Franklin College Faculty Senate

Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2020

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

Members Present: Michael Bachmann, 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, Tianming Liu, Alisa Luxenberg, Kendall Marchman, Soroya McFarlane, Emily Mouilso, Vasant Muralidharan, Chris Peterson, Jordan Pickett, Chris Pizzino, Khaled Rasheed, Nancee Reeves, Jennifer Rice, Cassia Roth, Bala Sarasvati, Rohan Sikri, Anne Summers, Cynthia Suveg, Michael Usher, Alberto Villate-Isaza, Hang Yin

Members not present: Yohannes, Abate, Leslie Gordon Simmons

Guests: Daniela Di Iorio, Adam Goodie, Amy Ross, Clark Alexander, Ellen Ritchey, Phaidra Buchanan

Approval of the minutes of the September 15, 2020 meeting: Unanimously approved with no corrections.

President DeLoris Hesse's Remarks:

DeLoris Hesse stated that she did not have any comments given the full agenda of today's meeting.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks:

- Annual open enrollment starts on October 21.
- Shared Leave Sick Leave Pool enrollment is available (see October 21 Archnews memo for details.)
- There will be campus-wide scheduled network outages on October 24, including the EITS user authentication service.
- As indicated in the provost's memo, Spring 2021 instruction will continue to follow the same in person instruction style as this semester.

Committee Reports:

DeLoris Hesse asked that the committee chairs describe the tasks of their committee.

- Executive Committee: The chair of the committee, Alisa Luxenberg, reported the functions of the executive committee center on the organization and planning the regular meetings as well as special meetings including arranging for non-members to appear and address the senate. The committee also recommends rules and regulations for conducting business. It prepares the slated nominees for committee assignments and officers for the

following year's senate, as well as for other positions and offices the senate is responsible for filling.

- Curriculum Committee: The chair of the committee, Steve Holland, reported they reviewed 24 new courses, 19 course changes, approved 4 Double Dawgs proposals, and 2 proposals for new majors. The vast majority of the committee's task is reviewing course additions, deletions, and changes in CAPA. The committee also reviews proposals for new majors and minors, certification and degree programs. They also represent the faculty in all curriculum matters, such as interpretation of degree or certification program requirements, as well as liaising with other programs (e.g. interdisciplinary programs, the honors program.) The committee assists the dean in any curriculum matters. Steve Holland also mentioned that serving on this committee would be so much more difficult without the help of April Brown, the administrative specialist in the dean's office.
- Committee on Academic Standards: The chair of the committee, Chris Peterson, reported that the committee reviews petitions from students for course substitutions and grade appeals.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No report.
- Committee on Planning and Evaluation: The chair of the committee, Emily Mouilso, reported that according to the bylaws, the duties of the committee are to advise the Dean and the Senate by formulating long-range plans for the college, analyzing major policy initiatives to improve the college, and to issue an annual report to the Dean and Senate evaluating the College's success in achieving its goal and fulfilling the University's Strategic Plan. She stated that the committee has not performed these duties in recent years. To address the discrepancy between the duties and the actual performance, the committee voted on disbanding their committee as a standing committee, and reconstituting a committee when there's a need in line with its duties, similar to the ad hoc committee on Baldwin Hall. She added that the committee is open to feedback about this plan. DeLoris Hesse pointed to the need for a broader discussion about this, that these committees were formed over twenty years ago, and have not been reevaluated since that time. She said that there's a need for a committee that would encompass all of the ad hoc committees that are formed every year, and asked for senators' thoughts. Anne Summers pointed out that the charge of the committee sounded like shared governance, and if that is correct, the senate should not absent themselves from playing that role, or perhaps articulate a more modern version of the shared governance concept and incorporate that into a committee with that specific mission. Cindy Hahamovitch said that ad hoc committees are formed when reacting to particular issues. She agreed with Ann Summers that the senate should think about how to use this committee to get what the faculty would like, on the university's agenda. DeLoris Hesse added the discussion of the charges of this committee on the next month's agenda.

New Business:

- Nominations and Elections: Both of the following nominations were voted on and unanimously approved.
  - Curriculum Committee: Bala Sarasvati, Dance

- President-elect: Cindy Hahamovitch, History

- Proposal for an External Degree in Marine Sciences: Daniela Di Iorio, Department Head, Marine Sciences and Clark Alexander, Director, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography: The Department of Marine Sciences has faculty here in Athens and at The Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah, Georgia. Graduate students of those faculty are resident at the Institute for almost all of their degree program. Because it is an external campus, there needs to be an external degree in place in order for the graduate students to be able to do their research one hundred percent of their time at the Skidaway Institute. Cindy Hahamovitch asked if this is just a change in designation, as there exists a degree program already. Daniela Di Iorio confirmed, and added that the reason for this is to make sure that there are resources available at the Skidaway Institute (such as access to library, laboratory needs for their research) for students to be successful in a graduate program. Sidney Kushner asked what initiated this change, as the graduate program at the Skidaway Institute existed for years. Daniela Di Iorio said the Board of Regents, the President and members of the upper administration came to the Institute for the official opening of a renovated educational facility. During that visit, it was realized that the Skidaway Institute was not a dedicated external campus for degree programs. Anne Summers asked if the change is to bring it under the research safety support services of OVPR. Clark Alexander stated that they've already been operating under the university's rules and regulations of lab safety for years, and that the change is purely from the educational perspective. Daniela Di Iorio mentioned the need for this change for students spending more than 50% of their time off the UGA campus. Associate Dean Jean Martin-Williams wrote on chat that this was a requirement of SACS: Any time a degree is offered 50% or more at a different site, this process has to be followed (SACS rule). The proposal was voted on and unanimously approved.

