

Agenda for Faculty Senate

Wednesday, February 8,
2023

Meeting 2, Spring 2023

Russell 100 or Zoom

[https://se-
edu.zoom.us/j/97473144940](https://se-edu.zoom.us/j/97473144940)

Meeting ID: 974 7314 4940

3:00-4:30 p.m.

Attending

Laura Atchley
Kathy Boothe
Brandon Burnette
Meg Cotter-Lynch
Steve Csaki
Amy Gantt

Srimal Garusnghe
Ashley Hampton
Andy Kramer
Chris Moretti
Kate Shannon
Rob Shauger

Matthew Sparacio
Jeri Walker
Doug Wood
Mila Zhu

Absences

Cody Bogard
Randy Clark

Amy Mills
Frank Xu

Guests

Jimmie Flores
Ian Gerg
Sondra Petty
Dena Rymel
Carol Sullivan

- I. Call to Order – 3:01 PM CST
- II. Minutes from January 25, 2023
 - A. **Motion to Approve** the Minutes from January 25, 2023 – Senator Shannon
 1. **Second** – Senator Shauger
 2. **Discussion** – n/a

3. **Vote to Approve** – Yes - 12; No - 0; Abstain - 0; passes unanimously.

III. Treasurer’s Report

A. Treasurer’s report is as follows:

1. We have \$19,693.72 in funds. We have paid out \$936.28 in travel expenses to date.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Budget Committee (BC)

1. Motion to adopt the Compensation Proposal from Budget and Personnel Policies

Committee – Senator Cotter-Lynch

- **Second** – Senator Walker

- **Discussion**

- Major Points to Review from the Proposal:

- The Salary Card working group was tasked with drafting the principle originally. The new task was to fill in the numbers for the proposal. We relied on the AAUP data (lowest-tenth percentage averages) for compensation at different ranks.
- In the new system there are two main components in the salary calculation - the “to be adjusted for inflation” category (the “rank+degree” table but adjusted over time) and the “not to be adjusted for inflation” category.
- The only times the “rank+degree” table would need to be referenced is when a person is first hired (to determine an initial salary) or when a person is promoted/gains a new degree.
- These numbers are to be adjusted year to year.
- Pay for current faculty members will not go down.
- We suggested implementation paths for new Salary Card.

- *QUESTION:* What are examples of “non-adjustable”? Anything that is not based on rank+degree falls under this classification.

- **Vote to Approve** – Yes – 13; No - 1; Abstain – 0.

B. Committee on Committees (CoC)

1. No report. The CoC will be meeting next week to identify replacements on university committees.

C. Executive Committee (EC)

1. Met yesterday (2/7/2023). Our topics of discussion are listed under new business below, as well as the Compensation proposal that will be voted on in a few moments.

D. Personnel Policies Committee (PPC)

1. Refer to the Budget Committee report above.

E. Planning Committee (PC)

1. Letters have been sent out to inform faculty of their nominations. These emails include links for faculty to submit supplementary information. The deadline to upload these materials is February 24.
2. In March, a follow-up message including a link to vote on candidates will be sent.

F. University Affairs Committee

1. Faculty Housing Concerns

- UAC reached out to Jeni Maple, Kelly D’Arcy, and Liz McCraw. McCraw made a salient point: the university is expecting student enrollment to go up, meaning that the option for faculty housing may be phased out again.
 - Faculty housing was a product of COVID contingencies.
 - UAC did implore timely notifications of any housing changings.
- McCraw also noted that if there is a proposal for Faculty Senate to add to the Master Plan to make housing available in that capacity as a separate thing, she is open to that discussion. Do we want to tackle at this moment? At the very least it can be fleshed out more fully looking towards the future.
 - In the Master Plan there is a section of tiny housing meant for faculty. These are proposed, not within preexisting campus infrastructure. The president has also mentioned in meetings with the Executive Committee that apartments downtown are being targeted as potential faculty housing.
 - Another potential avenue: the university subsidizing moving into town in some form. This would likely require partnering with the City of Durant or the Chamber of Commerce.
- Overall the FS recognizes these concerns re: availability for faculty housing, especially paired with non-competitive compensation.

