

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee**  
Monday, November 12, 2018  
9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m., Adelbert Hall, Room M2

9:00 a.m.	Approval of Minutes from the October 10, 2018 Executive Committee Meeting, <i>attachment</i>	David Miller
9:05 a.m.	President's Announcements	Barbara Snyder
9:10 a.m.	Provost's Announcements	Ben Vinson
9:15 a.m.	Vice Chair's Announcements	David Miller
9:20 a.m.	Census- Special faculty- numbers, rights and responsibilities	David Miller
9:30 a.m.	FSCUE GER Task Force Subcommittee	Steven Eppell
9:40 a.m.	Faculty Space Committee	David Miller
9:50 a.m.	Whether Deans May Serve as Members of Senate Standing Committees	Leena Palomo
9:55 a.m.	The State of Faculty/Staff Relations	Ben Vinson
10:05 a.m.	Faculty Senate Self- Evaluation	David Miller
10:15 a.m.	New Business	David Miller
10:20 a.m.	Approval of Faculty Senate Agenda, <i>attachment</i>	David Miller

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Minutes of the November 12th, 2018 Meeting  
Adelbert Hall, Room M2**

**Committee Members in Attendance**

Ben Vinson, Provost  
David B. Miller, MSASS, vice chair  
Juscelino Colares, LAW, past chair  
David Crampton, MSASS  
Peter Shulman, CAS  
Evelyn Duffy, SON  
Danny Manor, SOM  
Aaron Perzanowski, LAW

**Senate Standing Committee Chairs:**

Kenneth Ledford, chair, By-Laws Committee  
Joachim Voss, chair, Minority Affairs Committee  
Paul Iversen, chair, FSCUL  
Hari Baskaran, chair, Research Committee  
Steve Eppell, chair, FSCUE

**Absent:**

Barbara Snyder, President  
Cynthia Beall, CAS, chair  
Mark Hans, SODM  
Leon Blazey, WSOM  
Mohan Sankaran, CSE

**Guests:**

**Call to Order**

Professor David B. Miller, vice chair, Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee were reviewed and approved. *Attachment*

**President's Announcements**

The President was not in attendance.

**Provost's Announcements**

The Provost said that the President was just returning from out of the country and was unable to attend the meeting.

### **Chair's Announcements**

Prof. Miller reported that he and Cynthia Beall, chair of the Senate, met with two members of the CWRU Board of Trustees and President Snyder at the October Board meeting. They will meet before each full board meeting from now on. The attendees agreed that the chair of the Faculty Senate Research Committee and the chair of the Board of Trustees Research committee would meet during full Board meetings three times a year. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss and coordinate efforts to improve research performance at CWRU.

Other Board of Trustees members expressed an interest in more interaction with faculty. President Snyder will arrange for Distinguished University Professors to meet with Board members over dinner while they are on campus for the full Board meetings.

Prof. Miller also announced that faculty will have representation on the search committee for the executive staff member hired to run the Interprofessional Education Program (IPE) at the new Health Education campus. The IPE brings medical, nursing, dental and social work students together to work/study/learn in an interdisciplinary manner.

Professor Leon Blazey, Executive Committee representative from the Weatherhead School of Management will no longer be serving as a faculty senator. A new senator should be elected at the school and a new Executive Committee representative chosen.

### **Census- Special Faculty – Number, Rights and Responsibilities**

The Senate is seeking to better understand the role special faculty play across the university. Prof. Miller contacted Vice Provost Don Feke to obtain data on the number of special faculty at the university, the number of credit hours taught by special faculty and how well they are integrated into the university. Vice Provost Don Feke will present information at the December 12<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting. The Committee discussed SAGES instructors and some of the irregularities that exist related to their hiring, etc... Provost Vinson said that he met with a number of SAGES instructors last week and expressed concern about how they are able to raise concerns and integrate themselves into the university community.

### **FSCUE GER Task Force Subcommittee**

Professor Steve Eppell, chair of FSCUE, reported that over the summer, Professor Kimberly Emmons, former chair of the CUE, met with four faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences to develop a new plan for a unified GER. This fall, Prof. Eppell, Prof. Emmons, Professor Peter Shulman and Jeffrey Wolcowitz, Dean of Undergraduate Studies met to review the plan. They pared it down into a more basic structure for the purpose of obtaining preliminary buy-in from faculty in the Undergraduate Program Faculty (UPF) schools. A GER subcommittee is being created with representatives from each of the UPF schools, but a decision was made to try and seek buy-in first before the subcommittee is convened.

