

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM via Zoom, DeLoris Hesse presiding.

Members Present: Yohannes Abate, Yohannes, Benjamin Britton, Peter Brosius, Clifton Buck, Tom Cerbu, Brian Condie, Maduranga Dassanyake, Gauri Datta, Inge DiBella, Vince Du, Allison Farley Raffle, Timothy Gupton, Cindy Hahamovitch, DeLoris Hesse, Steve Holland, Richard Hubbard, Caner Kazanci, Emily Koh, Kristin Kundert, Sidney Kushner, Vera Lee-Schoenfeld, Alisa Luxenberg, Kendall Marchman, Soroya McFarlane, Emily Mouilso, Vasant Muralidharan, Chris Peterson, Jordan Pickett, Chris Pizzino, Khaled Rasheed, Jennifer Rice, Cassia Roth, Bala Sarasvati, Rohan Sikri, Leslie Gordon Simmons, Anne Summers, Cynthia Suveg, Michael Usher, Alberto Villate-Isaza

Proxies: Christine Lasek-White for Nancee Reeves

Members not present: Michael Bachmann, Tianming Liu, Hang Yin

Guests:

Approval of the minutes of the October 20, 2020 meeting: Unanimously approved with no corrections.

President DeLoris Hesse's Remarks:

DeLoris Hesse welcomed the senate for the new semester. She asked for any feedback for the university council Covid 19 response committee.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks:

1. UGA's vaccination plan: Two vaccines were approved by FDA, proven to be effective. Roll out plan has been slower than anticipated. GA received 1.2 million doses, about half of which have been administered. UGA Health center has been designated as a vaccine distribution center. We are currently at 1A+ phase of distribution, which includes hospital workers, adults of age 65 and older, and first responders. So far, health center administered 1500 doses. Information on the amount of vaccines delivered in Clarke county, including UGA, is available online, updated weekly. University employees are included in phase 1B, which requires authorization before we can move forward. A survey on preparation for the vaccination has been completed by the UGA community. It is essential to pay attention to ArchNews memos for future updates. Clifton Buck asked if there were plans in place to provide vaccines for UGA faculty/staff who are not residing in Athens. Dean Dorsey stated that Ramsey center would be used as a vaccination administration site. At the moment he has no knowledge if a remote site will be set up. To another question asked through the chat, Dean Dorsey stated that the university staff is

included in Phase 1B as well. Cassia Roth asked if the teaching assistants were included in Phase 1B. Dean Dorsey responded that they were.

Committee Reports:

DeLoris Hesse asked that the committee chairs to report.

- Executive Committee: The chair of the committee Alisa Luxenberg reminded the senators to communicate any new agenda items to the executive committee by the deadline.
- Curriculum Committee: The chair of the committee Steve Holland reported that 59 new courses and 173 course changes were reviewed, and following were approved: three Double Dawg Proposals, two general education courses (ARST 2205, ARST 2205L) and one experiential learning program (Department of Dance Internship Program.)
- Committee on Academic Standards: The chair of the committee Chris Petersen reported that the committee considered four petitions from students, all of which have been approved.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No report.
- Committee on Planning and Evaluation: No report.

New Business:

- Update from the Ad Hoc Committee on Telemeeting Crimes – Cassia Roth, Senator, History: Cassia Roth thanked Dean Dorsey for his communication and help, and the other committee members for volunteering and providing their time and service: Benjamin Britton, Nancee Reeves, Emily Mouilso, Alberto Villate-Isaza, Vasant Muralidharan. The committee represents all divisions except physical and mathematical sciences and no one from that division volunteered and the members who were asked to join declined. This makes sense for those division members who have provided service in the past, such as Michael Usher in Mathematics who served on the Baldwin Hall ad-hoc committee. However, the lack of representation from physical mathematical sciences makes the current committee members' jobs more difficult, it means that committee will be less able to represent the interests of those departments, although this ad-hoc committee was created in response to a specific event that targeted faculty and students in the humanities, online hate speech and digital harassment aren't exclusive to the humanities and social sciences. In fact, a former family member in computer science dealt with extensive digital harassment in the past. While many of us are overburdened with service particularly during this pandemic, Article 3 of our bylaws states that each committee will have a senator from each division of the college. Cassia Roth reiterated her call to volunteer and help, given the gravity of this issue in which a faculty member was followed home and threatened. The committee started their work and will have a more substantive update by the next meeting. DeLoris Hesse reiterated the need for a volunteer from physical and mathematical sciences division.
- Vote on Revisions to Franklin Senate By-laws Concerning the Executive Committee – Alisa Luxenberg, Senator and Executive Committee Chair: The approved changes from the previous meeting are included in the new document. The new document is organized better, and include clarifications on how meetings are scheduled, called and how they are

run. Dean Dorsey stated that there exist two sections of the bylaws: Bylaws that pertain to the faculty as a whole, and bylaws that pertain to the faculty senate, which has caused some confusion over the years. The dean is in charge of holding a faculty-wide meeting once a year, and separately, there's the faculty senate holding their regular meetings. Dean Dorsey asked if these two were conflated. Alisa Luxenberg stated that the committee wants to withdraw the request for a vote and reconsider the wording.

- Academic Program Proposal for a M.S. degree in Data Science – Thiab Taha, Computer Science and T.N. Sriram, Statistics: Thiab Taha presented a joint program, equally administered by CS and Statistics, as the data science needs the expertise from these two disciplines. There were no questions or comments, and the proposal was approved unanimously.

Old Business:

None was reported.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Caner Kazanci

Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for the Mathematics Department