

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE 2018-19 UNIVERSITY SENATE  
January 17, 2019

Members Present: 59

Members Absent: 11

1. The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair of the University Senate, Tarek Mahfouz, at 4:01 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, L. Bielski, K. Bontrager, M. Cairns, J. Christman, B. Condie, E. Crawford, J. Emert, J. Fitzgerald, B. Frankel, J. Fry, S. Fulton, K. Gayes, J. Haeft, L. Helms, K. Hennessee, J. Hopwood, J. Huff, T. Jitpaiboon, K. Kessler, R. Kovac, M. Kovach, R. Kraus, A. Kuban, M. Lee, S. Lee, D. Lytle, T. Mahfouz, K. McCauliff, C. McIntosh, B. Means, G. Mearns, P. Naglekirk, J. Place, R. Rice-Snow, S. Rivera-Mills, J. Rybarczyk, J. Sponseller, R. Wijesinghe, M. Wilson, S. Wu, A. Yen, E. Zygmunt, (five student member names to be added once received)

Substitutes: M. Maggiotto for C. Kinsella, C. Luchs for John Ledbetter, K. Snavely for I. Mitchell, J. Forbey for M. Tagler, S. Staton for J. Thaller, E. Wasserman for S. Wilson

Members Absent: C. Bohanon, D. Boyd, M. Hill, M. Hinkleman, K. Kreamelmeyer, J. Lehmilller, I. Livshits, J. McKinney, D. Roof, S. Shim, M. South

Substitutions were noted.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of November 29, 2018.

Motion carried.

2. Announcements

- A. Next Scheduled Meetings:

University Senate – Thursday, February 28, 2019 in LB 125

Senate Agenda Committee- Monday, February 18, 2019 in LB 104

- B. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management and the Department of Geological Sciences will merge creating the Environment, Geology, and Natural Resources Department effective July 1, 2019.

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

Dr. Evelyn J. Bowers  
Professor of Anthropology  
Retired 2016  
30 years of service

Dr. Adele C. King  
Professor Emerita of French  
Retired 2003  
16 years of service

4. Committee Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – Karen Kessler – The committee discussed the senate restructuring proposals being presented today. They are also determining the best way to address appropriate representation on the University Council given the recent divisional changes with the University. Karen will be meeting with the University Council Executive members to discuss representation.
- B. Faculty Council – Yaron Ayalon – At the councils meeting on November 8, 2018, Bernard Hannon provided a Financial Presentation. At their next meeting on January 24, 2019, they will continue discussion on the Board of Trustee membership item.
- C. University Council – Laura Helms – The council's first meeting will be February 7, 2019. Bernard Hannon will be providing the Financial Presentation.
- D. Campus Council – Kathy Berryhill – There is no new information regarding Campus Council. Kathy yielded the report to the Student Government Association representative Kyleigh Snavely. Kyleigh reported that the Student Government Association is in the process of selecting a new student member for the Board of Trustees.

5. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Tarek Mahfouz – GANTT chart (Enclosure #1) - Issues in the Senate System
  - A. Board of Trustee Membership- This will be under continued discussion at the next Faculty Council meeting on January 24, 2019.
  - B. Library Committee Resolution- The Senate Agenda Committee sent this item back to the Library Committee for redrafting and additional information. Tarek will be meeting with the Library Committee for clarification.
  - C. Dissolution of Online Distance Education Committee- The Senate Agenda Committee will address this request at their next meeting on February 18, 2019.
  - D. SGA- ROTC Priority Scheduling- Student Government Association representatives have scheduled a meeting to meet with the Admissions and Credits Committee to discuss their request.
  - E. Constitution of University Senate- Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee (SRAHC)- This item will be discussed at today’s meeting under New Business.
  - F. Alternative Senate Organization- Alternate Constitutional Committee (ACC)- This item will be discussed at today’s meeting under New Business.

6. Questions Directed to the President Mearns:

President Mearns greeted the Senate and provided an update regarding the current university operating budget. Administration is anticipating an operating deficit this fiscal year. There are multiple possible causes and multiple measures that can be taken to rectify the projected deficit. It was reiterated that this is a projected deficit. The university's long term financial plan is strong and stable and administration is preparing for a more balanced budget next fiscal year. President Mearns discussed the two new academic buildings being completed and the development of an incentive based budget model.

Questions/Concerns brought up included:

- A. Summer school enrollment and student fees
- B. Revisit tuition/fees for students taking over 18 credit hours
- C. Auxiliary recreation facility fee for employees
- D. “Pay It Forward” experimental type of alternative tuition payment plan
- E. Recent departmental merge and how this may affect revenue

7. Question and Answer Period:

There were no additional questions.

8. Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

9. New Business:

- A. Senate Restructuring Options- Karen Kessler, Andy Beane, Marilyn Buck, Bruce Frankel  
A motion was made and seconded to open discussion about this item.  
Karen Kessler provided background information relevant to this item.

The Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee represented by Andy Beane, provided a summary of the members of the committee, the process they utilized to complete their charge and their recommended new Senate proposal. All members of the Senate were provided emailed PDF files of documents containing the detailed proposal.

The Alternate Constitutional Committee represented by Bruce Frankel provided a summary of their recommended Senate proposal. All members of the Senate were provided emailed PDF files of documents containing the detailed proposal.

Discussion ensued in an orderly fashion.

Both the Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee and the Alternate Constitutional Committee were able to explain the fundamental differences between their proposals.

Senate Chair Tarek Mahfouz directed the University Senate members that a balloted vote would be necessary. He explained that the four options to vote on were as follows and to put the number of your choice on the ballot. The Governance and Elections Committee members provided and collected ballot papers to/from all voting Senators.

1. Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee Option
2. Alternate Constitutional Committee
3. Merged Senate Restructuring Proposal
4. No change from current governance structure and constitution

The ballots were counted twice by Governance and Elections Committee members before announcing the results. A total of forty-six (46) ballots were utilized. Abstentions did not return ballots.

Results:	1.	Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee Option	30 votes
	2.	Alternate Constitutional Committee	2 votes
	3.	Merged Senate Restructuring Proposal	10 votes
	4.	No change from current governance structure and constitution	4 votes

It was determined that the majority vote is for option 1: Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee proposal. Chair Tarek Mahfouz announced that the information shared regarding the Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee proposal would be considered the first read for this item. The Senate Restructuring Ad hoc Committee will prepare to present the second read at a University Senate meeting to be determined.

Chair Mahfouz directed University Senators to please direct any questions to the Senate Undersecretary Bethany Allen within the next couple of weeks.

10. Other Items:  
There were no other items.

11. Adjournment:  
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 5:01 p.m.  
Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Helms, Secretary

/ba