

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Tuesday, September 26th, 2023, 3:30 pm
Union Big 12 room

Zoom ID: 733 588 376 | <https://ksu.zoom.us/j/733588376>

Present: Andy Bennett, Graciela Berumen, Regina Crowell, Brad Cunningham, Monica Curnutt, Joel DeRouche, Teresa Douthit, Jared Durtschi, Pamela Erickson, Renee Gates, Dan Higgins, Julia Keen, Brandon Kliwer, Marianne Korten, Ryan Leimkuehler, Terry Mason, Colby Moorberg, Tareque Nasser, Michael Oetken, Michael Raine, Don Saucier, Tom Schermerhorn, Mary (Bowen) Sullivan, Kate Thomas, Andy Thompson, Kortnee Van Nest, Phil Vardiman, Don Von Bergen, Andy Wefald, and

Absent: Cassie Jones and La Barbara Wigfall

1. President Von Bergen called the meeting to order, and the Land Acknowledgment was played.
2. Dispute Resolution and Honor and Integrity System Reports
President Von Bergen welcome all of our guests and directed attention to each report.
 - A. Office of Institutional Equity report (Amber Shumway) – **Attachment 1**
Shumway shared highlighted from the report and updated senators on the current Bi – Yearly employee training in place.
 - B. Employee Relations and Engagement report – **Attachment 2**
No guest was present for this report, but they will be present for the FS meeting. Please direct any questions to Charlotte Self or her team.
 - C. Ombudsperson report (Jared Meitler and Tara Coleman) – **Attachment 3**
Meitler explained the main concerns brought up to the Ombudsperson were:
 - 1) Interpersonal conflict – Due to poor leadership skills, particularly at the department head level. Themes of inconsistency in treatment and lack of interpersonal conflict management.
 - 2) Work environment – Concerns about teaching load equity, unfair treatment. Conflicts with colleagues and department heads.

There has been conversation about establishing an office on campus and possibly hiring a full-time ombudsperson, along with additional training, in order to improve these areas of conflict. They did a feedback survey for the first time and have included the feedback in the attachment.

Discussion:

Senators had concerns about the overlap of complaints and how that information was being categorized. It was also pointed out there is a disconnect between the need of a full-time person and the hours reported. It was reported that the hours of research during email and chat is not reported. It was clarified that as part of the feedback it was suggested that the ombudsperson not be associated with a department however pros and cons about having a faculty or staff member in this role that understands K-State were also shared. The diversity of ombuds and the familiarity of K-State culture seems to be a pro to continuing the current model.

Questions regarding the student ombudsperson role were raised and if any changes should be discussed here, or rather through SGA since that is where the need for this position was first identified and they are the ones that provide compensations for this role. It was identified that perhaps a clearer understanding about the role and its benefits is necessary, especially when trying to gauge overall

satisfaction when meeting with the Ombuds. It was shared that further communication about this role is prudent as sometimes what people need is an advocate or a union rep and ombuds do not fill those roles.

D. Honor & Integrity System report – **Attachment 4**

No guest was present for this report, but they will be present for the FS meeting. Please direct any questions to Camilla Roberts.

E. General Grievances report – **Attachment 5**

President Von Bergen shared this brief report on behalf of Mustaque Hossain, who is on sabbatical.

President Von Bergen welcomed a motion to place these annual reports on the upcoming Faculty Senate agenda. A motion was made by Vardiman and seconded by Bennett to do so. Motion carried.

3. Approval of August 29th Executive Committee minutes

President Von Bergen inquired if there were any edits or corrections to the minutes. Seeing none and with no objection the minutes stood approved as submitted.

4. New Business

A. University Calendar Committee: proposed change to Fall 2024 – **Attachment 6**

President Von Bergen directed committee members attention to the attached proposal. This proposal is coming before us from the University Calendar Committee and the proposal has already been shared with the FS Academic Affairs committee at their last meeting. They gave endorsement to the proposal at that meeting.

