

**Faculty Senate**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 9, 2014**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Classroom Building 118**

**I. Call to order**

**Sen. Moretti** called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

**Attending:**

Daniel Althoff	Jennifer Hicks
Martin Bressler	George Jacox
Dennis Brewster	Alistair Maeer
Riley Coker	John Mischo
Kay Daigle	Christopher Moretti
Diane Dixon	Halet Poovey
Blythe Duell	Krista Ramírez
Brett Elliott	Rhonda Richards
Steve Emge	Robert Stevens
William Fridley	Jerry Stout
Layne Heitz	

**Not attending:**

Han-Sheng Chen  
 Tristan Eggener  
 Jacob Wallace

**Guests:**

Margaret (Meg) Cotter-Lynch  
 Christala Smith

**II. Approval of minutes from the meeting on March 26, 2014**

**Sen. Althoff** noted that the Minutes from March 26 should have indicated a correction from the Minutes of the March 12 meeting to read that *Sen. Wallace* also reported on behalf of the Committee on Committees. (The correction was nevertheless made in a timely manner and submitted to the Faculty Senate Archivist, **Sen. Fridley**, but simply not noted in the appropriate Minutes.)

**Sen. Duell** moved to approve the Minutes with corrections.

**Sen. Dixon** seconded the motion.

**The Motion to approve the Minutes passed: 11 in favor; none opposed; 1 abstention.**

**III. Committee Reports**

**A. Committee on Committees:** **Sen. Emge** reminded Faculty Senators to complete their Committee Appointment preferences form by the end of this month.

**B. Executive Committee:** **Sen. Moretti** reported that the Executive Committee had just met to revise the Faculty Senate Survey, making some deletions and doing some re-wording to be able to tease out additional information. He added that he also appointed two Ad Hoc committees: one on Teaching and Innovation, and the second on Marketing. **Sen. Bressler**,

chairing the Ad Hoc Committee on Marketing, reported that they had met on the morning of April 9 and had begun their work gathering information.

- C. University Affairs Committee: Sen. Stout**, chair of the committee, reported that the last Brown Bag Lunch will be held next week.
- D. Planning Committee: Sen. Coker**, chair of the committee, reported that all votes for the Faculty Senate Awards had been tallied and that there were clear winners in all categories. She added that all but two Faculty Senators cast votes.
- E. Personnel Policies Committee: Sen. Poovey**, chair of the committee, provided several documents to the Faculty Senate in advance of today's meeting, including the committee's [Report](#) from its last meeting on April 7.

The PPC proposed changes to the Faculty Senate's Constitution. The complete text of the amendment to reduce the number of senators, as presented on the paper ballot, reads as follows:

**Current Text**

Section E.

(revised 10-2008)

The senators shall be elected as soon as possible after the election of the chair/chair-elect. The School of Arts and Sciences shall have 10 senators, the School of Business shall have 4 senators, the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences shall have 6 senators, and the library shall have one. All senators shall serve three-year terms, with the terms staggered so that each school elects approximately 1/3 of its senators each fall.

**Proposed Amendment I**

Section E.

The senators shall be elected *at the beginning of the fall semester*. The School of Arts and Sciences shall have 10 senators, the School of Business shall have 4 senators, the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences shall have 6 senators, and the library shall have one. All senators shall serve three-year terms, with the terms staggered so that each school elects approximately 1/3 of its senators each fall.

For Amendment \_\_\_\_\_ Against Amendment \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Amendment II**

All senators shall serve three-year terms, with the terms staggered so that each school elects approximately 1/3 of its senators each fall. *The term of the senator will end on July 31 of their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of service.*

For Amendment \_\_\_\_\_ Against Amendment \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Amendment III**

Section E.

The senators shall be elected as soon as possible after the election of the chair/chair-elect. The School of Arts and Sciences shall have 8 senators, the School of Business shall have 3 senators, the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences shall have 5 senators, and the library shall have one. All senators shall serve three-year terms, with the terms staggered so that each school elects approximately 1/3 of its senators each fall.

For Amendment \_\_\_\_\_ Against Amendment \_\_\_\_\_

The paper ballots were collected and tallied by **Sen. Poovey** and delivered to the Faculty Senate Recorder, **Sen. Althoff**. The results were:

**Proposed Amendment I was approved: 19 in favor, none opposed.**  
**Proposed Amendment II was approved: 19 in favor, none opposed.**  
**Proposed Amendment III was approved: 17 in favor, two opposed.**

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Two other amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution presented by the Personnel Policies Committee dealt with specifying the terms of office for the chair and chair-elect. The complete texts of the amendments as they appeared on the paper ballot are below:

**Current Text**

Section C.

The offices of chair and chair-elect are two-year terms. Upon completion of the two-year term, the office of chair will be filled by the chair-elect. Elections for the chair-elect will be held in the spring semester, beginning in the spring of 2015, in order for the chair-elect to assume office in the fall of the following academic year. Should the office of chair be vacated before the two-year term is completed (e.g. because of resignation or retirement), the office of chair will immediately be filled by the chair-elect (who will fulfill the remainder of the two-year term), and a new chair-elect shall be elected from the faculty at large to fill the remainder of the two-year term. Should the office of chair-elect be vacated before the two-year term is completed (e.g. because of resignation or retirement), a new chair-elect will be elected from the faculty at large to fill the remainder of the two-year term.

**Proposed Amendment**

Section C.

