

MINUTES

KSU Faculty Senate Meeting

Tuesday, December 10, 2024, 3:30 pm

K-State Student Union, Big 12 room

In Person: Paige Adams, Roger Adams, Grant Alford, Mike Apley, Amir Bahadori, Sonya Baker, Elizabeth Berney, Graciela Berumen, Hansin Bilgili, Nathaniel Birkhead, Christopher Blevins, Kyle Bradley, Marcellus Caldas, Linda Craghead, Brad Cunningham, Brandie Disberger, Elizabeth Dodd, Jessica Falcone, Bruce Glymour, Amy Hageman, Dan Higgins, Laura Hohenbary, Cassie Jones, Julia Keen, Marcus Kidd, Deborah Kohl, Joann Kouba, Kimberly Kramer, Ryan Leimkuehler, Sara Luly, Eve McCulloch, Colby Moorberg, Abbey Nutsch, Cassandra Olds, Judy O'Mara, Chad Paulk, Brandon Savage, Gwen Sibley, Martha Smith Caldas, Kimberly Staples, Lisa Tatonetti, Phil Vardiman, Don Von Bergen, Paige Vulgamore, Kevin Wanklyn, Zane Whitney, Lisa Wilken

On Zoom: Kristin Anders, John Blair, Amy Bruska, Nicky Cassel, Rachael Clews, Don Crawford, Kimm Dennis, Bronwyn Fees, Anthony Ferraro, Tara Fronce, Trisha Gott, Carolyn Jackson, Brandy Johnson, Sandy Johnson, Caelee Lehman, Rachel Levitt, Grace Liang, Shane Lyon, Erin Martinez, Sherri Martinie, Susan Maxwell, Megan McCoy, Laurel Moody, Kari Morgan, Ashley Noll, Sujatha Praskash, David Renter, Merta Scott-Hall, Mary Sullivan, Andy Thompson, Scott Warren, Andy Wefald

Proxies: Judy O'Mara proxy for Joel DeRouche and Deborah Kohl; Amir Bahadori proxy for Chris Jones; Lisa Tatonetti proxy for Mary Kohn; Amy Hageman proxy for Edward Nowlin; Colby Moorberg proxy for Augustin Obour; Don Von Bergen proxy for Michael Oetken; Brad Cunningham proxy for Mary Sullivan; Cassandra Olds proxy for Jesse Vipham; Brandon Savage proxy for Tareque Nasser; Ashley Noll proxy for Marci Ritter

Guests: Kelley Brundage, Shanna Legleiter, Jesse Mendez, Margaret Mohr-Schroeder

1. **The meeting was called to order** by President Teresa Douthit and the Land Acknowledgment was played.

2. **Jesse Mendez, Provost and Executive Vice President**

Provost Mendez provided background regarding the current budget model and the need for a review. He then described how the review process will be structured and the timeline for completion. Discussion followed.

3. **Introduction of new Vice-Provost of Academic Affairs - Margaret Mohr-Schroeder**

Vice-Provost of Academic Affairs, Margaret Mohr-Schroeder introduced herself. Dr. Mohr-Schroeder emphasized her office's focus on partnerships, engagement, and improving systems and efficiencies within the university. Her office works with online learning and face-to-face learning, including credit and non-credit courses, and micro-credentials. Dr. Margaret Mohr-Schroeder invited faculty and staff to reach out for conversations and collaborations.

4. **Approval of November 12 minutes -**

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

5. Approval of Consent and Discussion Agenda - FS President-elect Sara Luly

President Elect Luly inquired if there were any items that needed to be moved to the discussion agenda. Senator Kastner requested two course proposals (AAI 301 and AAI 501) be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. After this, the revised consent agenda was approved without objections.

6. New Business

A. Honorary Degree Nomination:

President Douthit referred to the confidential information that was sent to Senators regarding a nomination for an Honorary Degree. She invited a motion to approve the candidate. A motion was made and seconded.

Motion carried to approve the candidate.

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

A. Academic Affairs – Joann Kouba/Hansin Bilgili

- Approval of Discussion Agenda (page 7)

Senator Bilgili made a motion to approve the items on the discussion agenda. Motion carried.

