

## MINUTES

### Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

#### BB 4061

**Present:** Graciela Berumen, Hansin Bilgili, Linda Craghead, Don Crawford, Carson Cuesta, Brad Cunningham, Monica Curnutt, Kimm Dennis, Joel DeRouchey, Teresa Douthit, Anthony Ferraro, Dan Higgins, Cassie Jones, Justin Kastner, Julia Keen, Joann Kouba, Ryan Leimkuehler, Sara Luly, Colby Moorberg, Abbey Nutsch, Michael Oetken, Susanne Renberg, Brandon Savage, Gwen Sibley, Kimberly Staples, Andy Thompson, Don Von Bergen, Zane Whitney

**Proxies:** Brandon Savage proxy for Tareque Nasser; Sujatha Prakash proxy for Mary Emerson-Sullivan

**Guests:** Provost Jesse Mendez, Vice Provost Margaret Mohr-Schroeder, Candace LaBerge

1. The meeting was called to order by President Teresa Douthit and the Land Acknowledgement was played.
2. Guests - Provost and Executive Vice President Jesse Mendez, along with Vice Provost Margaret Mohr-Schroeder, provided legislative updates. They reported on the new Federal Transition website where faculty, staff and students can get up-to-date information. Senators were encouraged to submit questions and concerns through the site.
3. The minutes from the November 26 meeting were approved as read.
4. Reports from Standing Committees, Graduate Student Council and Senates
  - A. Academic Affairs – Joann Kouba, co-chair. A motion was made to place the consent agenda items onto the Faculty Senate agenda. Two courses – Food Nutrition and Health (MS) and Food Nutrition and Health (MS) with Dietetic Internship – were listed under College of Ag and were moved to Health & Human Sciences. After this correction, the motion carried.

There was a motion to place the discussion agenda items onto the Faculty Senate agenda. Motion carried.

There was a motion to place the request for a Posthumous Degree for Autumn Johnson (Attachment 4) onto the Faculty Senate agenda. Motion carried.

Academic Affairs is finalizing a math and English pathways expedited approval process with Dr. Goos. A subcommittee to update the ARN has been established. Academic Affairs is also working on the Final Exam Inclement Weather Policy and the proposed Transfer Hours Policy, which would increase the number of transfer credit hours that can be used toward a K-State Bachelor's degree from 60 to 75 hours.
  - B. Faculty Affairs – Brandon Savage. Revisions to Appendix R, related to intellectual property, have been approved by the committee and anticipate General Counsel offering feedback. Concerning the Transfer Hour Policy, the committee anticipates the deans will take the lead in their colleges in helping them understand why this policy is a good idea. The committee is working on an expedited process for nominating and selecting faculty for the KBOR faculty of the year award, should KBOR

approve the changes to the policy that were proposed by the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents (COFSP).

The committee is also providing feedback on the Tuition Benefits proposal submitted by the COFSP. They are also looking at data presented by Senator Bahadori on trends related to non-tenure track faculty appointments. Vice Provost Margaret Mohr-Schroeder reported that two colleges have submitted their workload policies. There have been concerns about the new Performance Management Policy not going through the handbook approval process.

C. Graduate Student Council – Zane Whitney. Senator Whitney provided an update on the registration deadline for KGRAD. The event will happen over two days with poster presentations on March 11<sup>th</sup> and oral presentations on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The first round of Three Minute Thesis will happen on February 5th. The final competition will take place on February 19 in the K-State Student Union Ballroom.

D. JEDAll – Gwen Sibley. The committee reported on their work concerning ATA Bus and the current bus system. They reminded everyone of the MLK Observance Week events.

E. Professional Staff Affairs – Monica Curnutt/Linda Craghead. The committee met with representatives from HR regarding Concur and Anthony travel. The University needs to phase out E-Forms which is a homegrown tool. More training was requested during the transition and will be announced on K-State Today. Dr. Marshall Stewart will be their next guest speaker.

F. Student Senate – Carson Cuesta - No report.

G. Technology – Phil Vardiman, Abby Nutsch. The committee met with Dr. Mohr-Schroeder and representatives from student senate regarding syllabi statements related to the use of AI in the classroom. They also discussed discontinuing E-mail accounts for former students, faculty, staff and policies for emeritus faculty email access. The committee will request updates on the status of the ERP modernization project as well.

H. University Planning – Cassie Jones/Kimberly Kramer. No Report

I. University Support Staff – Kimm Dennis. The committee has submitted new language for the meritorious service award. Their website and forms will be updated as well.

5. Old Business

A. Proposed NNR Amendment re: Grandfathered class – A request was submitted in writing to place an amendment to the NNR policy onto the Faculty Senate agenda. The request included at least 10 signatures and was submitted at least three days before the Executive Committee meeting. Per the Faculty Senate Constitution, this was automatically placed on the next Faculty Senate meeting agenda; no vote was needed. Senator Higgins provided context for the proposed amendment.

6. Announcements and updates from other committees

A. Budget Model Review - The budget model review steering committee has reviewed different types of budget models.

B. VPR Search Update - The position description has been posted. Applications are open. They can be submitted through the Witt-Kiefer candidate portal.

C. KBOR Report – Modifications to the KBOR faculty of the Year Award were discussed. If approved, the award will include three categories: non-tenure track, tenure track, and tenured. President Flanders, KBOR president and CEO, testified in front of the Kansas legislature regarding salaries, calling legislators’ attention to the fact that salary adjustments for faculty have fallen behind those of other state employees. There was a tuition assistance proposal presented to the provosts that would allow KBOR institution employees to utilize tuition benefits at any KBOR institution, not just the employee’s home institution. The provosts were supportive conceptually but had lots of questions about logistics. A survey will be sent out to collect data.

D. The Open Forum with President Linton will take place on February 13, 3:30 pm, in the Alumni Center to discuss administrative structure at the university.

Provost Mendez will be our guest at the February Faculty Senate meeting, and he will present data collected from Wildcat Pause Day.

E. Senate elections will begin in February. Caucus chairs were encouraged to submit nominations for president-elect and secretary.

F. There will be a Campus Master Plan Town Hall on Feb. 11, 5:15-6:30pm, at the Alumni Center.

7. Open discussion

Ryan Leimkuehler shared concerns from the Library Caucus related to new IT policies. Those IT policies were reviewed by members of the Library Caucus in July, feedback was provided, and those IT policies were then shared again in December, but the concerns were not resolved. The library committee is concerned that governance and information sharing has not happened sufficiently on this matter.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 25, 2025; 3:30 pm, Room BB 4061