

Minutes
27 November 2023
4:00 PM
University Faculty Senate
Shawnee State University

1. Call to Order

UFS President Mariah Woodward called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Roll Taking

Secretary Sarah Ivers recorded the attendance as follows:

Gene Burns, Sandi Allen, Thomas Bunting, Mikel Stone, Jennifer Scott, Ruby Gray, Andy Napper, Sarah Clausing, Ryan Walker, Adam Miller, Phil Blau, Bastien LeCouffe Deharme, Sandra Beam, Thomas Piontek, and officers (Jim Reneau, Dovel Myers, Mariah Woodward, Drew Feight, and Sarah Ivers)

Absent: None

3. Approval of Minutes

No changes requested, seconded Ruby Gray. Approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda

Correction of ISCS 2700 to ICIT 2700 (Mariah Woodward). Movement and approval seconded by Jennifer Scott. Approved unanimously.

5. Announcements and Remarks from the Senate President Mariah Woodward

- Shared UFS written response to letter from Interim President Braun regarding campus reorganization. Letter was distributed to senators.

6. Treasurer's Report: Jim Reneau

No change. Motioned for approval seconded by Sarah Clausing. Passed unanimously.

7. Administrative Reports:

Eric Braun, Interim President –

- General Comments:
 - Signaled appreciate for the letter of response, requested time to review it prior to providing a reply or requested information in letter.
 - *Andy Napper: "Will you respond to the Faculty Senate before the next BOT meeting?"*
 - *Response from Braun: "yes"*

Sunil Ahuja, Provost –

- **Commencement:** December 9th, will have 110 – 120 graduates (small group)
- Wishes everyone Happy Holidays

Jennifer Pauley:

- **Retention/Completion Task Force –**
 - Registration Fair Update:
 - 40 undergraduate students registered for classes , many in BSOT program
 - 30 graduate students registered at this time
 - of these, 48 sat at a table, others registered in this time block (perhaps because they were reminded)
 - 10 students shared that they would not be returning
 - This was the third registration fair (November 14th from 10 am – 2 pm.)

Jaime Madden and Alyssa Owens – Blackboard Update:

- Working collaboratively with Erik Larson
- Blackboard will be updated to Blackboard Ultra
 - Will occur in two phases:
 - Phase 1; outward appearance – happened in Fall of 2023
 - Phase 2; ultra-course view will be implemented for courses (uses a simplified process, clean interface, should be easier)
 - BB Anthology references will be available for transition
 - Have to change since Anthology is ending the current course view
 - Also, Collaborate is already Ultra
 - Timeline is still uncertain; work will be done in collaboration with individual departments. Change will be phased in over a year or more.
 - *Phil Blau – “Can we copy over from our old courses?”*
 - *Response: “yes, you can”*
 - *Jim Reneau – suggested that transition will be time consuming*

8. Announcements from the Senate Floor

None.

9. Committee and Director Reports

- UFS Executive Committee introduced discussion of **Shared Governance Actions relating to College Reorganization** (led by Drew Feight)
- Discussed concerns in the letter, describes those listed as all being legitimate concerns and that we should utilize this opportunity to work as shared governance
 - Made a motion to form a joint ad-hoc committee with faculty and administration (2-3 faculty per college, balanced with administration) – with the goal of reaching a final plan by April of 2024
 - Seconded by Gene Burns
 - Vote: All in Favor with one abstention (Thomas Piontek)
- *Continued discussion – this would eventually become a EPCC 5-day hearing*
Mariah Woodward offered to send an email to senate to call for volunteers, but Interim President Braun asked if it was appropriate for him to appoint the members of the committee per policy. UFS amended email call for volunteers to be used as a recommendation for Interim President Braun’s selection.
 - *Discussion followed regarding whether Presidential appointment was necessary since this was an in Senate Committee and it was suggested the report be shared out to the President and Provost offices. Provost Ahuja referred to Article 22.9 and recommended that the suggested actions go against the CBA wording. Lucas Barry and Gene Burns also weighed in*

relating to the role of SEA in the situation. Interim President Braun favored the procedure even if precedence is set. Results: Inconclusive.

- **OFC Meeting (Mariah Woodward):**
 - OT36 changes are coming, stay tuned
 - Discussion held about race-based scholarships
 - SB83 – will be a hearing related to it on the following Wednesday

10. Unfinished Business

Will vote on updated Shared Governance Document in New Business.

11. New Business

- Mariah Woodward motioned to Bundle 11.A through 11.MM (all program and course proposals). Jim Reneau seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the bundle.
- Phil Blau seconded bringing the bundle to a vote. Curricular bundle approved unanimously.
- Item 11.NN – Previously resolved.
- Item 11.OO moved into discussion by Mariah Woodward and seconded by Thomas Piontek.
 - Reiteration of Chip Poirot's concerns: preferred document to remain as structured in 2008 compared to present iteration. Also unhappy with ARMC process – faculty need to go through a long proposal process that is not necessary for administration when they propose/create similar changes (absence of being held to the same standard).
 - *Jim Reneau – reminded everyone that the documents will need to be reviewed and changed again once the reorganization takes place*
 - *Andy Napper – ARMC process is from Kurtz and needs some heavy review, requested that this document in discussion be pushed to an ad-hoc committee and reintroduced at a later meeting*
 - *Drew Feight – also expressed concerns for ARMC process*
 - *Thomas Piontek – lack of balance in faculty vs. admin proposal process needs to be corrected as part of this larger change*
 - Mariah Woodward motioned to close the debate regarding document, suggesting it be put to a vote considering that it will soon be revisited. Drew Feight motioned to have a vote. This was seconded by Dovel Myers. Vote was passed with four abstentions (Andy Napper, Thomas Piontek, Jim Reneau, Sarah Ivers).

12. Adjournment

- Drew Feight motioned for adjournment. All voted in favor.