

Drake University Faculty Senate Minutes

March 11, 2020

President Carrie Dunham-LaGree called the regular meeting of the FY20 Faculty Senate to order at 3:30 pm, Wednesday, March 11, 2020. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Godfried Asante, Michelle Bottenberg, Dan Chibnall, Shelley Fairbairn, Bruce Gilbert, Teri Koch, Jerrid Kruse, Peter Levi, Yasmina Madden, Erik Maki, Dorothy Pisarski, Jimmy Senteza, Ashley Sidon, Ron Torry, Jill VanWyke, Craige Wrenn, Matt Zwier, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, and Renée Cramer.

The February 2020 minutes were approved on a voice vote.

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College/School Announcements

SJMC: As part of its recruitment and outreach efforts, the SJMC hosted over 40 central Iowa high school students and their advisers for a free, one-day journalism workshop March 4. They attended three faculty-led sessions on brainstorming, writing and editing, attended the Digital Media Strategies class, met with the associate dean, dined at Hubbell, visited the bookstore and toured the campus. This was the sixth such workshop in two years, with each one larger than the one before.

President Martin’s report

Travel over the past month

- **Big Ideas:** President Martin has been visiting alumni and donors to share the Big Idea proposals. He has been hearing good feedback, interest and excitement, and expression of support.

- Panama: Work is moving ahead with partners in Panama. Areas for development include:
 - Recruitment
 - Partnerships – J-Term at City of Knowledge
 - Ministry of Education – Developing a Train the Trainer program for K-12 schools
 - Scholarships to Panamanian students to attend Drake

Updates on construction projects ([See webpage for more information.](#))

- Home2 Suites by Hilton on University: Brick façade is going up. Tentative completion date is this summer.
- Lot on 26th and University, next to Lutheran Church of Hope: New residential complex. Work will begin here after completion of the Home2 Suites.
- Harkin Institute: Tentative completion date is late fall of 2020.
- Merge project: Plans continuing
- Soccer field: Plans continuing

Admissions update:

Drake is 67 deposits ahead of last year as of March 11, 2020. Other small private colleges have numbers that are below last year, and they will be fighting hard for FY students. Please always put our best face forward. There is no better way to present this institution than our faculty.

COVID-19

- Announcement – first two weeks after Spring Break will be virtual. The University will remain open, dorms and food service will remain open.
- Students, faculty and staff will be traveling over Spring Break. Someone will be bringing this virus back.
- We have one building that draws fresh air, Ross Hall. We can reopen this dorm if necessary to quarantine students.
- Most of our students are not an “at risk” population, and COVID 19 will present generally a mild flu. However, this virus can spread to others for whom it is a huge risk. It is important to take care of our community. We have students, staff, and faculty with underlying health conditions that put them at risk. Our larger community includes people who would be at risk.
- Our goal is not to contain or stop it, but to slow it down so the health care system can cope. We will do our part.
- Faculty will need to deliver remotely. Our best will be good enough. Help out one another on this. If you need to work from home to protect your health, please do so.
- This is a great moment for us to be All In This Together. This is confronting all of us.
- NCAA – Only essential staff and limited family attendance. (Update provided during the meeting from Megan Brown.)

Theta Chi law suit: Drake is named in the suit, but this did not occur on campus nor at a university sponsored event. Expect to be dismissed from this case.

Questions for President Martin

- Erik Maki: Students are still a little confused about two weeks after spring break: Am I allowed on campus? Can I go to the library? This was discussed, and students can be on campus and they can go to the library. (Share any other questions with Sue so she can address as more information becomes available.)

- Jerrid Kruse: If students want to stay in the dorm, is there any reason they would be denied?
President Martin: We will need to know where they have been over Spring Break to help us determine that. (Please note: This is a developing situation and this response may need to change.)
 - We have students, staff and faculty who have compromised immune systems.
 - We are still open for business. How you conduct business is up to you. Committee work or meetings may have to be conducted virtually.
- Matt Zwier: Are we locking the academic buildings? Given the life of this virus a contaminated surface could be a danger. Sue: Facilities have been taking extreme measures – cleaning every single day, using a strong cleaner. Marty: If it progresses, we might take more measures.
- Jerrid Kruse: Our students should keep doing their practicums as long as our partners continue? Yes.
- Erik Maki: Are faculty to report travel? Marty: Additional information will be coming out. The less we are around each other, the less we allow this to spread. Sue: We do know of a lot of the travel plans, but hopefully the two weeks of distance learning will allow people to get home and know if they are ill.
- Godfried Asante: What about our international students who have nowhere to go? Marty: That is why we are keeping the dorms open.
- Chuck Phillips: Should our work study students remain on campus? Sue: We will treat them as employees. They should make arrangements with their supervisors.

Provost Mattison's report

Salary Market Adjustment: We are reviewing CIP codes and updating the targets. Deadline for transitional sabbatical application is Monday. Also looking at other sources for adjustments. We will know more after Monday.

Report from President Dunham-LaGree

Craig Owens: Please see document provided: AA Working Group Interim Report to Faculty Senate.

Carrie Dunham-LaGree: Update on election. Online Election App was not responding as needed, so the election was stopped and reissued as a Qualtrics form. Since Spring Break is next week, the voting window will be extended until Tuesday, March 24. Please encourage colleagues to vote.

Unfinished Business:

None known

New Business

20-18 Approve the 2023-24 Academic Calendar

Motion by Shelley Fairbairn and seconded by Jill VanWyke. Approved on voice vote.

20-19 Approve revisions to the Quantitative Literacy AOI (*from University Curriculum Committee*)

Motion by Matt Zwier and seconded by Michelle Bottenberg. Approved on voice vote

20-20 Accept and discuss the preliminary report from the Ad Hoc Committee to Examine Strategic Curricular Concerns Raised within the Senate Budget Committee
Motion by Renée Cramer and seconded by Jill VanWyke.

Renée summarized key points. Please see document provided: Preliminary Phase One Report of Ad Hoc Committee Update.

Discussion

- Erik Maki: Summer surplus and J-Term deficit: Does one offset the other? Sue: No, these are different areas.
- Sue: Budget for summer rests in Provost's Office. This budget is always overspent. Academic Affairs implemented a new process last year: However much a unit spends, needs to bring in 3X as much revenue. Summers past Academic Affairs had a \$250,000 deficit. This past year that dropped to a \$10,000 deficit.
- Marty: If we don't make budget goals for Summer and J-term, it feeds into overall budget.
- Dorothy Pisarski: We have flexibility in start and stop of summer classes. When a class starts, matters to students and enrollment. It matters for some international students who need a full load of summer to maintain scholarship support.
- The number of courses in summer have not changed over time, but the number of J-term classes has tripled. How can we have more courses, and less revenue? Around 60% of the J-term classes help students achieve an AOI. Students have a wider range of opportunity.
- Do we survey students who do not take J-term? What is not working for them? Renée: We did try to survey students, but very little response. We were not able to gather data on this.
- Entire faculty may continue to provide input to the committee.

Approved on voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.