

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE 2021-22 UNIVERSITY SENATE  
September 30, 2021

Members Present: 34

Members Absent: 5

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair of the University Senate, Kesha Coker, at 4:00 p.m.  
Substitutions were asked to email Bethany Allen for record keeping purposes.  
Kesha asked if anyone objected to the meeting being recorded. No one opposed. Kesha began the recording.

Members Present: R. Aceska, V. Birk, N. Bogert, A. Bowen, M. Carter, K. Chipman, K. Coker, O. Frausto, D. Friesner, S. Fulton, L. Gerstein, M. Gillilan, R. Hassenzahl, C. Haynes, K. Hennessee, S. Lee, T. Nguyen, J. Place, N. Prater, V. Rapatz, S. Rivera-Mills, N. Seely, C. Shue, S. Smith, S. Snideman, J. Sponseller, A. Stefanski, L. Taylor, P. Turner, J. Tye, C. Van Hof, D. Wheeler

Substitutes: A. Nickoli for C. Cash, L. Gerstein for M. Tschopp

Members Absent: C. Bohanon, J. Emert, D. Odom, G. Mearns

Guests: J. Buckrop, K. Mc. Bride, K. McCauliff, M. Stephenson

Kesha Coker announced that Sam Snideman has agreed to serve as Senate Parliamentarian.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of August 26, 2021.

No nays noted. No abstentions noted.

Motion carried.

2. Announcements

A. Next Scheduled Meetings

University Senate – Thursday, October 28, 2021, 4:00 p.m., Zoom

Senate Agenda Committee – Monday, October 18, 2021, 2:00 p.m., Zoom

Please have any new items of business submitted to the Senate office no later than October 8, 2021.

- B. Reaffirmation of Standing Rules for University Senate (Enclosure #1)- The Standing Rules were provided for individual review.

- C. Graduate Education Committee- Admission as a Non-Degree Only Student proposal. (Enclosure #2)  
This proposal was voted on and approved by Faculty Council on September 2, 2021.

3. Recognition of Deaths – No new notifications currently.

4. Questions Directed to President Mearns. Provost Susana Rivera-Mills was present in place of the President today.

Provost Rivera-Mills discussed the following:

- The student retention plan will be discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting tomorrow, October 1, 2021.
- Kesha Coker will be providing a Senate report.
- New micro grants will be rolling out later in the fall to incentivize course redesigns.
- An early tenure presentation was shared in July with the Academic Leadership Group to provide more information to the colleges regarding expectations for early tenure including a power point provided to the Deans.
- The President remains satisfied with the increasing level of COVID vaccinations on campus and there is no vaccine mandate currently.
- Based on student experiences, some masking exceptions have been permitted. If this causes any issues a return to more restricted protocol may be necessary.

5. Committee Reports

- A. Governance and Elections Committee – Nathan Bogert- The most recent meeting was cancelled due to no new business. We will be receiving new members to serve from Faculty Council appointments soon. The next meeting is set for October 28, 2021.
- B. Faculty Council – Chris Van Hof- Chris is working to fill committee vacancies with appointments. Volunteers have been asked to serve on various committees. He is working with Deans and Associate Deans to get volunteers from specific colleges. The next Faculty Council meeting is set for October 7, 2021.

- C. Professional Personnel Council – Sam Snideman- The council met on September 9, 2021. Sam Snideman was re-elected as Chair. Melanie Turner was elected as Vice Chair and Rhonda Wilson as Secretary. The next meeting is set for October 14, 2021.
- D. Student Government Association – Tina Nguyen/Davis Odom- The Diversity Deep Dive will take place on October 6, 2021 from 5-7pm at the University Greens. Please share the information.

- 6. Report by Chairperson of Senate – Kesha Coker – Gantt chart (Enclosure #3) - Issues in the Senate System  
Kesha reviewed each item briefly, highlighting the current location and ongoing nature of each. These items included:
  - A. Graduate Education Committee- Admission as a Non-Degree Only student- This item was announced today.
  - B. Undergraduate Education Committee-BA/BS Program Distinctions- This item remains with the committee.
  - C. Undergraduate Education Committee- Credit for Prior Learning- This item remains with the committee.
  - D. Academic Freedom & Ethics Committee Ombudsperson Proposal- An ad hoc is being formed to further research this proposal.
  - E. Faculty and Professional Personnel Handbook Edits- Section 100 & 59.1.8.4.- This item will be discussed today.
- 7. Question and Answer Period- There are no additional questions currently.
- 8. Unfinished Business- There is no unfinished business currently.
- 9. New Business:
  - A. Faculty and Professional Personnel edits- Section 59.1.8.4., 59.2.1., 100., 108.1. (Enclosure #4)- Jesse Tye  
Jesse Tye provided background information about the edits needed in the referenced sections. He shared a short power point presentation to show all the proposed edits.  
  
A motion is made and seconded to approve the proposed edits to the Faculty and Professional Personnel Handbook.  
No nays noted. No abstentions noted.  
Motion carried.
- 10. Other Items- There are no other items currently.
- 11. Adjournment:  
  
A motion was made and seconded to adjourn University Senate at 4:31 p.m.  
No nays noted. No abstentions noted.  
Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalee Seely, Secretary