FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

6 November 2023

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.

Guests: Steve Barrett, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, David Bagley, Chair, Committee on Committee’s.

Chair Robert Sprague called the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSE) meeting to order at 12:05 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 October 30; motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair reported that Senator Taheri has sent him an email asking that the Senate invite Isadora Helfgott to come to a future Faculty Senate meeting to discuss the Shorelight program for international students. The Committee discussed and agreed the Chair should invite Dr. Helfgott to the November 27 Faculty Senate meeting.

The Chair reported that he had not forgotten an earlier discussion of the interplay between academic freedom (Regulation 2-15) and the University’s Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination SAPP, but that the policy was 90+ pages long and he had not had time to review it to identify possible red flags between it and Regulation 2-15 to include in a charge to the Faculty Academic Standards, Rights & Responsibilities (FASRR) Committee. The Chair noted the Executive Committee had also discussed charging the FASRR committee to work with Martha McCaughey on the implementation phase of the Freedom of Expression principles. Therefore, the Chair suggested tabling the investigation between academic freedom and the EO SAPP for the time being. The Committee discussed and agreed.

The Chair reported that Staff Senate would be giving a report at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate and that at their last meeting, the Staff Senate had elected Adam Comeau to be the new President of Staff Senate and Tori Henderson to be the new Vice President of Staff Senate.
The Chair reported that ASUW had passed its own separate endorsement of the President’s Freedom of Expression principles and that they would be sending a representative to discuss this at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate.

The Chair noted that there had been an article in the Chronicle of Higher Education noting that the Carnegie Foundation had reclassified the qualifications to become an R1 institution, and that under the rule change the University would be considered an R1 institution regardless of previous efforts. The Committee discussed.

The Chair opened the floor for Discussion of Faculty Academic Standards, Rights & Responsibilities Committee Recommendations on Classroom Recording. The Chair noted that he had invited Casey Frome, the Chair of the Committee, to be present for the meeting of the Executive Committee but that he had conflicts with the time the Committee met. The Chair noted that the Committee had put forward some language to consider and asked the Committee if they had an opinion on what further action should be taken. The Committee felt that they should wait until the Chair Frome could be present to discuss the issue with them before taking further action. Member-at-large Fertig noted that he felt that General Counsel Evans should be present for any discussion of recommendations on recording in the classroom. The Committee agreed.

The Chair opened the floor for Discussion of the process to elect nominees to the Faculty Dispute Resolution Panel. The Chair noted that there were currently 8 vacancies on the Faculty Dispute Resolution Panel, and that three of those vacancies could be renominated but that regardless there needed to be 8 new nominations for the panel.

The Chair noted that he had provided the Committee with the regulation regarding the filling of the Panel, and then suggested the best course of action was to ask the Senate to bring nominations forward and that the Chair of the Committee on Committees, David Bagley, and Office Associate Engel-Cartie would create a poll for voting on the nominees which would be sent out to all faculty. The Chair asked if the Committee would prefer to either have the Senate nominate members or to ask the entire faculty to nominate members and then vote on them. The Committee discussed and decided in favor of soliciting the entire faculty for nominations to the panel, but also asking the Senate to nominate members as well.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.