The primary changes from the current GER structure are:

- (1) transferring 1 credit from the SAGES First Seminar to create the Explore Seminar;
- (2) transforming the 6 credits of SAGES University Seminars into Writing-Intensive Academic Breadth requirements; and

- (3) broadening the definition of Physical Education to include Wellness within a similar 2-semester graduation requirement.

The proposed structure was sent to all four UPF schools as well as Physical Education and Athletics and Profs. Eppell and Shulman met with the Executive Committees of the CAS and CSE. The WSOM preferred to have its Committee on Undergraduate Education review the proposal first and will meet with Profs. Eppell and Shulman on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The SON has not yet responded. The CAS Executive Committee voted to endorse the structure and the basic credit-hour allocations but had concerns about the Explore Seminar and will seek feedback from all faculty members within the school. A question arose about whether there are data to show that SAGES isn't working and needs to be changed. Prof. Shulman responded that the purpose of making the proposed changes is to allow students more flexibility and the option to combine unrelated disciplines. There are data showing that undergraduate students choose other institutions because of the perception that there is limited flexibility in the curriculum at CWRU. Another concern was raised about possible budgetary changes under the new plan. Provost Vinson encouraged the Committee to think beyond the budget and to consider other issues that may exist. A comment was made that if it weren't for budgetary changes, that there would be much greater buy-in. Prof. Shulman said that there is an inherent conflict between the College, for which the GERs are very important, and the other UPF schools that have professional education, where satisfying the requirements of accrediting bodies is of utmost concern.

*Attachment*

### **Faculty Space Committee**

An ad hoc Committee made up of faculty and administrators will be formed to discuss issues of space allocation (whether faculty have the space they need) and space utilization (how well current space is being used). Provost Vinson mentioned that despite the perception that there is insufficient space on campus, compared with our AAU peers, we rank quite high in terms of available space. This is something that needs to be reconciled and how space is used should be considered also. The Executive Committee discussed the fact that the 2015 master plan has information on space utilization and a link to the plan should be posted to the Senate website. Reviewing the master plan is a good place to start while the ad hoc Committee is formed.

### **Whether Deans May Serve as Members of Senate Standing Committees**

Professor Leena Palomo, chair of the Faculty Senate Nominating Committee, reported that the Committee had discussed whether faculty who also serve as deans within the College or schools, should be permitted to serve on Senate standing committees. The majority of the Committee decided not to take a stand on this issue, but did decide that faculty in dean roles should not be permitted to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Executive Committee voted to forward this matter to the By-Laws Committee to draft language.

### **The State of Faculty/Staff Relations**

Through recent surveys and town halls, the Provost learned that faculty/staff relations can be strained. The Provost would like to see what can be done about this and would like the Faculty Senate to lead a discussion. A suggestion was made that in addition to staff in central administration, staff from the College and schools should be involved in these discussions. A second survey of staff might

be worth considering. Prof. Miller said that he would consult with Matt Smith, chair of the Staff Advisory Council about this issue.

### **Faculty Senate Self- Evaluation**

At the last Board of Trustees meeting, a board member asked Prof. Beall whether the Senate had ever engaged in a self-evaluation process. Prof. Miller asked members of the Executive Committee whether this is something that would be of interest to them. For instance, the Senate could evaluate its effectiveness and efficiency and decide whether improvements should be made. The Committee seemed receptive and a member suggested that it be done on a regular basis. The member also suggested that new faculty be provided with more information on the Senate and its committees.

### **New Business**

Professor Hari Baskaran, chair of the Research Committee, asked Provost Vinson whether his charge to the Research Committee to review impediments to interdisciplinary research could be expanded to include impediments to research in general. Provost Vinson responded by saying that doing so would make the review too broad and lengthy a process. He is particularly interested in breaking down barriers to interdisciplinary research within the next 6-7 months.

### **Approval of Faculty Senate Agenda**

The Executive Committee approved the agenda for the November 26th Faculty Senate meeting.  
*Attachment*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 pm.