

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE 2016-17 UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 27, 2017

Members Present: 48

Members Absent: 14

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair of the University Senate, Kourtland Koch, at 4:01 p.m.
Roll Call was taken by initialing the roster located at the entrance to LB 125.

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

Substitutes: M. Kovach for M. Baker, C. Scalf for A. Batres, J. Helton for A. Crow, M. Whaley for J. Jacobson, S.M. Smith for T. Jitpaiboon, D. Rutherford for I. Livshits, C. Dowling for K. Nicholson, R. Berrington for R. Wijesinghe

Members Absent: J. Ballesteros, R. Bernot, C. Bohanan, M. Chiuini, C. Dodd, A. DeLong, L. Humphrey, N. Masson, A. Moore, M. Moore, D. Roof, K. Rosenberger, A. Smith, E. Zygmunt

Substitutions were noted.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of March 30, 2017.

Motion carried

2. Chairperson Koch thanked the representative from Unified Technology Support for running the console.
3. Announcements
I.A. (Faculty Athletics Representative to NCAA-Mac Report – Charlene Alexander, Enclosure #1), I. B. (Academic Posting, 2016-2017 Volume XLVIII -6&7, Enclosure #2), and I.C. (Dissolution of the Center for International Development-CID) were reviewed by the Senate membership.

In her report, Dr. Alexander highlighted BSU athletes' high GPAs (67% above a 3.0, and 31% have a 4.0) and recognized women's tennis for winning the MAC championship. Dr. Alexander was recognized by the Senate for her outstanding service as Faculty Athletics Representative.
4. Recognition of Deaths
There were no deaths to recognize.
5. Committee Reports
 - A. Governance and Elections Committee – K. Kessler reminded everyone that elections for 2017-18 Senate officers and Senate Agenda Committee positions would take place at the first meeting of 2017-18, scheduled immediately after the current meeting.
 - B. Faculty Council – At its last meeting of 2016-17, the Council approved the Contract Faculty Titles and Promotion proposal. In its first meeting of 2017-18, the Council elected officers.
 - C. University Council – At its first meeting of 2017-18, the Council elected Tiffany Peters as chair, Laura Helms as vice-chair, Lola Mauer as secretary, and Lola Mauer as the Council's new representative to the Governance & Elections committee.
 - D. Campus Council – No report.
 - E. Student Government Association – James Wells thanked the Senate for its work with SGA and mentioned that the new SGA and Senate leaders have been selected. He mentioned legislation from SGA (dead week discussions) that will be ongoing in the coming year. The Senate recognized James for his outstanding service as SGA President.
6. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Kourtland Koch – GANTT chart (Enclosure #2) - Issues in the Senate System
 - K. Koch reviewed each item briefly, highlighting the current location and ongoing nature of each. Some of these items include:
 - a. Adding a question to course evaluations about diversity in the classroom
 - b. Responsible research policy
 - c. The telecommuting issue is now in business affairs
 - d. Titles and Promotions was approved by Faculty Council
 - e. Senate restructuring
7. Questions Directed to the Interim President

Interim President King summarized BSU funding allocations recently approved by the governor:

- funding for phase 2 of the Cooper Science building replacement (87.5 million)
- an increase in operation allocations: 2.2% for the first year and 1.7% the following year

He forecasted future events, such as the ground breaking for the health professions building, the arrival of President Mearns on May 15th, and a fundraising initiative to develop a Robert J. Morris Distinguished Lecture series.

Interim President King also reflected on accomplishments that attest to the Senate's key role on campus: the creation of the College of Health, the realignment of programs in the College of Applied Sciences and Technology, and policy changes that align pay increases with merit and that more clearly define satisfactory performance. He praised the work of BSU's contract faculty and voiced support for Contract Titles and Promotions, up for Senate review.

Interim President King clarified university practice for conducting internal vs. external searches for faculty and dean positions and touched on specific circumstances that may warrant internal searches.

The Senate recognized Interim President King for his service.

8. Question and Answer Period

There were no additional questions.

9. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

10. New Business

A. Vote to dissolve the College of Applied Sciences and Technology

A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the College of Applied Sciences and Technology.

Motion carried

B. Vote to Approve the Realignment of CAST Programs (Enclosure #4)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the realignment of CAST Programs, with the clarification that these changes will go into effect July 1st 2017.

Motion carried

C. Library Budget Resolution (Enclosure #5)

The Senate reviewed the resolution, which originated out of Faculty Council but was postponed for a vote during its 4/20/17 meeting due to lack of time. K. Koch pointed out that the resolution was forwarded to Senate because it addresses time-sensitive budget decisions that require action before the school year ends.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution, with the editorial change that "physical holdings" be revised to say "scholarly holdings" and that references to the faculty's request be replaced with the University Senate's request.

Motion carried

D. Contract Faculty Titles and Promotions (Enclosure #6)

The chair reviewed the legislation. A motion was made and seconded (B.Frankel/K. Berryhill) to review an amendment proposed by B. Frankel (Attachment #1) that would remove the time increments used to assess promotion in the current proposal.

Motion carried

Discussion points related to the amendment:

- The degree of parallelism between promotion timelines/assessment/merit pay for tenure-track vs contract faculty in the current proposal
- The degree of autonomy within academic units to propose promotion timelines and salary/merit standards for contract faculty
- The specific charge of the ad hoc committee that developed the legislation
- Potentially removing the proposal's strength by removing timeline guideposts

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amended legislation.
Motion did not carry.

The committee shifted its discussion on the original proposal.

Discussion points related to the original proposal:

- Clarification of the timeline for departments to write their policies for promotion
- The possibility for ushering in new contract faculty into promotions based on excellence at previous institutions
- Grandfathering current contract faculty into promotions
- The goal is for the policy to be implemented starting in the Fall of 2017 so people can apply for the first promotion for Fall 2018.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal as presented.
Motion carried although it was not unanimous.

11. Other Items

K. Koch recognized Interim President King's service to the Senate and invited everyone to a small reception in his honor.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 4:41 p.m.

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Kraus, Secretary

/mw