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Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes

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2020 March 23 - Faculty Senate Agenda and Minutes

Faculty Senate, East Tennessee State University

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EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate Agenda

March 23, 2020

2:45 p.m. Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. Celebrations
2. Introductions of Guests
3. Announcements
4. Approval of minutes from March 9, 2020
5. Information items
 - a. Update and Questions Concerning COVID-19 and ETSU – Mr. Hendrix
 - b. Discussion around Pass/Fail Grade Policy temporary changes – Mr. Hendrix
 - c. Policies open for public comment – Mr. Hendrix
 - School of Graduate Studies
 1. Graduate Academic Fresh Start
 2. Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's
 - Office of the Provost
 1. Attendance
 2. Academic Agreements
 - d. Update on Faculty Senate Constitution Vote – Mr. Hendrix
 - e. Center for Teaching Excellence Update – Dr. Brown
 - f. College Elections – Dr. McGarry
 - ~~g. Handbook Committee update – Dr. Epps~~
 - h. Board of Trustees report – Dr. Foley
 - Board will have a meeting with Dr. Noland today at 4pm for an update from Dr. Noland concerning ETSU's response to COVID-19.
 - i. University Committees Report
 - Other reports
 - j. Working Groups Report – Work Group Chair
 - Administrative Review – Dr. O'Neil
 - Shared Governance – Dr. Lyons
 - Please continue to provide feedback to the committee on the Shared Governance proposal
 - Campus Communications – Dr. Garris
 - Faculty Safety and Planning – Dr. Pealer
 - Paid Family Leave – Dr. Alexander
6. Old Business

a. Committee on Committees – Dr. Epps

- Bill Garris is Senate rep to GEAC

7. New Business

a. Discussion of 2020-2021 Faculty Senate Elections for Executive Committee Officers

8. Comments from guests

9. Adjourn



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Meeting Date:	03/23/20	Time:	14:45 – 16:30	Location:	Zoom Online
Next Meeting:	04/06/20	Scribe:			Eric Sellers
Present:	Alexander, Katelyn; Anand, Rajani; Blackhart, Ginette; Brown, Patrick; Burford, Mike; Burns, Bracken; Byington, Randy; Chen, Yi-Yang; Cherry, Donna; Collins, Charles; Drinkard-Hawkshawe, Dorothy; Dunn, Andrew; Ellis, Jon; Emma, Todd; Epps, Susan; Evanshen, Pam; Foley, Virginia; Fraysier, Donna; Garris, Bill; Gray, Jeffrey; Hagemeyer, Nick; Hemphill, Bill; Hemphill, Jean; Hendrix, Stephen; Holmes, Alan; Johnson, Mikki; Johnson, Michelle; Kim, Sookhyn; Kostrzewa, Richard; Livingston, James; Lyons, Renee; Mackara, Fred; Marek, Greta; McGarry, Theresa; Mitchell, Holly; Oh, Sunny; Olson, Nate; O'Neil, Kason; Owens, Bea; Park, Esther; Peterson, Jonathan; Ramsey, Priscilla; Ransom, Mark; Sargsyan, Alex; Sarkodie, Olga; Sellers, Eric; Sergiadis, Ashley; Silver, Ken; Smith, Samuel; Stone, William; Taylor, Teresa Brooks; Trogen, Paul; Walden, Rachel				
Absent:	[Attendance was not taken; thus, all senators may not have been present]				
Excused:	[No senators requested to be excused]				

Agenda Items

Meeting called to order

1. Celebrations

2. Introductions

3. Announcements

4. Approval of Minutes

5. Informational Items

6. Old Business

7. New Business

8. Comments from Guests

9. Adjourn

DISCUSSIONS

1. Celebrations

None.

2. Introductions

Amy Johnson from Provost Office

3. Announcements

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

Hendrix questioned whether there was an objection to approving the minutes from the 03/09/20 meeting.

No Objection: Minutes Approved



DISCUSSIONS

5. Informational Items

5.1 Update and Questions Concerning COVID-19 and ETSU – Mr. Hendrix

5.1.1 Dr. Noland indicated his appreciation for faculty as they prepare to move online and commend Faculty Senate for their leadership in the process.

5.1.2 **Alexander** indicated that there was a Zoom meeting with students and many of them were confused and could not get their audio or video to work and added that it would be helpful for students to have some best practices for synchronous courses that will be meeting online. **Hendrix** replied that he is unaware of a best practice guide at the university level. **Brown** indicated that there is some information on the CTE website and **Amy Johnson** added that covering Zoom etiquette at the beginning of the meeting is a good idea. **Gray** added that faculty and students may have questions about assessment and examination processes and information or guidance from the CTE would be helpful. **Amy Johnson** replied that Allison Barton has created videos about assessments, which are posted on the CTE website, and it is also important that students do not incur costs associated with moving online.