A motion is needed by this body to place this on the upcoming Faculty Senate agenda for action. The Faculty Senate's role is to provide a recommendation to the University Provost. Therefore, endorsement is the action to be taken at the Faculty Senate meeting. A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Kliewer to place this on the upcoming Faculty Senate agenda.

There was a question about whether dead week follows fall break in this new change. It appears so. This will be inquired about. Motion carried.

5. Report from Standing Committees, Graduate Student Council, and Senates

A. Academic Affairs – Andy Bennett/Brandon Kliewer

- Proposed consent agenda items (pages 5-6)

Bennett moved to place the consent agenda items on the upcoming Faculty Senate agenda. Motion carried.

They are awaiting general education program changes. The hope is to get things through by December, but this may not occur. Additionally, they are hoping to adjust the interdisciplinary program approval process, however, this will likely occur next academic year.

B. Faculty Affairs – Brad Cunningham/Tareque Nasser

Nothing to report.

C. Graduate Student Council – Kortnee Van Nest

Please encourage your grad students to participate in Research and the State in October. They have extended the application to submit abstracts by a few days. They have 60 students already signed up, but they would like to see more participants since there are 4,000 grad students. Senator Van Nest encouraged the faculty to have graduate students participate as that will put the mentoring faculty in a better position to receive the new prestigious Faculty Mentorship Award.

D. Professional Staff Affairs – Monica Curnutt/Renee Gates

Gates noted they have made eight selections from the nominations for Professional Staff of the week. They are continuing to work on clarifying language in the handbook and expect to present recommendations soon. They will look at Evaluation Procedures (University Handbook, Appendix Q) to ensure there is a place where professional staff can access these documents. They are also working on implementing a Staff spotlight award, further information will go out shortly. An upcoming meeting with HR and the VP for Admin and Finance is scheduled to discuss workflow and operational excellence.

E. Student Senate – Kate Thomas

With the new student organization policies in place, student orgs are having a hard time finding a faculty or staff advisor. Student Senate is requesting volunteers. Please reach out if you have interest or know another faculty member who could fill this role.

F. Technology – Michael Raine/Phil Vardiman

Vardiman reported that October is Cyber Security Awareness month. There was a suggestion to have the new CTO visit in October to discuss this. However, with already five reports on the agenda for the October FS meeting, it was recommended perhaps inviting the new CTO for November to report the success of Cyber Security.

G. University Planning – Cassie Jones/Marianne Korten

They are working to determine which of the college committees on planning are up to date and how often they are meeting. It does not appear that the membership listed in the on the provost's page is current. However, only Health and Human Sciences and Arts and Sciences have readjusted their membership according to the handbook updates from the previous year. This update is necessary from all colleges in order to ensure the operational excellence of the university. They are seeking guidance on how best to have this implemented.

H. University Support Staff Senate – Regina Crowell

Nothing to report.

6. Announcements

A. Town Hall – September 27th, 1:30-2:30 pm, Regnier Forum in Regnier Hall

President Von Bergen reminded senators of the Town Hall that was rescheduled from last week and is being held tomorrow. He thanked caucus chairs for their efforts to submit questions in a timely manner. He shared briefly how he plans to handle the questions and order of them during the event.

B. [KBOR meeting](#) report

This was pretty much a kickoff meeting and President Von Bergen indicated the highlights are shared via the link provided.

C. Topics for Provost's visit to October Faculty Senate meeting?

There was clarification requested on whether the provost should always be the guest for senate meetings as this wasn't necessarily the case in the past. It was discussed that other leadership can also be approached to attend as desired. There was also general conversation about the overall length and content of senate meetings. For the upcoming meeting, it was asked to hear about the continuity plan for the provost position along with more information regarding the renaming of Dr. González position.

It was asked also what changes will be put in place to readdress the budget model so that the university can be more interdisciplinary. Another senator commented he has heard that changes are expected by spring so discussion about the budget model changes are also encouraged. In short, a clearer understanding of anticipated changes to the budget model would be appreciated.

President Von Bergen will review the questions for the Town Hall, in order to ensure if these are answered they can be removed from the topics at the senate meeting.

