

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE 2022-2023 UNIVERSITY SENATE
February 23rd, 2023

Members Present: 34

Members Absent: 7

1. The meeting was called to order by the 2022-2023 Chair of the University Senate, Nathan Bogert, at 4:03 p.m.

Substitutions were noted.

Members Present: T. Berg, N. Bogert, C. Bohanon, A. Bowen, C. Cash, K. Chipman, S. Chung, J. Coggeshall, M. Gillilan, J. Glesing, R. Hassenzahl, C. Haynes, E. Jones, F. Kailota, K. Koch, W. Koslicki, S. Lee, M. Lindstrand, G. Mearns, M. Prater, N. Prater, C. Shue, L. Taylor, S. Tao, M. Tschopp, C. Webster, R. Wert, M. Wilson

Substitutes: E. Green for H. Dickin, E. Zurzolo for S. Fulton, M. Tschopp for L. Gerstein, G. Birk for C. Grellier, J. Gassensmith for T. Nguyen, W. Zhang for P. Turner

Members Absent: C. Dailey, A. Hildner, B. Large, S. Rivera-Mills, S. Shore-Beck, C. Van Hof, D. Wheeler

Guests: K. McCauliff

A motion was made (Lindstrand) and seconded (Taylor) to approve the minutes of January 19th, 2023.

No nays noted. No abstentions noted.

Motion carried.

I. Announcements

A. Next Scheduled Meetings

University Senate – Thursday, March 23rd, 2023 4:00 p.m., LB125

Senate Agenda Committee – Monday, March 13th, 2023 2:00 p.m., BC200

Elections will be happening at the April 20th meeting, so please be aware and make sure you're here for those.

II. Questions Directed to President Mearns

Update on the state budget; encouraged by progress in General Assembly. House Ways and Means has recently approved its budget proposal, expects the House will approve it in full soon. Two major components of the proposal, the first of which is that the committee has approved the capital request to fund modernizing and renovation of classrooms in a few buildings across campus. The second component is the operating appropriation. House committee has approved a 4% increase for the next year, with a 6% increase in the year following. This will translate to a bump of about 2.7 million dollars, with an expected 5.4 million dollar increase the year following. Hopeful that the Senate may increase that to 6% in fiscal 2024 and 8% in fiscal year 2025. That would double both of the increases in terms of dollars. Will not know the final outcome until April.

Second item, enrollment is expected to increase by 2-3% compared to last year. Deposits are running about 8% higher, and hopeful that we'll be able to exceed the budget assumption. Seeing positive results in all dimensions, international, graduate and otherwise. More immediately, there appears to be an increase in retention rates. So far, it has returned to pre-pandemic numbers, and Ball State has enrolled 150 more students in the spring semester than expected.

III. Committee Reports

- a) Governance and Elections Committee – Linda Taylor, Chairperson
 - i) Proposal for the department of Women's Gender and African-American studies. Started conversations about a Graduate Student Association. Will be addressing the problem of institutional knowledge and committee terms. Don't want to lose all of the committee's expertise at one time. Dean Beckman would like to make some adaptations to the Events programming committee and that will be addressed in due course.
- b) Faculty Council – Chris Van Hof, Chairperson
 - i) Faculty Council passed updated language for Non-Tenure Line Members
- c) Professional Personnel Council – Mike Gillilan, Chairperson
 - i) Did not meet in February, guest at next meeting will be Darrell Clark, as well as doing a survey to properly assess the future of PPC.
- d) Student Government Association- Tina Nguyen, President
 - i) SGA elections were recently concluded, Joseph Gassensmith will be the new President and Monet Lindstrand will continue as VP.

IV. Question & Answer

V. New Business

A. Department of Women's, Gender and African American Studies proposal- (Enclosure #2)
Vote was held with affiliate faculty, and passed unanimously 27-0. This is an announcement, and will not need to be voted on by Senate. It will now go to the Provost's office.

VI. Other Items

A. Presentation from Darrell Clark

Recently joined the university, currently engaged in learning how the university operates, and will begin to figure out what needs to be adapted and how to add value as possible.

Chair wants to emphasize the newly renamed department will be actively engaged with the governance system and attend meetings to help make the department approachable and useful. Darrell also wants to make clear he's got an open-door policy and that he will put any good ideas to good use.

B. Discussion about Resources to help Senators

Berg wishes to talk about contract faculty, perhaps there are ways to encourage those who aren't on the tenure-track, how could that be incentivized? The Honors College, as an example, only has one tenure-track faculty, which can make it difficult to populate governance committees.

Chair wishes to point out that the language that Faculty Council just passed will help to address this, but we're open to ideas.

Webster wants to see if there are possible incentives, particularly financial ones, to improve engagement. Chair responds that tenure-track faculty have often been told service is a great addition to a resume.

Provost has approved sending a campus-wide email with the minutes and a brief description of the meeting, that will begin after this meeting.

FAQ is being prepared for governance website, please reach out to jgonieal@bsu.edu if you have anything you think would be helpful to add.

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by Gillilan, Berg seconded

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Kourtland Koch, Secretary

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