

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
2 April 2019
131 DeBartolo Hall

Signed in as Present: Adam Martin, Ben Heller, Ben Radcliff, Catherine Schlegel, CJ Jones, Cody Brockelmeyer, Eric Sims, Jimmy Gurulé, Joe Urbany, John Lubker, Lira Yoon, La Donna Forsgren, Marsha Stevenson, Mary Frandsen, Meng Wang, Molly Walsh, Nasir Ghiaseddin, Paul McGinn, Phillip Sloan, Richard Pierce, Richard Williams, Samir Younés, Sergei Rouvimov, Shauna Williams, Sylwia Ptasinska, Tom Stober, Xiaoshan Yang

Not Signed in as Present: Aaron Striegel (e-mailed; excused), Anna Simon (e-mailed; excused), Annie Coleman (e-mailed; excused), Caroline Cloonan, Chao-Shin Liu, Corey Gayheart, Dan Johnson (e-mailed; excused), David O'Connor, David Thomas, Emma Planinc, Marie Halvorsen-Ganepola, Matt Bloom, Matthew Capdevielle (e-mailed; excused), Matyas Abel Tsegaye, Mei-Chi Shaw, Patrick Deneen, Richard Sheehan (e-mailed; excused), Shahriar Mobashery, Shaun Lee, Tom Nowak (e-mailed; excused)

- Chair Ben Heller (BH) called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm
 1. Opening prayer offered by BH.
 2. Approval of minutes from meeting of March 5, 2019.
 - a. Slight revision requested by Phil (will work with Mary)
 - b. Minutes approved
 3. Report on new construction and renovations (Conference Center, Bond Hall, Coleman Morris)

Christine M. Maziar, Vice President and Senior Associate Provost
Michael Daly, Sr. Director, Project Management

 - a. Chris Maziar - Oversees academic side of budget, facilities, all faculty contracts, appointments
 - i. Replacement of McKenna Hall was not on anyone's strategic plan
 1. Wasn't in any capital campaign plan
 2. Opportunity presented itself
 - a. Andy McKenna (trustee since 1980)
 - b. Concern that current McKenna Hall was not an appropriate expression of gratitude.
 - c. ND Avenue buildings have greater presence than the current facility
 - d. Donors came forward w/offer to replace McKenna Hall
 - e. Provost Burish

2. Provost's Response to Senate Resolution on Transparency in Dean Searches

- a. Report from Provost
 - i. Reviews academic articles
 - ii. Guiding principles
 - iii. Recommendations
 - 1. Up front discussion of the full process
 - 2. Provide updates throughout process
 - iv. Questions re: Provost's Proposed Guide to Dean's Searches
 - 1. Paul McGinn – proposed a change to the search process toward the end (saw at another institution)
 - a. Top candidate to make a presentation at end
 - b. Announcement sent to faculty members in the college
 - i. RSVP in confidence, then location disclosed
 - ii. Confidentiality agreement signed by each attendee
 - 2. Benefits of the proposed process
 - a. Inclusiveness, faculty exposure to candidate
 - b. Faculty input to search committee
 - 3. Challenges to the proposed process
 - a. Greater risk to confidentiality by introducing more people into the process (potentially very large numbers in some colleges).
 - b. Some candidates will likely opt out once informed of the process

3. Committeereports

- a. Academic Affairs – (Tom Stober stepping in for Chair Matthew Capdevielle)
 - i. Proposed resolution on sustainability and ancillary materials (e-mailed to senators before the meeting):
 - 1. "*Resolved*, the Faculty Senate of the University of Notre Dame expresses its support of Student Senate Resolution SS1819-03 and similarly calls for the inclusion of [a mandatory sustainability module/at least some mandatory sustainability curriculum] in the Moreau FYE course."
 - 2. This motion lacked support in the Academic Affairs committee:
 - a. After discussion, the committee felt that the senate should commend the students for their efforts, but the faculty senate should not be in the business of opining on course by course curriculum.

- i. Academic freedom. Problematic for the faculty senate be voting for language re: “mandatory” for a specific program.
- ii. May set a precedent that would be set for other programs / courses.
- iii. Unclear that we have enough information to make an intelligent decision about support.
 - 1. BH. We can probably address the need for more information, but the academic freedom issue is more challenging. Other solutions?
 - a. e.g., remove the term “mandatory?”

b. Proposed motion:

- i. We should not support the proposed resolution that mandates curriculum for sustainability in the FYS.
- ii. Vote
 - 1. Yes – 18
 - 2. No – 5

b. Administrative Affairs (BH stepping in for Dan Johnson)

- i. Good news, Provost’s office has decided to support an emeriti association, creation of web page, and ongoing support
- ii. Recommendations of the ad-hoc committee on faculty governance
 - 1. One had to do with the creation of a channel of communication between senate and Exec VP’s office.
 - a. e.g., expanding the mandate of the benefits committee
 - b. JAG was very positive
 - i. about sending a rep from his office to the meetings of the benefits committee
 - ii. Exec VP himself should come to some meetings
 - 1. JAG will suggest this commitment to Shannon Cullinan
 - 2. Faculty senate leadership in Academic Council: They wanted to make sure Senate ex officio members are distributed evenly among Academic Council subcommittees—all agreed that this is a good idea
 - 3. Has the Senate considered the idea of scheduling all Senate meetings during the work day (i.e., 8:30 – 5 pm) to accommodate faculty with family obligations? Administrative Affairs decided not to pursue this, given: a) the Senate meets only once a month; and b) difficulties inherent in finding a 3-hour block of time during the work day that would not conflict with classes.

- c. New issue: a concern about the Notre Dame Notice of Non-discrimination
 - i. Current state
 - 1. Race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, veteran status, genetic information
 - a. Does not reflect sexual orientation or gender identity
 - ii. EEOC interprets Title VII's focus on discrimination based upon sex to include sexual orientation and gender identity
 - iii. Top 32 schools in USNWR.
 - 1. All cover sexual orientation or gender identity, except ND
 - iv. 12 top-ranking Catholic universities
 - 1. Same conclusion
 - v. ND does explicitly mentions sexual orientation or gender identity in the "Spirit of Inclusion at Notre Dame" statement.
 - d. BH proposes two possible senate resolutions
 - i. Option 1. Conclusion: "Be it resolved that the faculty of the University of Notre Dame will not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in its recruitment practices ..."
 - ii. Option 2. "... that the notice of Non-Discrimination Statement for the university be amended as soon as possible to specify the protection of people based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (including transgender status)."
 - e. Benefits (Nasir Ghiaseddin)
 - i. A few glitches in the benefits web site
 - 1. Meeting with HR coming up
 - ii. Discussed the inclusion of the EVP office team into committee meetings
 - f. Student Affairs (Richard Pierce)
 - i. Graduate student union - discontent with the 5+1 program
 - ii. Mental health resources – committee decided to return to original wording of recommended language for syllabi; BH will forward this wording to all faculty asap.
4. New Business
- a. Tom Stober – Academic Affairs committee
 - i. In light of the recent college admissions scandal at USC and elsewhere, the committee has tentatively decided to invite some admissions staff for discussion of admission procedures and safeguards.
 - b. Reminder: **Last meeting of the Senate is Tuesday, Apr 30.**
5. Adjournment
- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Urbany