It was also reported that over 200 course and curriculum proposals were approved in the last month.

B. Faculty Affairs – Brandon Savage / Brad Cunningham

- Notice of Non-Reappointment Handbook Language – Attachment 4

Senator Savage moved to approve the Notice of Non-Reappointment (NNR) Handbook Language.

Discussion: There was extensive discussion regarding the KBOR policy and the proposal submitted by Faculty Affairs. Chief Human Resources Officer Shanna Legleiter answered questions and provided context. An amendment was proposed to require employee notification as soon as a NNR is being considered. It was seconded and discussion ensued. After the question was called, the proposed amendment failed.

It was then moved to add an amendment clarifying that if a notice of non-reappointment is used to initiate termination for cause, the reason must be disclosed in accordance with policies C. 170.3 and C75. Discussion followed.

It was pointed out that NNR could be used as termination for cause under Section 150.1.

The amendment was voted upon and approved. Ultimately, the amended motion passed and the Handbook language that will be submitted to the provost with the amendment reading as follows as an additional paragraph at the end of C170.3:

[Hereafter, C170.3 remains unchanged, except this new final paragraph.]

If a notice of non-appointment is used to initiate termination for cause, the reason will be disclosed and is eligible for administrative review up to and including a grievance hearing in accordance to procedures described in C160.3/C75 and Appendix G.

- APRR Policy & Process document – Attachment 5

Senator Savage moved to approve the APRR Policy and Process Document (as outlined in Attachment 5).

It was acknowledged that the definition of academic programs needed clarification.

Motion carried.

- Expedited Handbook Approval – Attachment 3

Senator Savage moved to table the vote on the expedited handbook approval process until the next meeting.

Motion carried.

C. Graduate Student Council – Zane Whitney

Senator Whitney invited Senators to join the Graduate Commencement ceremony and he shared information about the Three Minute Thesis Competition and K Grad.

D. Justice, Equity, Diversity, Access, Inclusion, and Identify – Graciela Berumen/Gwen Sibley

No report.

E. Professional Staff Affairs – Monica Curnutt/Linda Craghead

Senator Craighead shared the committee continues to evaluate issues regarding workload, work allocation, and the consistency of protocols. She emphasized the importance of involving professional staff in Faculty Senate. A new evaluation system will be implemented for all professional and unclassified staff starting January 1.

F. Student Senate – Carson Cuesta

Not present

G. Technology – Abbey Nutsch/Phil Vardiman

Senator Nutsch highlighted a few key points from the University IT team, including updates to existing policies, especially related to cybersecurity.

Student government reached out to Faculty Senate regarding a lack of clarity on AI use in classes. Collaborative discussions with the provost's office are ongoing to clarify related policies.

H. University Planning – Cassie Jones/Kimberly Kramer

Senator Kramer shared updates on scheduling for the next semester, master planning, parking concerns, and the renovation of landmark structures on campus.

I. University Support Staff Senate – Kimm Dennis

No report.

8. Announcements

A. Updates from other committees

A request was made for volunteers for a performance management alignment work group and someone to serve on a digital accessibility task force.

9. KBOR Meeting report

KBOR was on campus in November. President Douthit and the Faculty Senate Leadership Council gave the Regents a presentation regarding the faculty and staff perspective at K-State.

10. Open discussion period for senators | New Initiatives | For the Good of the University

It was suggested that - based on the amendment to the NNR that passed during the meeting - it would be an appropriate time for Appendix G to be reviewed by the Handbook Committee. An update on Wildcat Pause Day was also requested.

Senator Moorberg shared that in the week prior to Thanksgiving, student teams from the College of Agriculture had outstanding successes in national contests. Specifically, three competition teams—the Livestock Judging Team, the Meat Judging Team, and the Crop Judging Team—each won their respective national championships. Notably, the Crop Judging Team secured their 33rd national title, continuing a remarkable legacy of excellence.

11. Adjournment 5:29 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2024; 3:30 pm; Union Big 12 Room