

Faculty Senate Minutes

November 22, 2022

The regular business meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 3:30 p.m., via Zoom. The Senate President was in the chair and the Secretary was present. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

SU President Lyn Lepre made announcements.

Provost Olmstead made announcements.

The Senate President made announcements.

After debate and amendments, the motion by Elizabeth Ragan “Joint revision of the Emergency Absence Policy by Faculty and Students” was approved.

MOTION: Resolved, that the Faculty Senate create an ad hoc committee to be charged with revising the Emergency Absence Policy. The Faculty Senate shall select at least three voting members of the committee from the faculty, and invite the Student Government Association to provide one fewer student than the number of faculty on the committee to serve as voting members of the committee.

The committee shall develop a revised Emergency Absence Policy that more clearly defines what kinds of absences it covers and provides updated procedures for how the process is to operate. The committee shall also recommend how the policy can best be communicated to faculty and students. Prior to the last Faculty Senate meeting in November 2023, the committee shall provide the revised policy and associated recommendations to the Faculty Senate. If approved by the Faculty Senate, these documents will then be provided to the other shared governance bodies for their consideration.

After debate and amendments, the motion by Bart Talbert on “Winter/Summer Teaching Compensation for Faculty” was approved.

MOTION: Resolved, that the Faculty Senate strongly urges that the Winter/Summer teaching compensation formulation found in the Faculty Handbook be followed to the letter and that it be implemented immediately for all such classes from this point forward.

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate urges the Provost to work with the payroll office to release the correct compensation for winter semester to all faculty.

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate exhorts that all faculty teaching during the 2023 winter semester who have already signed their contract be allowed to amend their contract to reflect the correct compensation formula.

After debate and amendments, the motion by Jose Juncosa “Recognizing work in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion within Tenure and Promotion” was approved.

MOTION: It is the determination of the Faculty Senate that work in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion must be recognized within Teaching, Scholarship, and/or Service for the purposes of Tenure and Promotion to the maximum extent allowable by any relevant accreditation bodies. Such work will be evaluated and credited in the same way as other faculty achievements. Each department within the University will develop guidelines that clarify and justify any required limits and delineate specific conditions for DEI work to comport with accreditation requirements, if applicable.

All Faculty Senate committees impacted by this determination are instructed to revise their operating documents and submit them to Faculty Senate for any necessary approval by the second-to-last meeting of the Spring 2023 semester. The Faculty Handbook shall also be updated accordingly.

After debate and amendments, the motion by Joerg Tuske on “Forming a Senate Ad Hoc Committee to revise the report on DEI on tenure & promotion in light of faculty feedback” was approved.

MOTION: To form an ad hoc committee of Senators who will revise the recommendations of the report of the working group on DEI work in tenure & promotion in light of faculty feedback and previous Senate determinations. The committee shall produce draft guidelines by the second Senate meeting of the Spring 2023 semester. The ad hoc committee shall be open to all Senators who volunteer to serve and shall include at least one Senator from each unit, unless no Senator from a given unit is willing to serve.

After debate, the motion by Joerg Tuske on “Final exam time-table” will become unfinished business for the next meeting due to running out of time.

MOTION: The Faculty Senate charges the Faculty Welfare Committee to work with the Registrar’s Office to find a way to make the final exam period more manageable for faculty. This means, among other things, avoiding that a faculty member has more than one exam per day, especially if that day is at the end of exam week.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Ellen Schaefer-Salins, Secretary
Written 11/30/22