

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE 2017-18 UNIVERSITY SENATE  
October 5, 2017

Members Present: 54

Members Absent: 16

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

Members Present: C. Airriess, Y. Ayalon, C. Balukas, R. Bernot, K. Berryhill, C. Bohanon, D. Boyd, M. Buck, G. Carbo, E. Crawford, J. Fitzgerald, J. Flowers, J. Fry, K. Gayes, J. Ghezzi, J. Griffith, L. Helms, K. Hennessee, M. Hill, T. Jitpaiboon, K. Kessler, K. Koch, R. Kraus, A. Kuban, M. Lee, S. Lee, J. Lehmler, D. Lytle, T. Mahfouz, K. McCauliff, S. McFadden, C. McIntosh, G. Mearns, M. Myring, T. Peters, N. Phillips, J. Place, E. Riddle, D. Roof, J. Rybarczyk, M. Tagler, Z. Taylor, K. Volikas, H. Wang, K. Webber, L. White, R. Wijesinghe, A. Yen

Substitutes: C. Marlow for M. Carins, M. Stephenson for J. Hopwood, R. Hammons for R. Kovac, M. Baker for M. Kovach, J. Thaller for M. Moore, M. Nishikawa for D. Wheeler

Members Absent: C. Anagnos, A. Batres, J. Bott, J. Christman, N. Perera for B. Frankel, T. Hoffman, K. Kreamelmeyer, I. Livshits, J. McKinny, K. Nicholson, S. Shim, J. Sponseller, M. South, M. Wilson, S. Wu

Substitutions were noted.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of August 31, 2017.

Motion carried.

2. Announcements

- A. Next Scheduled Meetings:

University Senate – Thursday, November 2, 2017 in LB 125

Senate Agenda Committee- Monday, October 23, 2017 at 2:00PM in LB 104; reminder to let Senate Agenda Committee know of any items people would like to be considered

- B. Religious Accommodations and Holy Day Observances (Enclosure #1)- Review of enclosure was provided.

3. Recognition of Deaths

There was a moment of silence to recognize the deaths of Charles A. Ridgeway, Dr. David R. Ober and Elizabeth A. Pearson.

4. Committee Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – Karen Kessler, Major focus this year is the reconsideration of the constitution and governance restructuring of our system. Committee chairpersons have been asked to provide feedback and information about each committee. Goal is to have a plan approved by the senate by the end of Spring 2018 so that the writing committee can begin rewriting during the academic year of 2018-19 and begin using the improved governance structure starting Fall 2019.
  - B. Faculty Council – Tarek Mahfouz- Council met September 7, 2017. Core Diversity Question was sent back to Teaching Evaluation Committee for additional review and revision. Chairperson Mahfouz is asking representatives to ask their departments what they believe would be helpful for their departments and thoughts regarding the Centennial Package. Chairperson Mahfouz is compiling the information for Faculty Council review next week on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Bernie Hannon is also going to provide a Question and Answer session during the October 12 Faculty Council meeting in regards to Egencia.
  - C. University Council – Tiffany Peters – University Council met on September 14, 2017. Council heard from Bill Knight to discontinue the Institutional Effectiveness Committee. Motion was carried to move the item to Senate- to be voted on today.
  - D. Campus Council – Kathy Berryhill – Campus Council met on September 21, 2017. Council approved minutes, appointed a vice chairperson- Branden Jones and heard more about the governance restructuring committee. Chairperson Berryhill attended the ad hoc committee meeting on October 2, 2017.
  - E. Student Government Association- Greg Carbo. President Carbo stated the Student Government Association is rewriting their constitution and bylaws and re-arranging the office structure. They are working toward their goals, focusing on nine platform points, including teacher-student relations, technology, campus safety, diversity, and mental health.

5. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Kourtland Koch – GANTT chart (Enclosure #2) - Issues in the Senate System

Kourtland Koch reviewed each item briefly, highlighting the current location and ongoing nature of each. These items include:

- A. Faculty Council- Core Diversity Questions- has been sent to Teaching Evaluation Committee for further review and revisions.
  - B. University Council- Responsible Conduct of Research- Chairperson Koch has requested a refresher- It will be shared in the near future.  
Telecommuting- This item has been moved to the Professional Personnel Salary and Benefits Committee.

- C. Campus Council- No items at this time  
D. Senate Agenda- Request to discontinue the Institutional Effectiveness Committee has been sent to Senate.  
ROA (Reporting Outside Activities) Policy- tabled and not ready to be moved forward at this time  
E. Governance & Elections- Ad hoc committee on Senate Restructuring was reviewed briefly. Chairperson Beane recommends continued communication and sharing of information within the senate is helpful, discussed committee allocation/membership, culture of governance system- perception of the system. They are reviewing governance structures at similar institutions. This committee is meeting multiple times a month to do their work. They are considering questions, such as better representation in committees and committee allocation assignments and the culture of leadership.  
Handbook Corrections- Other Ranks- Will be sent to Senate Agenda Committee- October 23, 2017

6. Questions Directed to the President Mearns:

President Mearns thanked the Senate for their support to the University. Updates: email regarding schedule of visits to colleges, looking forward to the opportunity to hear from the colleges and departments, encourages people to attend and participate. First of six campus tours have been completed. Leadership searches are underway- Vice President Government Affairs, Chief Strategies Officer, will hopefully be chosen by January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. Two of the three community forums have been completed. October 12, 2017 will be the final community forum.

Questions were directed to President Mearns regarding:

1. How have the first seven weeks been as President of the University?

7. Question and Answer Period:

There were no additional questions.

8. Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

9. New Business:

- A. Request to discontinue the Institutional Effectiveness Committee (Enclosure #3)- William Knight gave a brief overview of the request. Explained that the University Assessment Committee works on any assessments needed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the discontinuation of the Institutional Effectiveness Committee.

Motion carried.

10. Other Items:

- A. Kate Stoss- Presented information on three new work life incentives. See PowerPoint attachment that was distributed for full details.

1. Parental Leave
2. Change in Sick Leave
3. Employee Assistance Program Services

- B. Chairperson Kourtland Koch- Invitation to Senators Reception after Senate meeting- Letterman Lobby.

11. Adjournment:

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Kraus, Secretary