

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE 2016-17 UNIVERSITY SENATE  
February 23, 2017

Members Present: 45

Members Absent: 14

1. The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chair of the University Senate, Karen Kessler, at 4:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken by initialing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.

Members Present: S. Aegisdottir, E. Agnew, K. Berryhill, C. Bohanan, M. Buck, J. Chapman, M. Chiuni, J. Christman, C. Dodd, B. Frankel, K. Gayes, J. Ghezzi, J. Griffith, L. Helms, M. Hill, J. Hopwood, J. Jemiolo, K. Kessler, J. Khubchandani, R. Kraus, A. Kuban, M. Lee, C. Luchs, T. Mahfouz, C. Marlow, L. Mauer, K. McCauliff, S. McFadden, M. Moore, C. Pak, S. Pattison, N. Phillips, E. Riddle, D. Roof, S. Shim, J. Sponseller, H. Wang, K. Warren-Gordon, K. Webber, J. Wells, D. Wheeler, R. Wijesinghe, S. Wu, A. Yen, S. Zhuk

Substitutes: T. Peters for M. Baker, C. Scalf for A. Batres, J. Helton for A. Crow, D. Lavery for J. Jacobson, S. Smith for T. Jitpaiboon, D. Rutherford for I. Livshits, B. Frazer for Bailey Loughlin, J. Ghezzi for K. Nicholson, J. Forbey for K. Ritchey, C. McIntosh for C. Thomas

Members Absent: J. Ballesteros, J. Becker, R. Bernot, A. DeLong, L. Humphrey, T. King, K. Koch, R. Kovac, N. Masson, J. McKinney, A. Moore, K. Rosenberger, A. Smith, E. Zygmunt

Substitutions were noted.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of January 19, 2017.

Motion carried

2. Vice-Chairperson Kessler thanked the representative from Unified Technology Support for running the console.
3. Announcements  
Items I. A. (Next Scheduled Meetings), I. B. (Notice of Change in Department/Office Name, Enclosure #1) were reviewed by the Senate membership. It was noted that if people want to bring an item to the Senate Agenda Committee for consideration to be included on the Senate Agenda, it is good to do so about a week before the meeting.
4. Recognition of Deaths  
There was a moment of silence to recognize the deaths of Dr. Thomas Ray, David C. Mercer, Mr. James Allan (Al) Rent, and Edith L. Pittenger.
5. Committee Reports
  - A. Governance and Elections Committee – There was no quorum during the last meeting. The committee will meet again next week. Upcoming meetings will involve discussions about facilitating the voting process for CAST programs and the colleges voting to absorb these programs. G&E will be reaching out to the departments and colleges involved to discuss how this voting process will work. K. Kessler offered a reminder that these votes will be recommendations not decisions. The goal is to complete the voting by the end of March.
  - B. Faculty Council – Approved the Bias Incident Reporting Procedure resolution at its January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and Stopping the Tenure Clock language revisions at its February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - C. University Council – Met on Feb. 2 and discussed moving Telecommuting to the Professional Personnel Salary & Benefits Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for March 2.
  - D. Campus Council – No report. The next meeting is scheduled for March 16.
  - E. Student Government Association – SGA elections are in process, and the Executive Board will be voted on Monday and Tuesday. SGA is currently assisting in a Dance Marathon, scheduled for Saturday, Feb.25. Student Government held an emergency cabinet meeting this past Sunday to discuss students' concerns about their immigration status, the focus of which was offering students resources and assuring their safety, as opposed to advocating for the university to take a political stance.
6. Report by Vice-Chairperson of Senate – Karen Kessler – GANTT chart (Enclosure #2) - Issues in the Senate System)
  - Telecommuting – Potentially moving to University Council
  - Stopping the Tenure Clock – Approved by the Faculty Council & up for review by the Senate Agenda Committee

- Responsible Conduct of Research – The Research Committee intends to connect with the newly hired person in the Office of Research Integrity, specializing in the Responsible Conduct of Research, within the next few weeks to review this issue.
- ROA – The ad hoc committee has met twice to discuss this issue and is making progress.
- Bias Incident Response Reporting Procedure – Will be reviewed in New Business
- Review of Senate System Structure – The ad hoc committee met Tuesday and is progressing on this issue. The committee plans to meet monthly.
- Titles and Promotions for Contract Faculty – The ad hoc committee is meeting weekly and anticipates having a draft for the Senate Agenda Committee to review by next week.

7. Questions Directed to the Interim President  
There were no questions.

8. Question and Answer Period  
There were no questions.

9. Unfinished Business  
There was no unfinished business.

10. New Business

A. Bias Incident Reporting Procedures (Enclosure #3)

The Senate reviewed the Bias Incident Reporting Procedures resolution, which requires faculty to choose one of two language options to include in their syllabi.

A motion was made and seconded to bring the issue to the floor.

Motion carried

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for discussion.

Questions/issues raised:

- Potential legal ramifications of the resolution
- The resolution's relationship to the first amendment
- The resolution's relationship to the procedure for reporting bias incidents
- Inclusion of the statement as a way to promote a valuable resource for students and faculty
- The resolution's relationship to questions of academic freedom
- The variety of interactions covered under Bias Incident Reporting Procedures (student-student, faculty-student, staff-student, etc.)
- Evaluating the resolution as a student-led initiative as opposed to a top-down mandate
- Determining the appropriate context for Bias Incident Reporting information
- Reading the resolution in light of students' experiences of harassment on campus

A motion was made and seconded to approve that the language will be included in syllabi, with faculty choosing one of the two language options:

Yes: 44

No: 6

Motion carried

11. Other Items

Bobby Steele, Interim Director of the Multicultural Center, requested that anyone with further questions about Bias Incident Reporting procedures contact him or his office.

12. Adjournment  
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 4:52 p.m.  
Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rachel Kraus, Secretary

/mw