

**Minutes of Faculty Senate, 9/12/16 Meeting  
123 Hathaway Hall**

**Senators**

Abdullah Alhurani (Nursing) A  
Ibukun Amusan (Math & Sci)  
Ken Andries (AFE)  
Nancy Capriles (BSS)  
Rene Desborde (Business)  
Gary Elliott (WYS) E  
Maheteme Gebremedhin (AFE) A  
Caroline Gibson (FIAR)  
Cindy Glass (BSS)  
William Graham (EDU) A  
Robert Griffin (FIAR)  
Buddhi Gywali (AFE)  
Dantrea Hampton (Library)  
Jens Hannemann (Comp Sci)  
Robert Hebble (Math & Sci)  
Ashok Kumar (at large)  
Vikas Kumar (AQU) A  
Li Lu (Math & Sci)  
Joe Moffett (LLP)

Narayanan Rajendran (at large)  
Reba Rye (at Large)  
Kimberly Sipes (at large)  
Peter Smith (LLP)  
Stephen Ulrich (PUA, CJ, SW)  
Changzheng Wang (at large)

University President Thompson thanked Senate for allowing him to speak, and he noted he had left another meeting to get to this one. He has

President Thompson stressed that it is important to understand that we are operating under a tight budget.

something like sexual assault will impact all members of campus. If there is an immediate threat, we should call police.

President Sipes informed Mr. Lowe that the Academic Policies Committee should be consulted on any changes of policy.

Mr. Lowe noted his office is working to be sure the Title IX policy is online. He will be offering training for faculty and staff to attend. He has pamphlets to share and noted he is located in room 330 in the Student Center.

#### 8. Report of the Academic Policies Committee

Chair Moffett indicated that APC discussed work it will undertake this year, including typical tasks for the committee, such as creating the academic calendar. President Sipes has indicated she envisions APC and PCC working together on projects, including updating the Faculty Handbook.

The committee went through the changes the Director of Distance Education, Jennifer Miles, had made over the summer to the proposal for the online program that APC had worked on in 2015-2016. The committee decided it needed more time to look at the document before it made decisions about the changes.

The Registry has produced a draft handbook of policies for the university. The committee will look at this document and discuss in coming meetings.

#### 9. Report of the Budget and Academic Support Committee

Chair Rye related that at its first meeting BASC went over its responsibilities according to the constitution. She noted that for the last two years the committee has not had access to detailed budget information, such as a line item budget. Until BASC can gain access to the finances of the university, it cannot make recommendations about how to allocate funds.

The committee also discussed pay equity, particularly new hires coming in at rates much higher than existing faculty. The committee hopes the administration is sensitive to that issue. The ratio of administra

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A motion to extend time for five minutes was made and seconded.

A guest asked if we are still contracted with an enrollment management firm, to which President Thompson replied that we are not.

Chair Rye noted that the strategic plan Mary Pat Wolford was working on had been shared with BASC. President Thompson replied that he had requested that Mary Pat reach out to members of the faculty. He noted it is an ambitious plan. Chair Rye asked about how the budget going forward would affect the plan, to which President Thompson replied that the plan is responsive to performance funding.

A guest asked if there could be faculty-wide input on the plan. President Thompson replied that time was short and that he was happy to share the plan widely once approved.

A senator pointed out that the group responsible for putting together the original plan had made sure to gather input from constituents across campus. He wanted to know why, precisely, the plan was not accepted. President Thompson responded that the Faculty Regent should be able to provide that information. He went on to note that the Board wanted to see a detailed timeline and clearer indication of who was responsible for seeing portions of the plan to completion.

Time was again extended through a motion.

A guest noted that two years had been invested in preparing the original plan and that while it may not have been the ideal plan it carried many significant goals. The guest admitted that the scholarship of teaching section was weak in the original version; President Thompson indicated that it would be strengthened now. He stressed that the essence of the plan has not changed; it has simply been made more robust, particularly with regard to enrollment management and teaching and learning.

#### 10. Report of the Curriculum Committee

Chair Andries said that CC met but did not have action items to discuss. T7shae

A guest commented on a lack of written reports on Board meetings from the Faculty Regent. President Sipes indicated she had requested the Faculty Regent to provide written reports of Board meetings, to which Regent McFayden agreed.

Chair Andries noted that he was working to be sure CC forms would be put on the senate website. He reminded senate about the deadlines for submitting requests, which should be around mid-October for spring implementation.

President Sipes noted that the Administrative Assistant was tasked with updating the senate website.

#### 11. Report of the Professional Concerns Committee

Chair Glass reported that PCC discussed Handbook, particularly with regard to tenure and promotion. The Handbook has been updated over the years on an ad hoc basis. A committee in 2014, led by Todd Davis, had worked on revisions. While they were submitted to the provost, these revisions were never approved, nor were they sent back to Senate for discussion. Therefore they have not been integrated into the current document. PCC received a file containing these revisions and will consider them as the committee moves forward.

The Registry had suggested we look at the practices of other universities our size with regard to promotion and tenure practices. At present we have an approach more in common with much larger universities such as the University of Kentucky or the University of Louisville. They suggested we look at universities with student enrollment of 2,000 or fewer as well as teaching faculties of around 100.

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Time was extended through a motion.