

FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES

12 February 2024

IN ATTENDANCE:

OFFICERS: Robert Sprague, Chair; Ray Fertig, Chair Elect; Renee Laegreid, Past Chair, Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, Secretary, Gregg Cawley, Rob Godby, and Tiger Robison, Members-at-Large. Member-at-Large Vladimir Alvarado excused.

Guests: James Ahern, Vice Provost for Graduate Education. Saman Aryana, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Chair Robert Sprague called the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSE) meeting to order at 12:19 pm.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the agenda; motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of February 5; motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair introduced Graduate Council Chair Saman Aryana and Jim Ahern, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, to discuss the amendments made at the February 5 Faculty Senate meeting to the Bylaws for the School of Graduate Education. Chair Aryana reported that he had been present for part of that Faculty Senate meeting and that he understood that the topic was not going to be discussed since a quorum had not been met and had left accordingly. Chair Aryana reported that he had hoped he would be present to discuss the reasons behind certain language in the Graduate School Bylaws that Senators had concerns about and that he was disappointed that he was not present for the discussion.

The Chair responded that the Bylaws were discussed at approximately the same time they would have been discussed if the Senate initially had a quorum, considering the President spoke at the meeting and several items were on the Agenda before the discussion of the Graduate School Bylaws. The Chair reported that Chair Aryana had been given an opportunity to speak at the previous Faculty Senate meeting as well. Chair Aryana responded that he had understood that the topic would not be discussed at the meeting. The Chair responded that he had stated that he would not discuss the topic without a quorum. Chair Aryana reported that he respected the decision of the Senate but that he disagreed with the Chair. Chair Aryana reported that he wished for the Resolution and Bylaws to be reintroduced so that he had an opportunity to discuss the thought process behind the original draft and address any questions from the Senate. The Chair reported that he would take Chair Aryana's request under advisement and would let Chair Aryana know when a decision had been made by the Executive Committee. The Committee discussed.

The Chair reported that “Take a Trustee to Class” had been scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, and that he had distributed a list of the eight classes that had been identified to the Executive Committee. The Chair reported that he had yet verified some of these courses and that he planned on reaching out to the instructors of all the courses before submitting them to the Board of Trustees. The Committee discussed and added additional courses to the list.

The Chair reported that Staff Appreciation Day had been scheduled for Tuesday April 16, 2024. The Chair reported that faculty members would be serving pre-made food to University Staff members and that it would need a minimum of 28 faculty volunteers. The Committee asked if a sign-up had been distributed. The Chair reported that he would be sending one out.

The Chair reported that President Seidel had supported the idea of a Freedom of Expression Implementation working group during the previous week’s meeting of the Staff Senate. The Chair reported he was not sure when action would take place to create such a group.

The Chair reported that a new Immigration SAPP had been sent to him from the General Counsel’s office, which he had distributed to the Executive Committee, and that it would take some time before it came under review by the Faculty Senate, but he felt that the Executive Committee should review and discuss the new policy before formal review. The Committee asked when the SAPP would come under official review. The Chair responded he did not know but that the General Counsel planned to distribute the new policy to University Deans around February 20. The Chair asked the Committee if General Counsel Tara Evans should be invited to the Executive Committee meeting on February 26. The Committee discussed and agreed.

The Chair introduced the draft of the Senate Agenda for February 19, 2024 and noted that he had invited Riley Brooke Skorz to speak about Access UW Day at the meeting. The Chair reported that he did not believe this would be a part of Student Disability Services and that the discussion would be limited to Access UW Day.

The Chair reminded Chair-Elect Fertig that the nominees for Executive Committee should to be prepared to give a short presentation as to why they wish to serve on the Executive Committee at the February 19 Faculty Senate Meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:38 pm.