



Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: May 10, 2021 10:30 a.m.

Room: Online via Teams

Members Present: Phillip Sawatzki, Karen Henderson, Kris Bruckerhoff, Emmett Coon, Della Dubbe, Tod Dumas, Kimberly Feig, John Hartman, Derrick Hauer, Rick Henry, Kristina Kenning, Amy Kong, Steve Lewis, Nathan Munn, Rick Purcell, Virginia Reeves, Debra Rapaport, Seth Roby, Lisa Simpson, Bryon Steinwand, Lyn Stimpson, Larry Taylor, Jamie Valdez, Joyce Walborn, Chris Brown

- I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:35 by President Sawatzki
- II. Minutes from November 30, 2020 meeting: The questioned “second” under IV. Committee Reports, a. ASCRC should have included a second to Karen’s nomination of John Hartman by Steve Lewis. Steve moved to approve minutes with amendment and John seconded. Motion passed.
- III. Communications
 - a. Budget report: Phillip reported he did not spend any funds from the Senate budget this year. The remaining balance is about \$950.00. He requested the same amount of money from the new budget.
 - b. COVID-19 mandate changes: Mask mandates will likely be lifted, and by spring 2022 if not fall 2021, we will be back to capacity in rooms. Discussion about vaccination requirements.
 - c. HB 102 updates: Phillip updated members of his activities with MUSFAR in regard to HB 102. They have been meeting regularly. There is a lot of pushback, especially at the four-year campuses. MUSFAR is looking at legal action and working with an attorney. The focus is the overstepping of the government against the BoR. Phillip wants to know if there is faculty support to proceed with this action. There will be a poll for who is in favor of joining the lawsuit. Steve asked about the positions of other campuses. Great Falls has not joined. Discussion about why students feel unsafe. Discussion. Please vote on the anonymous poll whether you support joining the suit against HB 102 or not. Anonymous poll shows majority support joining the suit.
 - d. Senate presidency: Phillip would like to retire from his position as president and would like members to consider serving. Virginia expressed her interest in serving as president but not this year. This change will not occur until fall semester.
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. ASCRC

- i. Bryon said ASCRC has been very busy approving pathways. Have been meeting weekly for last six weeks. No need for new members yet because Debra Rapaport would like to keep her position unless/until her role as faculty changes for fall. Nominations delayed.
 - b. PAC: Steve and Amy will meet later this week. Will continue to work on the process.
 - c. ECOS
 - i. New member nominations: Bryon motioned to opened nominations for ECOS member. Rick H. seconded. Motioned passed.
 - ii. Are there any volunteers? Steve nominated Seth Roby; Bryon seconded. Emmett moved to close nominations. Nathan seconded. Nominations closed. Seth was elected by acclamation. ECOS for 2021-2022 will be Seth Roby, Virginia Reeves, John McLaughlin, Paul Nicholson, Rick Henry, Wes Walker, Kristina Kenning, and Steve Lewis.
- V. Unfinished Business
- VI. New Business
 - a. Review bylaw and article changes for new Academic Program Review Committee: Need new standing committee added under Faculty Senate. We will have second reading in the fall at the first Senate meeting.
 - b. Administration evaluations: Bylaws must reflect title changes. There will be a second reading and vote at the first meeting in the fall.
 - c. "Excellence in Teaching" vs "Professional Excellence awards": Discussion about why and how there have been these changes. Kim F. suggested that there should be more of a partnership between Faculty Senate and Staff Senate. What can be done to have a faculty member on Cabinet? Suggestion to follow up on this in the fall.
- VII. Good and Welfare/Question and Answer
- VIII. Adjournment: Virginia moved to adjourn Rick H. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.