7. Open discussion period for senators as needed

- A. There was an inquiry about the item tabled from the last senate meeting regarding the flow chart for the University Handbook. Senator Nasser shared that after consideration and a couple of meetings, it was determined the flowchart in the handbook now seems appropriate but may need some updates. Therefore, the flowchart will come back when ready, but not in time for the next senate meeting. They will keep senators apprised.

In follow up to earlier conversation, there were some questions raised in order to reevaluate the effective use of Faculty Senate meetings:

- Do we have too much on the agenda?
- Do we need to reconsider our start time, so we do not lose the senators before all the agenda items are covered?
- Do we need all committees to report to senate every month?
- What are ways that we can do the business that we need to be tackling while being mindful of the time it takes to do it?

The past FS presidents in the room were asked for their thoughts and feedback as well. Senator Saucier and Senator Bennett shared that priority has been to end at 5:00 pm, though some meetings are going to run long. They also reminded the senate that much of the work of faculty senate is completed within the committees' work. Senator Keen shared that from her perspective, in order to play a role in the academic side of the business of the institution, commitment to the hour and a half faculty senate meeting is necessary by all faculty and staff.

- B. It was highlighted that there has been restructure in Dr. Lane's unit and there is need to ensure care in the continuity of essential student services, especially if they are part of the agreed upon requirements for grants.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Graciela Berumen
Faculty Senate Secretary

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 31, 2023; 3:30 pm

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
PROPOSED ITEMS FOR CONSENT AGENDA**

Approve to place the following course and curriculum changes and graduation list additions on the upcoming Faculty Senate consent agenda:

A. COURSE AND CURRICULUM PROPOSALS:

To view the proposals in Curriculog,

First - Login to Curriculog using your K-State eID and password

<https://kstate.curriculog.com>

Second - Go to the course or curriculum agenda at links listed below.

From the list of proposals, hover over the proposal and click View/Edit Proposal Icon

In User Tracking, change "Show current" to "Show current with markup"

View the proposal

Use the browser back button to return to the agenda and select next proposal

For more information on viewing proposals, see:

<http://www.k-state.edu/curriculog/training/view/index.html>

COURSES: *<https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:2075/form> (*copy and paste the link into your browser if clicking on it gives you an error message)

Agriculture	AGRON - 850 - Agricultural Climatology ASI - 879 - Applications in Swine Nutrition ENTOM - 895 - Advanced Insect Taxonomy
Business Administration	MANGT - 815 - Advanced Managerial Consulting
Education	EDCEP - 953 - Multicultural and Social Justice Issues in Counselor Education EDCEP - 957 - Teaching and Learning in Counselor Education EDCEP - 962 - Leadership and Advocacy in Counselor Education and Supervision EDCI - 765 - Contemporary Pedagogies for Teaching Computer Science EDCI - 768 - Teaching Computer Science in Elementary Schools EDCI - 769 - Teaching Computer Science in Secondary Schools
Leadership Studies	LEAD - 720 - Leadership Coaching
Technology & Aviation (Salina)	CYBR - 680 - Cyber Systems and Risk Analysis CYBR - 682 - Open Source Cyber Surveillance CYBR - 684 - Advanced Topics in Cyber Data Fusion CYBR - 686 - Risk Management for Cyber Operations CYBR - 688 - Sense and Avoid Technologies in Aerospace Systems CYBR - 790 – Spatial Computing for Virtual Environments CYBR - 793 - Computer Geometry for Modeling CYBR - 795 - Machine Learning for Simulations
Veterinary Medicine	MPH - 840 - Public Health Practice

CURRICULUM: *<https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:2075/form> (*copy and paste the link into your browser if clicking on it gives you an error message)

Agriculture	Agricultural Education and Communication (M.S.)
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B. Graduation list(s), addition(s) and/or posthumous degree requests:

- Spring 2023 graduation list – as submitted by the Registrar’s office.
- List addition: August 2021, Mallory Gray, BS, Health and Human Sciences