Members Present: 43  
Members Absent: 22

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

   **Members Present:**  

   **Substitutes:**

   **Members Absent:**

   Substitutions were noted.
   A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of February 28, 2019.
   **Motion carried.**

2. Announcements

   A. **Next Scheduled Meetings:**
      - University Senate – Thursday, April 25, 2019 in LB 125
      - Senate Agenda Committee- Monday, April 15, 2019 in LB 104

3. Recognition of Deaths- A moment of silence was conducted.

   Dr. Edwin P Pettyman  
   Professor of Secondary Education Emeritus  
   Retired 1993  
   27 years of service

4. Committee Reports

   A. **Governance and Elections Committee** – Karen Kessler – The elections are coming up next month. If anyone is interested in serving as Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary, please let her know as soon as possible. – Karen Kessler will be on sabbatical fall of 2019. If Laura Helms is elected to serve as Senate Secretary, Laura has agreed to Vice Chair the Governance and Elections Committee while Karen is on sabbatical. Karen is not ready to announce the finalized membership of the Ad hoc Writing Committee at this time. She hopes to have it by next Monday April 1, 2019 and will send out an email announcement to all University Senate members.

   B. **Faculty Council** – Yaron Ayalon is not present today. Tarek Mahfouz reported the major item reviewed by the Faculty Council on March 21, 2019 included the Core Curriculum Proposal. The proposal was approved by the Undergraduate Education Committee and the University Core Curriculum Committee and sent to Faculty Council for review. There were three parts to the proposal including the reduction in credit hours from thirty-six (36) to thirty (30) credit hours, proposed a framework to guide core course population, and the third part was about the next steps moving forward and creating an Ad hoc committee to continue the core curriculum work. The part approved by the Faculty Council was the credit hours reduction from thirty-six (36) hours to thirty (30) hours.

   C. **University Council** – Mark Parkison, substitute for Laura Helms reported, at the most recent University Council meeting on March 14, 2019, the council received an informative financial presentation. The next University Council meeting is set for April 4, 2019.

   D. **Campus Council** – Kathy Berryhill – Their next meeting is set for April 11, 2019. They will have business regarding revisions to the Student Rights and Responsibilities 2019-2020. The new slate called Elevate was elected to serve the Student Government Association. The student body is voting on a new Residence Hall Association President later today.
5. **Report by Chairperson of Senate – Tarek Mahfouz – GANTT chart (Enclosure #1) - Issues in the Senate System**
   A. Library Committee Resolution - We are waiting to get information back from the Library Committee. Bruce Frankel reported that the committee has not made any additional progress and is not certain when the next meeting is scheduled.
   B. Faculty Designation Change Proposal - The Governance and Elections Committee approved this item on March 21, 2019. This item will be reviewed at the University Senate meeting on April 25, 2019.
   C. International Programs Committee FPPH Revisions - The Governance and Elections Committee approved this on March 21, 2019. This item will be reviewed at the University Senate meeting on April 25, 2019.
   D. Core Curriculum Revision - The update for this item was provided under the Faculty Council update above.
   E. Dissolution of Online Distance Education Committee - This item will be reviewed today.
   F. SGA - ROTC Priority Scheduling - This item remains with the Credits and Admissions Committee. They are working to create a policy to address these types of requests moving forward. A vote has not been taken on this item yet.
   G. SGA - LGBTQ Affairs Liaison - This item was reviewed by the Senate Agenda Committee on March 18, 2019. It has been directed to the University Council for review on April 4, 2019.
   H. Mission Update - The Governance and Elections Committee approved this item on March 21, 2019. This item will be reviewed at the University Senate meeting on April 25, 2019.
   I. COTE - Council on the Environment - Net Zero Proposal - This item has been endorsed by several entities throughout the university. The council on the Environment is seeking the endorsement of the University Senate. It will be sent to the University Council, Faculty Council and the Student Government Association before returning to the University Senate.
   J. Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee (SRAHC) Writing Committee - The update for this item was provided under the Governance and Elections Committee update above.

6. **Questions Directed to the President Mearns: President Mearns and Provost Rivera-Mills were both present.**

   President Mearns greeted the University Senate members and guests. He provided an update regarding the status of the end of fiscal year financial report. The three million deficit earlier projected has been remedied through the efforts of the university divisions to rectify their budgets. President Mearns also reported the university has received an all-time record high of freshman application, around 27,000 for the fall of 2019. The admitted and confirmed student numbers are higher than usual and the trend remains positive. The area that needs examined is freshman to sophomore application, around 27,000 for the fall of 2019. The admitted and confirmed student numbers are higher than usual and the trend remains positive. The area that needs examined is freshman to sophomore retention. President Mearns asked the Senators to continue brainstorming ideas on how the university can increase the number of freshman returning for their sophomore year. He also stated that graduate admissions numbers could use some improvement as well.

   President Mearns entertained questions. Question topics included but not limited to the following:
   - In regards to retention, what are some ways we can detect this earlier and provide assistance?
   - With the increase in enrollment, how do we maintain the unique and attractive character of smaller class sizes?
   - With recent withdraws from a multi-state tuition reciprocity program, is our university flexible in tuition?

   In closing, President Mearns reminded everyone of the One Ball State Day on April 9, 2019 and encouraged everyone to participate in the 24 hours of fundraising through sharing your support on social media, wearing your Ball State gear and joining the One Ball State Day events on campus, referencing the email announcement sent out earlier in March 2019. President Mearns also announced a Centennial Celebration Closing on Friday June 14, 2019 beginning at 1:00PM. This celebration will include a picnic in the old Quad area.

7. **Question and Answer Period:**

   There were no additional questions.

8. **Unfinished Business:**

   A. Dissolution of the Online Distance Education Committee - Trudi Weyermann

   Tarek Mahfouz explained this was brought to us at the last meeting on February 28, 2019 and was tabled for later discussion. There was a motion made and seconded for discussion that remains open. Discussion ensued.

   A motion was made and seconded to approve the dissolution.

   Everyone is opposed.
   The motion does not carry.

   Tarek Mahfouz explained the recommendation is for this item to be sent back to the University Council charged with the request to work in collaboration with the Online and Distance Education department to create an Ad hoc Committee to best address the department’s needs.
A suggestion was made that a tutorial be provided at the first fall University Senate meeting to give background information on the governance system structure and functions.

9. New Business: There is no new business at this time.

10. Other Items:
    Karen Kessler would like to determine appropriate methods to increase accountability in committee work being completed. It was determined that committees should be submitting a year-end report to the governance office.

11. Adjournment:
    A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 4:47 p.m.
    Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Helms, Secretary

/ba