

Faculty Senate – Executive Committee

Minutes

Monday, April 28, 2025

Attendance: Ray Stuart Fertig III (*Chair*), Ashley Hope Carlisle (*Member-at-Large*), Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz (*Secretary*), Vladimir Alvarado (*Member-at-Large*), Tiger Robison (*Member-at-Large*), Rob Godby (*Chair AY 2025-2026*), Greg Cawley (*Member-at-Large*), Evan Johnson (*Chair-Elect AY 2025-2026*).

Absent:

Guest(s): Mandy Gifford (*Chief of Staff to the Provost*)

Meeting called to order at 12:25pm.

A motion was made to approve the agenda; seconded, carried.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last session; seconded, carried.

Chairs Report

There is a proposal to streamline course name changes, outside of the CAT process, some people are for it, some people are against it. The committee entertained discussion of both sides of the issues after the chair noted that there was value in both sides and expressed confusion of why this issue is so divisive and complicated. Chair noted that there is some possible correlation between potential state legislature actions.

Mandy Gifford provided some further context in the light of the anti-DEI bill (HB 147) with prohibited certain DEI efforts on campus. Mandy Gifford provided further clarification that CARF is now the CAP process.

Chair Godby expressed some concern with optics over the potential change, and Mandy Gifford highlighted the potential shared governance concerns in creating an accelerated process that circumvents the extant process.

Chair-Elect Godby provided updates from the Presidents Executive Cabinet.

Potential forthcoming changes to the Equal Opportunity & Prohibited Efforts SAP have not yet been revealed, as Tara Evans is waiting for approval to release the changes. Potential changes could be available this week, and the temporary SAP will be in place until the senate can entertain the full SAP. Mandy Gifford provided some additional context, and emphasized that if the Board takes an action, that action tends to hold. The SAP is being provided to help shape policy. She emphasized that “we don’t need a SAP to follow the law”. The committee discussed the fact the SAP would seem to primarily be a restatement of extant law present in HB 147. Committee discussed possible actions to be taken by Faculty Senate based. Discussion of procedures to change the resolution dealing with the SAP. Further discussion of the SAP shifted into parliamentary processes behind how to handle



the vote for the SAP. Final recommendations were considered, and the committee was unanimous in postponing consideration of the vote.

Chair-Elect Godby had little else to add in reports from the cabinet, noting that the search for a new provost is underway, and an interim provost is being sought out. The deans have decided not to attend the president's executive cabinet, unless there are matters that the deans would like to weigh in on, or have an interest in. Further, the deans have advocated for summaries from the President's Executive Cabinet to be provided to stakeholders across campus.

Risk assessment issues were also discussed, including splitting hairs around campus morale issues, and the broader effect of morale issues on the university. Including the effects of separating out all the interrelated factors.

Other Business

Discussion of the appearance, or lack thereof, of Kyle Moorehouse at the last Senate meeting. Some additional discussion of whether Kyle has the data to provide some input to the Faculty Senate in consideration of extending the 'test-optional admittance' extension for three-years.

Chair mentioned requesting end-of-year reports from the heads of the various committees.

Motion to approve the agenda for the next faculty senate meeting; seconded, carried.

Motion to Adjourn at 1:17pm; seconded, carried.