

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Room 136 DeBartolo
March 6, 2018

Signed in as Present: Adam Martin, Anna Simon, Annie Coleman, Ben Heller, Ben Radcliff, Catherine Schlegel, Chao-Shin Liu, Dan Johnson, David Gasperetti, Guangjian Zhang, Jimmy Gurulé, Joe Urbany, John Henry Hobgood, John Nelson, Mary Frandsen, Matthew Capdevielle, Meng Wang, Molly Walsh, Nasir Ghiaseddin, Paul McGinn, Phillip Sloan, Richard Pierce, Richard Williams, Samir Younés, Tarek Dika

Not Signed in as Present: Aaron Striegel (emailed; excused), Cody Brockelmeyer, David O'Connor, David Thomas (e-mailed; excused), Eric Sims, La Donna Forsgren, Marie Halvorsen-Ganepola, Marsha Stevenson (e-mailed; excused), Matt Bloom, Mei-Chi Shaw, Natalie Porter (e-mailed; excused), Patrick Deneen, Richard Sheehan (e-mailed; excused), Sergei Rouvimov, Shahriar Mobashery, Shaun Lee (e-mailed; excused), Shauna Williams (e-mailed; excused), Sibonay Shewit, Sylwia Ptasinska, Timothy Matovina, Tom Nowak (e-mailed; excused), Tom Stober, Xiaoshan Yang

- Chair, Ben Heller (BH) called the meeting to order at 6:05pm
- 1) Opening prayer. BH offered an opening prayer
- 2) Report on Sustainability at Notre Dame: Carol A. Mullaney, Sr. Director of Sustainability and Continuous Improvement
 - a) Due to illness, this report is postponed until April or May meeting
- 3) Approval of Minutes of the February 6, 2018 meeting
 - a) In separate votes, the minutes for the Provost's Address to the Faculty and minutes for the committee reports were each approved (the latter, approved with one abstention)
- 4) Committee reports
 - a) Executive Committee: Senate Role in Governance (BH)
 - i) BH reviewed the Faculty Senate role in university governance: 2 different provinces:
 - (1) Consultation on matters important to university committees and administrators
 - (2) Right of agenda at the Academic Council.
 - (a) The Faculty Senate has the right to ensure that specific issues will be considered by the Academic Council.
 - (b) In addition, subcommittee chairs sit on the Academic Council as ex-officio members.
- 5) Academic Affairs. Chair: Jimmy Gurulé (JG)
 - a) The subcommittee had a constructive, substantive discussion of proposals regarding faculty senate engagement on the issue of classified research.
 - b) The categories of classified research were reviewed and the current draft resolution was discussed. It proposed that the faculty senate seek involvement in the form of regular reporting of various dimensions of the classified research program, including program funding, review process, and benefits to the university research mission. Alternative proposals were made that included the option of seeking a faculty senate member to serve on the review board, and potentially an annual report from program leadership to the senate.
 - c) A motion was made to vote on the issue of whether the faculty senate should seek further to engage on the process of classified. The motion was seconded and passed with one vote against.
 - d) JG asked for additional input, invited commentary after the meeting or via e-mail.

- 6) Academic Affairs - Chair: Dan Johnson (DJ)
 - a) The committee met with Dean Laura Carlson and the faculty experience survey committee, who were seeking feedback on proposed changes to the survey. The survey began in 2013 in an effort to build longitudinal data on quality of faculty life. DJ noted that the administration does put this data to work in its decision-making around improving faculty life (e.g., the faculty ad hoc committee on governance was a product of recent survey results). Various suggestions were offered in the meeting and Dean Carlson is inviting input from the larger faculty senate.
 - b) Academic freedom roundtable. Seeking to set dates for the event and finding scheduling for meetings running into 2019 already. May need to consider a midweek event.
- 7) Benefits. Chair Nasir Ghiaseddin (NG)
 - a) The benefits committee met with _____ from Human Resources (or “with the Human Resources group?”). Discussion included the letter Fr. Jenkins sent about the university’s change in policy regarding contraceptives. Not all forms of contraceptives will be approved, so the faculty senate may want to consider identifying a means (through a senator or small committee) to provide an opinion on this matter.
 - b) A concern was raised about the Meritain process of approval, review and appeal for medical procedures and medication. NG suggested that any senators with experiences around this process contact him.
 - c) The university is selling plots in Cedar Grove Cemetery for faculty and staff.
- 8) Student Affairs. Chair: David Gasperetti (DG)
 - a) Resolutions on mental health resources for students
 - i) After several meetings with university administrators and committee discussion, a resolution will be completed for the April meeting regarding the sharing of information about available mental health resources with students.
 - ii) A second resolution is being prepared on the topic of faculty education about identifying student mental health concerns and connecting students to the right resources.
 - b) Associate Provost Maura Ryan contacted DG seeking opportunity to speak with the committee about a study of student advising that is coming to a close.
- 9) New Business
 - a) BH was contacted by the Fire Dept regarding a study on the use of space heaters on campus. They asked about getting a faculty senate member to sit on a committee that had been formed. Contact BH if interested, particularly from a sustainability perspective.
 - b) Professor Sloan is serving on the bookstore committee and is seeking feedback re: the bookstore renovations.
 - c) JG raised a question about the exploration and surveys on the topic of building a parking structure on or near campus. Discussion was held about whether/how the faculty senate might have representation in those deliberations.
- 10) Adjournment
 - a) Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Urbany
Co-Secretary