

Faculty Senate (FS) Minutes
Wednesday, September 5, 2018, Meeting #1, Fall Semester
Russell Building 100, 3:00 pm

Attending:

Stan Alluisi	Diane Dixon	Kathy McDonald
Daniel Althoff	Steven Emge	Chris Moretti
Brandon Burnette	William Fridley	Josh Nannestad
Han-Sheng Chen	Karl Frinkle	Patrick Reardon
Randy Clark	Brad Ludrick	Rhonda Richards
Kay Daigle	Charles Matthews	Michael Scheuerman
		Kate Shannon

Not Attending:

Kathy Boothe

Guests:

Derek Cash, Rolando Diaz, Carolyn Fridley

I. Call to Order and Welcome by Chair Althoff at 3:00 pm

II. Introduction of [New and Returning Senators](#) by Chair Althoff. From the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences (EBS), Kay Daigle was re-elected to a three-year term, and Kate Shannon was elected to fill the remaining two-years of a term. Another position in EBS, with a one-year term remaining, went unfilled. Attempts will be made at the end of the fall semester to fill that position in EBS. From the School of Arts & Sciences, Patrick Reardon was elected to a three-year term, and Diane Dixon and Randy Clark were each re-elected to a three-year term. From the John Massey School of Business, Han-Sheng Chen was re-elected to a three-year term.

III. Approval of the Minutes from [April 25, 2018](#). The minutes from the last meeting of the previous academic year were not taken (or were not provided) by the previous Recorder. It was agreed that there were no substantive motions other than the [Committee on Committees report](#) that included appointments to the 2018-2019 general faculty committees and councils (i.e. university committees), which were approved. This final meeting also included the sharing of FS committee year-end reports, which are linked on the [Senate Documents Spring 2018](#) page on the website. It was agreed that the website would be updated to indicate that the meeting did take place, and that minutes are not available.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Daigle reported that the amount requested for the FS budget has not been fully funded (perhaps due to the practice of only "releasing" 75% of budget amounts). This would leave us without adequate funds for the FS awards, including proposed plaques for the lifetime achievement award and funding for the adjunct award. The EC will work with the administration to secure adequate funding. It was suggested that if adequate funding can't be secured, perhaps the award amounts can be adjusted to leave funding for the

adjunct award. The license for Survey Monkey has been updated, at a discount. There was some discussion about the password protocols for Survey Monkey. This will be worked out by the FS officers who have been using Survey Monkey.

V. Election of Faculty Senate Officers

- A. **Recorder:** Diane Dixon was elected as Recorder by acclamation. Later in the meeting, Senator Dixon noted scheduling conflicts and asked to withdraw as Recorder. Rhonda Richards was then elected as Recorder by acclamation.
- B. **Treasurer:** Kay Daigle was re-elected as Treasurer by acclamation.
- C. **Parliamentarian:** Chris Moretti was re-elected Parliamentarian by acclamation.

VI. Faculty Senate Committee Reports

- A. **Executive Committee (EC):** Chair Althoff reported on the mid-summer [July 17, 2018 meeting of the EC](#) to establish some priorities for 2018-2019. Althoff noted that some of the issues raised have been obviated by subsequent developments. Other topics will be discussed further at a meeting called for September 25, 2018 by President Burrage that will include the FS EC, the AAUP Executive Committee, and representatives from the Staff Association and the Student Government Association. The overarching topic for this meeting is *strategic planning*. Relevant priority topics for the EC include faculty compensation, faculty hiring prioritization process, intellectual property, and issues related to the growing accelerated online programs.
- B. **Committee on Committees (CoC):** Senator Ludrick reported that general faculty committee and council (i.e. university committees) membership lists (including student appointments) have been posted on the website. Ludrick has contacted the committees and requested that they schedule meetings and elect chairs. It was noted that there are a few slots vacant, due to retirements. The CoC will make appointments for these vacancies at their first meeting.

Senator Ludrick also mentioned the CoC's continuing work on the organizational structure for learning technologies, distance and online education. It was noted that over the summer, several "directives" were issued from the Center for Instructional Development and Technology (CIDT) that some have regarded as unclear, unnecessarily onerous, lacking adequate faculty input and oversight, and being logistically and pedagogically problematic. The CoC and FS will be actively working with CIDT and Academic Affairs to address these issues. It was noted that the rapid changes taking place intensify the need for clear communication and active participation to make these transitions meaningful, pedagogically informed, and educationally productive.

- C. **Committee Appointment Preferences:** Forms for senators to choose their preferences for FS committees were distributed, filled out, and collected. Chair Althoff will use the forms to make the FS committee appointments.

VII. New Business

- A. Chair Althoff proposed that Russell 100 be adopted as the site for subsequent FS meetings this fall. Althoff was informed that the technology in Russell 100 was not functioning. It was later learned that a power surge had rendered the technology inoperable. The technology should be fixed by the next meeting. The new meeting location was adopted by acclamation.
- B. Meeting dates and times were proposed (all Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.): September 19; October 3, 17, 31; November 7, 28.
Senator Emge moved that the dates be accepted, with the proposed November 7 meeting date moved to November 14 to preserve the every-two-weeks schedule. Second by Senator Daigle. Vote: Yes—11, No—6, Abstentions—1. Motion carried.
- C. Chair Althoff informed the senate of a request from the administration (VPAA Bryon Clark) that Shared Governance Forum #1 be held on Monday, October 1, from 3:00-4:00 p.m., with the topic “Strategic Planning and the University Budget.” Senator Matthews moved that the proposal be accepted. Second by Senator Alluisi. Vote: Yes—18, No—0, Abstentions—0. Motion carried.
- D. Chair Althoff informed the senate of an invitation from the [Texas Council of Faculty Senates](#) to attend an October 27 meeting in Austin. Althoff had received the invitation on July 17, and shared it with the EC. There was some interest in attending. Several senators expressed interest in attending, and there were several questions about the purpose of the meeting, the cost, who—specifically—is invited, and the availability of funding. Althoff will make appropriate inquiries to answer these questions and report his findings to the FS.
- E. Senator Fridley noted that the [Insurance and Benefits Committee](#) met on July 19 and the [meeting minutes](#) have been posted on the website. Senator Matthews shared some of the highlights of the meeting: an expansion of available plans, discontinuation of American Fidelity plans, and continuation of the Zero Card. Human Resources will be conducting informational sessions prior to the enrollment period. The Personnel Policies Committee will make a faculty appointment to fill a vacant slot on the committee, and the Staff Association will also need to make a staff appointment.

Senator Fridley mentioned the latest iteration of the [Intellectual Property policy proposal](#) (with paragraph 2 deleted) that was approved by the FS on [April 11 \(V. New Business, Other, A.\)](#), and the [resolution on a faculty hiring prioritization process](#) that was approved by the FS on [December 8, 2017](#) (III. Committee Reports, D. Executive Committee). He encouraged the FS to follow up on these two items.

- F. Chair Althoff scheduled an informal discussion group open to all senators for September 12 at 3:00 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge. The focus of the discussion will be on faculty compensation.

VIII. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Senator Alluisi, Second by Senator Scheuerman. Vote: Unanimous yes. Motion carries

Minutes respectfully submitted by Senator William Fridley