V. Old Business

A. Office Hours Policy (APPM 4.9.1) – SGA feedback

1. The last two SGA meetings have been cancelled due to weather. It is a stated top priority at the next meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Shared Governance Forum Topic

1. The FS encourages faculty to attend the inaugural Staff-led Shared Governance Forum scheduled for February 16 at 2 PM.
 - Topic: *How Staff is Involved in HLC Accreditation Process*
2. What should our next Faculty-led Shared Governance Forum topic be?
 - Administration has run into scheduling conflicts for their SGF (originally scheduled for Feb 28, then Feb. 21). We will ask for a date in March that works for administration to have SGF.
 - Next Faculty-led SGF is scheduled for April 11.

B. Paid Parking lot concerns –

1. Staff has passed along complaints that several spots are being taken by people who do not have a pass in the paid Fine Arts lot. Are faculty members being affected by this?
 - What is the reason for not enforcing the parking permit? There is a new system available that SEPD has access to now, easier for them to issue parking tickets. We may need to just give SE D some time for this to have its intended effects.

C. Travel Grant

1. Faculty in some departments are uneasy about applying for Organized Research Funds because they have not received confirmation about conference participation in the Spring before the February 1 deadline.
 - The Feb. 1 deadline is six months before the end of the fiscal year, can this be moved? How do we make access to these funds more equitable?
 - This places an undue burden on non-tenured TT faculty.
 - Concerns voiced also about the 70% cap on available funding.
 - *SUGGESTION*: fixed amount available for each faculty member, bring funding back to 100% (\$1,700 – adjust it for inflation).
 - *SUGGESTION*: Have the April date funding equally with the September and February dates?

- *SUGGESTION*: Stagger the deadlines more equally throughout the year (for example, every other month)?
- *SUGGESTION*: Should we prioritize/guarantee junior faculty access to these funds?

- Executive Committee will spend more time working on this.

D. Marketing Department

1. The marketing Department has reached out to FS leadership regarding a potential presentation to the wider Senate highlighting the different services they can offer faculty. Is the FS interested in taking Marketing up on its offer?
 - Executive Committee suggested that Marketing Dept. bring examples to this presentation.
 - No opposition to this suggestion.

E. ChatGPT

1. ChatGPT uses AI to draft essay submissions. There are legitimate, potential concerns regarding its use and academic dishonesty.
 - One Senator relayed a story from a tutor working in Student Support Services. A couple of weeks ago a student showed them a flyer about AI essay writing services. The student did not use the services but told the tutor that it is being marketed to our students. Many of these services are free, but some charge for its use.
 - Of note: ChatGPT is not detected by plagiarism tools.
 - How to minimize the potential impact on your classes? Refer to this guide from the Uni. of Central Florida: <https://fctl.ucf.edu/teaching-resources/promoting-academic-integrity/artificial-intelligence-writing/>
2. In the past we held Brown Bag Lunch Sessions – maybe it is time for one to be held on this topic to put this on folks’ radar.

XII. Announcements

A. ACHE Webinar – February 15th – Engaging Adult Students in the Online Classroom

1. We are a member of this organization– our point of contact for these webinars is Jeni Maple.

B. McNair Scholars Program

1. If you have undergraduate students (ideally sophomores) interested in graduate programs

(especially a doctorate degree path), please encourage them to apply. Our planned induction is in March.

2. We are looking for mentors! Complete this Faculty Mentor Survey:

<https://forms.gle/PYJs9HzmexcVFRhE8>

- *QUESTION*: How open access is this? What about scholars interested in topics that are considered DEI? Will faculty be able to control this information? This survey is originally intended as an internal handbook.
- McNair Faculty Mentor Information (release time is included if you agree to serve as a faculty mentor): https://youtu.be/v45_y8XUFMQ

3. In the Loop video for student applicants:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NavcqlwSXss&t=2s>

XIII. Adjournment – 4:21 PM CST

- A. **Motion to Adjourn** – Senator Walker
- B. **Second** – Senator Atchley