5.1.3 **Park** asked if there are any updates regarding how international students are going to be affected in terms of housing and food services and what will happen if they go back to their home country. **Hendrix** replied that he did not know what would happen if they leave the country. He also indicated that Food Services will continue to provide three meals per day for students who are living on campus. In addition, if a student was to become infected there has been space identified to house them. **Park** further questioned where she could ask more questions about international students. **Amy Johnson** replied that Chris Keller from the Honor's College would be a good place to start.

5.1.4 **Amy Johnson** shared that there have been discussions regarding moving all summer school online as well as pushing back the registration dates, which is supposed to begin on April 6. **Byington** commented that this would be problematic for students who are required to attend summer school in order to get clinical contact hours. **Amy Johnson** replied that Dr. Samples has been talking about those clinical programs as have the other deals with clinical hours and there is a lot of concern about clinical hours. **Epps** added that international students in radiography are concerned about not being able to complete their clinical hours in their final semester. **Mitchell** echoed these concerns for the CON.

5.1.5 **Kim** asked why there is so much emphasis on Zoom. **Hendrix** replied that he is not aware of any requirements to have class delivery in a synchronous manner and that it is left up to the individual faculty member and he will be holding class asynchronously. **Brown** added that many faculty have not taught online and this is one method to transition their delivery method to online and Zoom is the preferred tool. **Amy Johnson** agreed with Brown and added that using both synchronous and asynchronous methods would be the best practice.

5.1.6 **McGarry** asked whether faculty members who are required to purchase internet will be reimbursed. **Hendrix** did not know the answer but said that he will find out.

5.1.7 **Epps** noted that there is some confusion as to whether students will incur additional costs for moving to online classes. **Amy Johnson** replied that Dr. Noland was pretty clear that students will not be required to purchase additional materials associated with the move to online.

5.1.8 **Hendrix** noted that there is a discussion surrounding a pass/fail option for students this semester and the Academic Council has asked for Faculty Senate to provide feedback. **Collins** questioned whether this option would be available for all courses or only the ones that already have a pass/fail option. **Hendrix** replied that he thinks it will apply to all undergraduate courses. **Mackara** expressed concern that this policy is not the same as the SGA proposal to convert all freshman and sophomore grades to pass/fail and wanted to make sure that the two policies do not get mixed up and that they remain separate. **Peterson** added that there may be problems for prerequisites or accreditation if students choose this option and safeguards should be in place to make sure they do not choose the wrong option. **Oh** noted that UNC Chapel Hill is adding a 'CV' under students' grades to indicate that the



DISCUSSIONS

student can make up the grade later and it is different from an incomplete. **Epps** questioned whether the faculty member would know if a student opted-in to the pass/fail grade. **Amy Johnson** replied that she would hope the faculty member wouldn't know if the student opted for P/F. **Hendrix** added that students should consult with their advisors to determine the best course of action. **McGarry** expressed concern that several courses required a C or better to move on to higher level courses and with pass/fail students who earned a D would be able to move on. Several other senators agreed that this is also the case in their departments.

5.1.9 **Peterson** commented that he heard the IRB for human subjects' research has shut down and new research projects are unable to move forward. **Foley** replied that proposals can still be submitted; however, face to face research cannot be conducted.

5.2 Update on Faculty Senate Constitution Vote – Mr. Hendrix

The constitution vote was unanimously approved. Thus, the proposed changes will go into effect, which also means that the new by-laws will also take effect.

5.3 Center for Teaching Excellence Update – Dr. Brown

The Center has been working really hard to assist faculty with the transition to online. The CTE has helpdesk hours posted on the website and there is a special web page for continuity of instruction. Dr. Allison Barton has made an infographic summarizing how to convert courses to online.

5.4 College Elections – Dr. McGarry

The census data showing how many senators each college will need will be sent out soon. Please notify McGarry if you anticipate any problems with having elections completed in the month of April.

5.5 Handbook Committee update – Dr. Epps

No report.

5.6 Board of Trustees report – Dr. Foley

No report.

5.7 University Committees Report

No report.

5.8 Working Groups Report – Work Group Chair

5.8.1 Administrative Review – Dr. O'Neil

No report.

5.8.2 Shared Governance – Dr. Lyons

Please continue to send comments to Lyons on the proposal.

5.8.3 Campus Communication – Dr. Garris

The survey has been sent out and will be completed by the end of the week.

5.8.4 Faculty Safety and Planning – Dr. Pealer

No report.



DISCUSSIONS

5.8.5 Paid Family Leave – Dr. Alexander

No report.

6. Old Business

6.1 Committee on Committees – Dr. Epps

Bill Garris is the new representative on GEAC.

7. New Business

7.1 Faculty Senate elections for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer/COO, and Secretary will be open and nominations can be submitted starting today and will remain open until the day of the elections, which will be held on April 20.

8. Comments from Guests

Amy Johnson noted that she appreciates all the support faculty are providing to each other and to students.

9. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Brown

Second: Olson

Meeting Adjourned

Please notify Senator Eric Sellers (sellers@etsu.edu or 9-4476, Faculty Senate Secretary, 2019-2020) of any changes or corrections to the minutes.