

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, vice 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. At that meeting, it was agreed that the chair of the 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, highlight, and coordinate potential research activities that would contribute to increased funding for faculty.

They also discussed a desire to increase dialogue between faculty and members of the Board. President Snyder will be reaching out to some of the 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.

Additionally, space allocation was discussed.

Professor Leon Blazey, Executive Committee representative from the Weatherhead School of Management will no longer be serving as a faculty senator. A new senator will need to be elected from within 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 numbers of special faculty, the number of credit hours within the College and schools being taught by special faculty and how they are integrated into the university. Vice Provost Don Feke will present the information he has at the Dec. 12th Executive Committee meeting. SAGES instructors are considered special faculty and the committee discussed some concerns related to the autonomy of this group. Provost Vinson said that he met with a number of SAGES instructors last week and wondered whether they had a vehicle by which they can 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 and to pare it down to 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 developed with representatives from each of the UPF schools, but a decision was made to try and seek buy-in first before the Subcommittee convenes.

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 and 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 16th. There hasn't been a response from the SON yet. The CAS Executive Committee voted to endorse the structure and the basic credit-hour allocations but had concerns about the Explore Seminar and whether full-time faculty would be willing to teach the course. The CSE Executive Committee had a number of concerns (they have a strong sense of ownership over the SAGES courses that contained CSE content) and will seek feedback from all faculty members within the school. A question arose about whether there was 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 is data showing that students choose other institutions based on the notion that there is limited flexibility at CWRU. Another concern pertained to budgetary changes under the new plan. Provost Vinson encouraged the Committee to think about other issues that need to be resolved other than budgetary ones. A comment was made that if there weren't any 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 so important, and the other UPF schools that also include professional education where satisfying the 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 the 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 being formed.

Whether Deans May Serve as Members of Senate Standing Committees

Professor Leena Palomo, chair of the 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 send 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 relations between faculty and staff 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 also be involved in these discussions. A second survey of staff might be worth considering. Vice Chair David Miller said that he would contact Matt Smith, chair of the Staff Advisory Council, to discuss ways to proceed.

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. Beall 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 to this 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 general impediments to research. 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.