The offices of chair and chair-elect are two-year terms. Upon completion of the two-year term, the office of chair will be filled by the chair-elect. Elections for the chair-elect will be held in the spring semester, beginning in the spring of 2015, in order for the chair-elect to assume office in the fall of the following academic year. ***The new Chair-elect will assume the office of chair-elect, the outgoing chair-elect will assume the office of chair and the outgoing chair shall become the past chair on August 1 in year of the chair-elect election.*** Should the office of chair be vacated before the two-year term is completed (e.g. because of resignation or retirement), the office of chair will immediately be filled by the chair-elect (who will fulfill the remainder of the two-year term), and a new chair-elect shall be elected from the faculty at large to fill the remainder of the two-year term. Should the office of chair-elect be vacated before the two-year term is completed (e.g. because of resignation or retirement), a new chair-elect will be elected from the faculty at large to fill the remainder of the two-year term.

For Amendment \_\_\_\_\_ Against Amendment \_\_\_\_\_

The paper ballots were collected and tallied by **Sen. Poovey** and delivered to the Faculty Senate Recorder, **Sen. Althoff**.

**The Amendment was approved: 20 in favor, none opposed.**

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**Current Text**

Section D.

The immediate past chair shall be a member of the Faculty Senate for two years.

**Proposed Amendment**

The immediate past chair shall be a member of the Faculty Senate for two years. ***The term of the chair will end on July 31 of the year of the Chair-elect election.***

For Amendment \_\_\_\_\_ Against Amendment \_\_\_\_\_

The paper ballots were collected and tallied by **Sen. Poovey** and delivered to the Faculty Senate Recorder, **Sen. Althoff**.

**The Amendment was approved: 20 in favor, none opposed.**

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**Sen. Poovey** then brought forward proposed changes to the [Tenure and Promotion policy](#). The intent is to clarify that there shall be a narrative evaluation provided at each step of the tenure and promotion process to be included in the portfolio as it moves forward; and that there be a separate, short letter to the candidate indicating the recommendation made at each level of the tenure and promotion process without narrative details.

A motion was made by **Sen. Dixon** to approve the changes in wording, and seconded by **Sen. Hicks**. **The motion passed: 20 in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.**

After the motion was passed, it was discovered that additional changes in wording were required for the sake of consistency. A motion was made by **Sen. Elliott** that the Executive Committee adjust the wording throughout to conform to the intent expressed in the earlier motion. The motion was seconded by **Sen. Fridley**. **The motion passed: 20 in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.**

**F. Budget Committee: CUPA salary data and discussion**

Report by **Sen. Dixon** who indicated that CUPA data were available (documents with the data were supplied in an email preceding this Faculty Senate meeting). **Dr. Meg Cotter-Lynch**, president of the campus AAUP chapter and guest at this meeting, also spoke to say that Vice President Walkup had requested a custom report from AAUP with salary data; AAUP provides chapters with custom parameters. Discussion included ideas on how best to improve salary levels. It was recommended that the Budget Committee consider a method to reduce salary inequities.

**Sen. Moretti moved to table discussion of the topic.** The motion was seconded by **Sen. Maer**. **The motion to table discussion was approved: 15 in favor; none opposed; and one abstention.**

**IV. Old Business:** There was no old business.

**V. New Business:**  
**Faculty involvement in Presidential selection**

(In advance of this Faculty Senate meeting, background documents regarding the Presidential search were emailed to Senators. The documents included the [RUSO description](#) of presidential qualifications and responsibilities; the current [Advertisement for President](#); and a [2009 letter](#) from then-Faculty Senate Chair Ken Chinn to the RUSO Board requesting faculty input and participation in the presidential search in progress at the time.)

**Dr. Margaret (Meg) Cotter-Lynch**, president of the Southeastern chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and guest of the Faculty Senate at this meeting, spoke to advocate a unified faculty voice in urging RUSO to include faculty as part of the new presidential search. She distributed a policy statement from the AAUP on faculty involvement in that process. It was recommended that **Dr. Cotter-Lynch** and **Sen. Moretti** draft a letter in their

own names and by the authority of their elected positions to the RUSO Board in favor of faculty participation.

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**CIDT Situation (not originally on agenda)**

Ms. **Christala Smith**, interim Director of CIDT and guest of the Faculty Senate, appeared in order to underline the situation at CIDT, and especially the problems with the Blackboard course management system, saying that Blackboard effectively “ends” on June 30. The time for Blackboard “fixes” has increased dramatically, and the staff in IT has been working on Blackboard in their spare time. She has spoken with Dr. Aaron Adair concerning the problems, but is unaware of any plans the Administration has for remedying the difficulties.

A **motion** was made by **Sen. Moretti, and seconded by Sen. Jacox**, that the Chair of the Faculty Senate be authorized to write a letter to the Administration to address the dire situation in CIDT.

**The motion passed: 15 in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.**

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**Gun legislation in the state legislature (HJR 1026 and HB 2887)**

(Copies of the proposed legislation were sent by email to Senators in advance of today’s meeting.)

The discussion on proposed legislation was postponed until the next Senate Meeting.

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Sen. **Brewster** raised the possibility of offering a reception for President Minks as he steps down from the presidency. **Sen. Jacox moved that the Faculty Senate attempt to schedule a reception for President Minks. The motion was seconded by Sen. Elliott.**

**The motion passed: 14 in favor; none opposed; no abstentions.**

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Year-end reports and election of the Faculty Senate Archivist will be on the agenda for the next Faculty Senate meeting.

**VI. Adjournment**

**The Senate adjourned at 4:50 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Daniel Althoff*

Daniel Althoff

Recorder