- Proposal for a One-Step Academic Program: Artificial Intelligence, Ph.D. – Khaled Rasheed (Senator), Director, Artificial Intelligence: The institute for Artificial Intelligence is a truly interdisciplinary unit, involving 34 faculty fellows from fourteen different departments in six colleges. Two degree programs exist: a bachelor's degree in cognitive science and a master's degree in artificial intelligence. The proposed PhD degree program in AI will be the first in the nation, even though there exist such programs in Europe and China. The PhD program would have forty hours of course work. There is interest in this program from existing students. The program would help improve the department's ranking which is very good to begin with, and increase graduate enrollment. Cindy Hahamovitch asked if CS supports this proposal. Khaled Rasheed replied that the proposal included support letters from multiple departments including CS. Cassia Roth added that the curriculum committee already approved the proposal. The proposal was voted on and unanimously approved.

- Proposal for an Area of Emphasis: Master of Music with an emphasis in Music Therapy – Ellen Ritchey, Hugh Hodgson School of Music: This degree places advanced music therapy studies within a musical context. It takes advantage of the varied opportunities and course

work offered in the school of music as well as other units at the university. The proposal meets the standards that are established by the American Music Therapy Association and the National Association of Schools of Music. The process of applying for approval from both of those associations are ongoing. The proposal was voted on and unanimously approved.

- Discussion of Franklin Senate endorsing “Social Justice Demands” from the Beyond Baldwin student group and a Senate statement – Jennifer Rice (Senator), Geography and Phaidra Buchanan, UGA student: After an introduction by Jennifer Rice, Phaidra Buchanan introduced the Beyond Baldwin student group, involving eleven graduate students and undergraduate seniors with experience in dialogue with the administrators. With the goal of a campus community that centers on racial justice, they created a list of demands, available online (link at the end). The first main area of their focus is a seminar for undergraduate students that would educate them about social issues and their role in those issues on campus and in the Athens community. The second is workers' rights, which is protections for workers, such as on campus access to Covid 19 testing for staff who may exhibit symptoms. The third pillar is acknowledgement: Public statements of where we are, and a commitment to repair relationships with communities on and off campus. The fourth pillar is recruitment: Increasing representation to make it more reflective of racial demographics within the state of Georgia, for both faculty and student. The final pillar is transparency: Bringing stakeholders and the decision making process but also making the administration's decision making process available for feedback from the communities they serve. The demands are finalized but they're continuing to do research, and look forward to hearing feedback. They ask that this senate formally endorse these demands by listing themselves as a signatory, meaning that the name of the senate will be displayed on the list of demands, and also putting out a statement that ends in a request that the students meet with president Morehead. DeLoris Hesse asked if they are in contact with other university senates and the university council. Phaidra Buchanan replied that they are in contact with other senates as well as graduate and undergraduate student organizations, but not with the university council, yet. Sidney Kushner stated that while he supports this entirely, he suggested that finding a more palatable way to describe what they want other than using the word "demand" could be more successful in accomplishing their goals, which would be a major step forward for The University of Georgia. Phaidra Buchanan replied that presenting their initiatives, suggestions, ideas as demands is simply to get their attention. Labeling their initiatives as demands also provides a strategic benefit in terms of organizing with other groups. Cindy Hahamovitch commented that what matters most is the number of campus organizations that support this initiative, rather than the language being used. Benjamin Britton stated that demands are precisely the right level, and that they are not radical demands. They might be big steps for UGA, but are things that we need to normalize, against the normalization of silence and complicity. Chris Pizzino asked if they are only interested in a yes or no type of response for the senate’s endorsement, or if they would be receptive to the senate weighing in on the issues that it feels most strongly about, or has the most expertise on. Phaidra Buchanan replied that their main objective is to generate awareness for these demands, and that any statement from the faculty senate would help, even if it is an endorsement of certain

initiatives only. Jennifer Rice asked if the senate would be interested in a future discussion for the vote to endorse these demands without changes. She added that the existing draft statement could be changed to contextualize the senate's vote. Senators' online responses at Zoom indicated enough interest. Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9HEGYxQo9zSwLUdw9QXKFhh6KHusvpDWwQ8XtxK7aorrBgQ/viewform

Old Business:

None was reported.

Meeting was adjourned at4:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Caner Kazanci
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for the Mathematics Department