

Faculty Senate Minutes for April 27, 2023

Evan Kutzler called the meeting to order at 3:30.

1. **University Updates**

President Weaver gave an extensive update on the state of GSW

- Academic freedom – President Weaver’s recent call with the Chancellor included a discussion on the Statement of Principles of Academic Freedom. He also noted that the Lieutenant Governor has asked for a summary of DEI spending at all universities.
- PTR changes – The BOR made several changes to the PTR process that need to be included in the next academic year. Benjamin Meador’s motion that Evan incorporate the changes was unanimously approved.
- Test optional admissions policy – The president suggested that the Senate should engage in ongoing discussions as to the impact of the current policy that exempts SAT and ACT tests for applicants with 3.0 or higher GPAs. For instance, how are students placed in freshman math classes and should we add a composition or math test requirement prior to registration.
- Funding cuts – The funding situation is fluid, but it appears that the funding cut for next year will be \$460,000. In addition, we will need to allocate \$90,000 to provide COLA \$2,000 raises for non-state funded positions and \$100,000 for faculty promotion and tenure.
- Pool – President Weaver reported that the cost of repairing the pool is prohibitive and it will not be repaired. The next building proposal will be a new science facility at a cost of \$25 to \$30 million.

Interim Provost Drake reported that categories will remain the same in the Gen Ed refresh. The labels and objectives will change.

2. **Approval of the Minutes**

Julie Megginson’s motion to accept the March 30, 2023 minutes passed.

3. **New Business**

Committee on Academic Affairs (curriculum changes)

The following curriculum changes from the Committee on Academic Affairs were considered as a block upon Benjamin Meador’s motion and approved as a block upon Chadwick Guggs’s motion.

- BA in Communications and Emerging Media
- Certificate in Strategic Communication

- Certificate in Popular Culture
- Certificate in Mass Communication
- Certificate in Digital Media and Technology
- BS in Political Science
- BA in English Online

Committee on Academic Affairs (new programs)

The following new programs from the Academic Affairs were considered as a block upon Benjamin Meador's motion and approved as a block upon Jeff Waldrop's motion.

- Exercise Physiology Endorsement
- Exercise Science Certificate

Committee on Academic Affairs (policy changes)

The following policy change from the Committee on Academic Affairs was approved upon Jeff Waldrop's motion.

- General Baccalaureate Requirement #7 regarding the residency policy

Committee on Graduate Affairs

The following graduate faculty applications from Graduate Affairs were considered as a block upon Benjamin Meador's motion and approved as a block upon Chadwick Gugg's motion.

- Alexander Yemelyanov (Computing)
- Manoj Kumar Thapa (Math)
- Teresa Teasley (Nursing)
- Michael Alan Crosby (Education)
- Martha Dodd (Nursing)
- Paula Bryant (Nursing)

Faculty Handbook

The following committees provided updates to the Faculty Handbook. The Business and Finance changes are in process. Evan incorporated a requirement that we will review the handbook every two years. Upon a motion by Elizabeth Gurnack, the policy and the recommended changes were approved.

- Faculty Affairs (misc.)
- Committee on Academic Affairs (misc.)
- Committee on Institutional Effectiveness (none)
- Faculty Senate (FS review)

Standing Committee Charge Revisions

The revisions to the charges for the Global Engagement and HIP Committee and the Committee on Student Affairs were considered as a block upon Julie Megginson's motion and approved upon Benjamin Meador's motion.

University Committee Assignments

The following individuals were appointed to review committee assignments for the 2023 – 2024 academic year

- Carol Bishop (COBAC), Mike Crosby (Education), Michelle Dykes (Nursing), Anne Jacobs (A&S), and John Wilson (Library)

Pool Letter

No recommendation was made in response to the pool letter.

Elections

The incoming senators were provided ballots to vote for officers for the 2023 – 2024 year. Evan announced the results the following day, as follows:

- President – John Lejeune
- Vice President – Amber Stovall
- Secretary – Ashley Jones

4. Next Meeting

The General Faculty Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2023 at 9:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55.

Attendance 2022-2023 Faculty Senate

Carol Bishop
Michael Crosby (for Thelma Sexton)
Chadwick Gugg
Tzvetelin Iordanov
Evan Kutzler
John Lejeune
Benjamin Meador
Julie Megginson
Sondra Smith
Anh-Hue Tu
Jeffrey Waldrop
John Wilson
Keaton Wynn
Chu Chu Wu
Jill Drake (ex-officio)
Neal Weaver (ex-officio)

Attendance 2023-2024 Faculty Senate

Sisi Chen (new)
Michael Crosby (new)
Chadwick Gugg (cont.)
Elizabeth Gurnack (for Ian Brown, new)
Anne Jacobs (new)

Ashley Jones (new)
John Lejeune (cont.)
Sai Mukkavilli (new)
Thelma Sexton (cont.)
Sondra Smith (cont.)
Amber Stovall (new)
Anh-Hue Tu (cont.)
John Wilson (cont.)
Keaton Wynn (cont.)
Jill Drake (ex-officio)
Neal Weaver (ex-officio)