

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE 2018-19 UNIVERSITY SENATE
October 4, 2018

Members Present: 45

Members Absent: 20

1. The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair of the University Senate, Tarek Mahfouz, at 4:03 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, K. Berryhill, L. Bielski, K. Bontrager, J. Christman, B. Condie, E. Crawford, J. Emert, J. Fitzgerald, J. Fry, S. Fulton, K. Gayes, J. Haeft, L. Helms, K. Hennessee, M. Hill, J. Hopwood, S. Lovelace for J. Huff, K. Kessler, C. Kinsella, M. Kovach, K. Kreamelmeyer, S. Lee, D. Lytle, C. McIntosh, B. Means, G. Mearns, P. Nagelkirk, R. Rice-Snow, J. Place, S. Rivera-Mills, J. Rybarczyk, J. Sponseller, J. Thaller, R. Wijesinghe, M. Wilson, A. Yen

Substitutes: R. Wojtloewicz for R. Kraus, C. Luchs for J. Ledbetter, G. Stamp for K. McCauliff, K. Snavely for I. Mitchell, S. Janssen for S. Wilson

Members Absent: R. Bernot, C. Bohanon, D. Boyd, M. Cairns, B. Frankel, M. Hinkleman, T. Jitpaiboon, R. Kovac, A. Kuban, M. Lee, J. Lehmillier, I. Livshits, T. Mahfouz, J. McKinney, D. Roof, S. Shim, M. South, M. Tagler, S. Wu, E. Zygmunt

Substitutions were noted.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of August 30, 2018.

Motion carried.

2. Announcements

- A. Next Scheduled Meetings:

University Senate – Thursday, November 29, 2018 in LB 125- **Correction: November 1, 2018**
Senate Agenda Committee- Monday, November 19, 2018 in LB 104- **Correction: October 22, 2018**

- B. Strategic Plan Presentation- President Mearns and Chief Strategy Officer Sue Hodges Moore
President Mearns presented a Strategic Plan slideshow to the University Senate members. President Mearns referenced the Strategic Plan website containing all the materials available for review at any time. President Mearns encouraged everyone to complete the survey as soon as possible and to attend the open forums being conducted.

Questions included the following subjects:

1. How does the strategy plan address the University's importance/focus on research?
2. In relation to research, clarification on what is necessary to gain tenure?
3. Will there be an opportunity for proposed language in the plan to be reviewed?

3. Recognition of Deaths

No deaths have been brought to the attention of governance.

4. Committee Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – Karen Kessler – A re-written constitution has been completed. They will be bringing it to the different councils. New senators unfamiliar with the Senate Restructuring proposal will receive an email with that information for their reference. Campus Council meetings for the remainder of this governance year have been suspended by the Governance and Elections Committee pending the restructuring process but may be called to meet by the Chairs of the Governance and Elections Committee or Senate Agenda Committee as needed.

- B. Faculty Council – Yaron Ayalon- Faculty Council met on September 6, 2018. The council has charged the Teaching Evaluation Committee to research alternative methods for student evaluations/rankings of our classes. The council has charged the Promotion and Tenure Committee to revise the language in regards to early tenure. The council's next meeting is Thursday October 11, 2018. New issues being addressed include the Faculty Salary & Benefits proposal and a proposal for library funding.

- C. University Council – Laura Helms- University Council met on September 13, 2018. The council is addressing some concerns brought forward regarding the volunteer program at Muncie Community Schools. Dr. Buck will be invited to council to answer questions and provide clarification on the subject.

D. Campus Council – Kathy Berryhill – Kathy has asked that Campus Council be dissolved, but was denied the Governance and Elections Committee. Kathy amended her request and asked that Campus Council meetings be suspended for the remainder of this governance year pending Senate restructuring. The Governance and Elections Committee approved her request to suspend Campus Council meetings for this governance year pending a meeting being called by them or the Senate Agenda Committee if needed.

5. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Karen Kessler – GANTT chart (Enclosure #1) - Issues in the Senate System
Karen Kessler reviewed each item briefly, highlighting the current location and ongoing nature of each. These items include:
- A. Promotion and Tenure: The item is being reviewed- Yaron Ayalon stated that the Promotion and Tenure Committee has been asked to revise the language. He anticipates hearing back from them soon.
 - B. Board of Trustee- This item began at the end of last year, March/April 2018. Chris Airres reported the committee has met twice with a third meeting with President Mearns for advice from his experience. The committee emailed out a survey yesterday that will remain open until October 16, 2018. Requested that everyone complete the survey.
 - C. Campus Council- The request to suspend meetings for the remainder of this governance year was approved by the Governance and Elections Committee.
 - D. Senate Constitution- This has been discussed earlier in the meeting.
6. Questions Directed to the President Mearns:
- A. Library funding and the vision for the University Library moving forward in our new mission and Strategic Plan.
 - B. Concerns regarding the recent change to have an 80% enrollment rate for classes. This change could potentially affect upper level classes with lower student enrollment. Suggested an overall 80% average would be more realistic.
- President Mearns and Provost Rivera-Mills were not aware of this recent change and will inquire further.

In addition President Mearns spoke about the ongoing Dean search, explaining that Provost Rivera-Mills has been working very hard to complete the composition for three out of the four Deans needed and the interview process will be in January, February and March 2019.

7. Question and Answer Period:
There were no additional questions.

8. Unfinished Business:
There was no unfinished business.

9. New Business:
There was no new business.

10. Other Items:
There were no other items.

11. Adjournment:
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 4:51 p.m.
Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Helms, Secretary

/ba