

## Minutes for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Spring 2023

Wednesday, April 18, 2023

Zoom, 2:00-3:30 PM CST

### ATTENDING

Randy Clark

Kate Shannon

Steve Csaki

Rob Shauger

Andy Kramer

Matthew Sparacio

### ABSENT

Amy Gantt

I. Call to Order - 2:04 PM CST

II. Old Business

a. Faculty Housing: Members of the FS learned shortly before the Senate meeting on April 12 that due to a surge in undergraduate on-campus housing requests for Fall 2023 (we have already reached 100% of our 2022-2023 on-campus housing requests and it is only mid-April), all faculty and staff who currently reside in on-campus housing will need to secure different living arrangements. This has resulted in frustration and a scramble to secure housing.

i. The Department Chairs have advocated from some faculty to keep their housing (something that will be discussed in Academic Council).

1. Several faculty have expressed a Willingness to stay but relocate to different accommodations on campus.

2. Individuals are solving issues on their own. The approach going forward requires people negotiate with VPSA Liz McCraw directly.

ii. VPAA Golden has stated that she has “no control over this”

iii. There is a flagrant disconnect between Practice and Policy, a symptom of larger structural weaknesses within the University.

1. *QUESTION*: was this action taken because FS started asking questions about formulating policy? None of our sister RUSO institutions have such policies; are we “out of step with practice” and therefore need to shut it down completely?

a. *CONCERN*: simply a matter of “utilitarian calculus”

2. The BIGGEST PROBLEM that has emerged from these circumstances is that communication had several breakdowns that could have avoided the news feeling like a blindside hit.

- b. Organized Research Grant (ORG) Disbursement Concerns: Academic Council has expressed frustration about the fact that the fully eligible percentage out of the maximum \$1700 has not been disbursed. In other words, faculty are NOT receiving the full available 70% of funding in ORGs.
    - i. This is slightly different from the ongoing discussion within the FS about the current application and review timeline's lack of functionality for allowing Spring and Summer conference attendance.
    - ii. The question was raised if the FS needed to amend the policy. Base don't he language included in the APPM, the policy does not need to be amended, just followed or executed. So how do we make sure it is executed?
      - 1. The chair of the Organized Research and Program Review Committee is the VPAA. The VPAA shas already stated that the intention is to only meet once in the Fall (the charge of the committee explicitly states it should meet \*at least\* twice). VPAA Golden has admitted that she reviews all Spring submissions and the committee does not evaluate the applications.
      - 2. Does the committee only exist to determine how to spend state-allocated money?
    - iii. Follow-up question: Is it appropriate for the FS to provide guidance to a university committee?
      - 1. Yes. FS will need to **MOTION TO APPROVE** a recommendation for the committee to follow. FS would then expect some form of feedback.
  - c. Should "APPM 101" as next symposium topic? This is how we engage in shared governance! Faculty should take their committee appointments seriously!
  - d. Faculty Senate Survey: Does the FS need to codify an alternating schedule for long and short versions of the Faculty Senate Survey?
    - i. Yes. If the FS wants to ensure that this practice continues, it must amend the APPM (there is very little information regarding the Survey within the APPM; it falls under the purvey of the Faculty Senate Chair)
    - ii. The Survey is valuable; it is used extensively in accreditation review.
  - e. Microcredentials and Intellectual Property: faculty have already been approached to develop materials for Microcredential programs. Is their intellectual property protected?
    - i. A separate policy will need to be developed for these programs because they are different from normal classes.
    - ii. It has yet to be determined how faculty will be compensated for these materials.
    - iii. *SUGGESTION*: FS propose a moratorium on faculty development of microcredential materials unless a policy is provided that outlines compensation and protection of intellectual property.
- III. New Business
- a. All of the above were topics that were tabled for discussion during our previous Faculty Senate meeting on April 12. No new business was introduced.
- IV. Announcements
- a. The FS Chair will send a reminder for faculty to attend the Faculty & Staff Recognition Banquet on April 19 at 3:30 pm at the Visual and Performing Arts Center (VPAC).
- V. Adjournment – 3:21 PM CST
- a. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Parleментарian Shauger
  - b. **SECOND** – Senator Kramer