

Drake University Faculty Senate Minutes

October 13, 2021

President Matthew Zwier called the regular meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 3:30 pm, Wednesday, October 13, 2021. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Rachel Allen-McHugh, Eric Barnum, Klaus Bartschat, Hope Bibens, Michelle Bottenberg, Megan Brown, Debra DeLaet, Matthew Doré, Catherine Gillespie, Anisa Hansen, Matthew Hayden, Sandy Henry, Denise Hill, Paul Judd, Chris Kliethermes, Kevin Lam, Natalie Lynner, Erik Maki, Joan McAlister, Lynn McCool, Thomas Rosburg, Jimmy Senteza, Priya Shenoy, Carol Spaulding-Kruse, Jill Van Wyke, Neil Ward, Greg Wolf, and Shelley Fairbairn.

The Sept. 15, 2021, minutes were approved on a voice vote, motion by Debra DeLaet, seconded by Catherine Gillespie.

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Report from President Zwier

- Good news reports:
 - Cowles Library:
 - Dan Chibnall, along with some colleagues, held a successful virtual conference in August on how to combat disinformation and misinformation called the “Critical Thinking Bootcamp.”
 - Senator Hope Bibbens was reappointed by Governor Reynolds to another term on the State Historical Records Advisory Board. She will be a member of the board through 2024.
 - School of Education: Three members of the new leadership team of the Iowa Mental Health Counselors Association are Drake graduates or students.
 - The President of the association, Kayla Bell-Consolver, completed her undergraduate degree in Psychology at Drake University in 2016 and received her Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Drake University in 2019.
 - The Public Policy Chair, Lynn Giang, is currently a graduate student in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling track.
 - And the Student Representative on the board, Sean Abramowitz, is currently working on his Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling at Drake.
 - Kayla Bell is the new Director of the Counseling Center here on campus.

- Student Senate report from President Morgan Coleman
 - Students expressing concern about a lack of grace in the classroom. They received grace during height of pandemic, but since students are now back on campus, they are not getting that same grace. There is still in pandemic, students are still adjusting to being face-to-face, and students are still experiencing anxiety about being around people.
 - There is a need for more support for international students. One issue is the language barriers. One international student was told by an instructor, “Your English isn’t that good.” The language barrier is also translated to their grades – when it might be an issue of not understanding the question(s) or how information is communicated in this culture. We are requesting more support to make sure International students don’t face these barriers, and that they are provided necessary support to retain the content.
 - Student Senate fall election report: Kat Fortin is the Bright College (JBC) Senator, and Mac Muehlberger is the First-Year Senator

Discussion:

- Is disturbing to hear these concerns from Student Senate.
 - It remains faculty’s duty and obligation to meet our students where they are.
 - Encourage grace and understanding. We are living in unprecedented times.
 - Goes double for students who are far from home. Not only are they starting college, they are starting college in place this is new to them with a new language, and they are starting college in a pandemic.
- President Zwier’s Report:
 - FY22 Budget Town Hall on Oct. 26, 1:30 pm
 - Partnership with Broadlawns for clinic on University – employees will have no or reduced copays with Broadlawns.
 - Telephone transition to Teams continues. If you have problems, please use the ticket system to report the problem to ITS.
 - Survey of Administrative Services – please complete by Oct. 29.

President Martin’s report

- Mentoring and support for students is a top priority for Faculty Senate Executive Committee and will be added as a standing agenda item. This is also of great concern to the Board of Trustees.
- Partnership Broadlawns provides an opportunity to no or reduced copays, beginning Jan. 1. Broadlawns will not become Drake’s exclusive provider. There will be no requirement to use Broadlawns. It is just an opportunity.
- Reviewed the projects on the periphery of campus – from the Harkin Center which is owned by Drake, through projects like Merge and Canary Lofts, in which the land was sold to developers under restrictions. Results: \$312,000 revenue from these projects.

- COVID 19: Drake is waiting on the OSHA rules for mandates, and will abide by those.
- CUSP (College-University Sustainability Project) – CEO search is underway, and hope to have a decision in the next week or two.
- Big Idea Campaign: The public launch will be the end of October.

Provost Mattison's report

- Salary Adjustments –
 - Letters will go out Thursday afternoon at about 5 pm to those who will be getting an adjustment this year and/or next year. Everyone else will get letters by the end of the month.
 - For this year, 39 faculty members will get an increase, and next year 120 faculty will get an adjustment.
 - This year adjustments total \$159,000. Next year, with curricular streamlining results, will have \$500,000.
- Curricular streamlining: Kevin Saunders and Jenny Tran-Johnson are working on templates to present to Chairs on Friday morning. Chairs will bring these back to your departments.
- Compensation clarification: Administration do not get a raise in the years that faculty/staff do not get a raise. If you hear things like this, ask me.
- SJMC Dean Search: Zoom interviews are being held this week. There is a strong pool.
- Student mental health: The Teaching & Learning Committee of the Board of Trustees is concerned with both student and faculty mental health. How can we leverage that support? The Provost's Office is trying to reduce workload and pay people more, but there must be other ways. If you have ideas, let Provost Mattison know, and she can bring ideas to the Committee.

Unfinished business: None known

New business

- Motion 22-02: Approve 2020–2021 Senate committee reports. Motion by Megan Brown, seconded by Jill VanWyke, and approved on a voice vote.
 - Discussion: The reports not contain any required actions.
- Motion 22-03: Endorse corrections and periodic updates to the Faculty Manual. Motion by Priya Shenoy, seconded by Kevin Lam, and approved on voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm on a motion by Deb DeLaet, seconded by Michelle Bottenberg.