

Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024 -- 3:15pm

Members present: S. Eagle, D. Smith, D. Strunk, P. Todd, S. Forsythe, J. Shadoan, L. Elkind, A. Paganelli for S. Bonis, S. Flener, L. Coder for Y. Kim, J. Shankweiler, M. Nee, M. McKerral, S. Spiller, Provost Fischer

Guests: R. Hale, J. Hammonds, K. Atkinson, B. Laves, R. Rhoades

[Copy of Agenda](#)

A. Approve minutes of previous month's SEC Meeting:

1. [SEC Meeting Minutes, 1.15.24](#)

- Motion to approve: J. Shadoan | S. Forsythe; motion carries
- No discussion

B. Officer Reports

1. Chair - Susan Eagle

- No report

2. Vice Chair - Doug Smith

- No report

3. Secretary - Dan Strunk

- No report

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Patricia Todd (Chair): (No Report)

2. [Budget and Finance, Eric Kondratieff \(Chair\): \(Report posted\)](#)

- Motion to include report in senate agenda: J. Shadoan; Motion carries
- Speculation to the effects of Hilltopper Hall on budget was discussed.

3. Colonnade/General Education, Stacey Forsythe (Chair): (No Report)

4. Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Landon Elkind (Chair): (No Report)

a. [Policy 1.2093 Faculty Workload and Compensation](#)

- Motion to include policy on faculty senate agenda: L. Elkind; motion carries
- L. Elkind provided an overview of the policy changes. R. Hale discussed how the policy impacts overloads. The use of the term "normally" on page 5 (Section III) was discussed.

5. [Graduate Council, Sara Bonis \(Chair\): \(Report posted\)](#)
 - Motion to include report on senate agenda: A. Paganelli; motion carries
 - No discussion

6. [Graduate Council Curriculum Committee, Whitley Stone \(Chair\) \(Report posted\)](#)
 - Motion to include report on senate agenda: A. Paganelli; motion carries
 - No discussion

7. [Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Shelia Flener \(Chair\): \(Report posted\)](#)
 - Motion to include report on senate agenda: S. Flener; motion carries
 - No discussion

8. [Faculty Handbook, Julie Shadoan \(Chair\): \(Report posted\)](#)
 - a. [Handbook Revision Proposal \(VII Termination of Faculty\)](#)
 - Motion to include proposal on senate agenda: J. Shadoan; motion carries
 - J. Shadoan gave a brief overview of the proposed changes that includes adding additional faculty committee as part of termination process. R. Hale highlighted that proposed changes align with recommendations from AAUP. Several suggestions were made by members to add other steps such as getting Dean approval prior to starting the process and adding a level involving senior departmental faculty. The possible reasons for dismissal were discussed. No amendments were added to the proposal.

 - b. [Exhibit A \(VII Termination of Faculty\)](#)

 - c. [Exhibit B \(VII Termination of Faculty\)](#)

- D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:
 1. American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
 - No report

 2. Budget Executive Committee (BEC), Kirk Atkinson (Chair)
 - K. Atkinson discussed current focus of BEC which is committee organization and charge.
 - K. Atkinson pointed out that he is not the chair of BEC.

 3. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL)
 - No report

 4. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Molly Kerby (Chair)
 - No report

E. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller

- Next Board of Regents meeting scheduled for March 3.
- Discussed legislative process and time frame for current bills of concern.

2. Provost, Robert "Bud" Fischer

- Dean searches were discussed.
- There are two remaining focus group meetings for graduate school changes.
- Current budget is being monitored and next year budget under construction.
- Promotion and tenure is in the hands of the president and decisions expected soon.

3. SGA President, Sam Kurtz

- Absent

F. Old Business:

- None

G. New Business:

1. [HB6 Observations and Questions \(Mohsen Aram, Ron Rhoades\)](#)

2. [Ron Rhoades, Address to SEC](#)

- R. Rhoades gave overview of memorandum that includes concern about future budgets, enrollment cliff, lower percentage of students going to college, decline in inflation adjusted salaries. He also discussed his recommendations of increasing class sizes per faculty member, doing a job task analysis, reducing staff by 10% and reducing faculty by 15%.
- Motion to send memorandum to budget and finance committee: M. Nee | S. Flener; motion carries (10-1-0)
 - Friendly amendment to add academic quality committee and faculty welfare committee to list of committees to work on memorandum: J. Shadoan.
- Discussion included support for committees to review.

3. M. McKerral discussed recent article in Herald about how school of media is not responsible for student publications. Mental health and campus counseling services was discussed.

Motion to adjourn: M. McKerral | S. Flener (5:26 PM)