, that he and others continue to care and speak about staff workloads and the distribution of such work.

Staff Senate Representative Bailey reported that they are seeking donations of baked goods and crafts for the Holiday Bazaar that raises money toward the Rosa Beth Gibson scholarship fund. She wondered how to best get the word to faculty and students. MacBain suggested Bailey contact department chairs, and Knowles suggested that she send him a poster and he would have it put on the screens in Wheelock.

**Reports from Liaisons to Standing Committees**

MacBain reported that ASC Chair Anderson-Connelly contacted her regarding the committee's interest in the question of whether the university SSI graduation requirement should be waived for transfer students. He wondered if this was the purview of the ASC and, if the committee should want to change this university graduation requirement, if this should be initiated by the ASC or Senate. It was decided that the ASC could draft language and either bring it to the Senate or to the full faculty; however, the

committee itself did not have the authority to change a university graduation requirement. Senators also advised MacBain to communicate that it would be helpful for the ASC to consider whether such a change would apply to all transfer students or if it would be something that would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Behling expressed the view that it would be helpful that whatever the committee decided that they consider consistency in its application. MacBain stated that she will communicate these details to the ASC.

White reported that the contingent faculty committee has scheduled its first meeting. David Hansen is the 4<sup>th</sup> member.

### **Diversity Advisory Council shares findings from the Campus Climate Survey**

DAC is currently sharing findings from the Campus Climate Survey (2018) with various campus groups to solicit reactions, questions, and interpretations of the data in advance of campus-wide discussions of the results. Tubert, who was in attendance to facilitate such a discussion with Senate, noted that although DAC is taking notes on these conversations, they do not want to make them publicly available so that people may speak freely about the findings and not worry about being identified. For this reason, Kendall moved that the Senate move into executive session, M/S/P.

### **Senate Discussion of SET Committee Year End Report**

Gessel reviewed that the Senate charged PSC this year to take action based on the recommendation of the SET final report: she commented that the Senate could provide specific or general guidance. MacBain noted that the email and links from Jennifer Utrata pointing to the ASA guidelines echoed many of the same conclusions of the SET working group as well as many faculty concerns and comments following the SET's report at the faculty meeting. Gessel remarked that one option was for the PSC to consider revision of the Course/ Instructor Evaluation form. Moore commented that while form revision was part of the recommendation, so were aspects of the evaluation process. She stated, for example, that number of classroom visits and how the forms are used by those reading the forms were also part of the recommendation. MacBain stated that student education about the form's role and use in evaluations was another aspect the PSC might consider. Beardsley will communicate these recommendations to PSC Chair, David Andresen.

### **Other Business**

Gessel noted that, after the previous faculty meeting, it would be useful for the Senate to consider options and recommended next steps for the curricular revision (e.g., Ask faculty to vote on current options? Return work to CTF?). Several senators commented on their sense of faculty sentiment, and others questioned the degree to which we need to seek true consensus versus a "healthy" majority. Because of the importance of this issue, Senator's agreed to an additional meeting next Monday (11/18/19) in order to have a more extensive discussion of this question.

Meeting adjourned at 1:32.

Submitted  
Sarah Moore