



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 7, 2023 – 3:00–5:00 P.M. – Lab of Mechanics 107

Attending (15): Bennett-George, S. [President], Parsa, R. [Pres-Elect], Perkins, J. [Past Pres], Wallace, R. [Sec], Bigelow, T. [RPA & ENG CC], Butler, A. [LAS CC], Day, T. [VET CC], Frank, M. [Gov], Freeman, S. [J&A], Gillette, M. [HSC CC], Hornbuckle, B. [FDAR], Janvrin, D. [BUS CC], Schieltz, J. [Acad. Affairs], Smalley, S. [CALS CC], Wheeler, A. [DSN CC].

Absent (0): A quorum was determined to be present for the meeting.

Provost Office (3): J. Wickert [Provost], D. Bratsch-Prince [Assoc. Provost], A. VanderZanden [Assoc. Provost]

Guests: Knief, A. [Parliamentarian]

1. Call to Order – President Bennett-George called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm

2. Consent Agenda

- a. EB Agenda October 3, 2023
- b. EB Minutes September 5, 2023

Perkins moved that the Consent Agenda be approved; second by Gillette. Motion was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

3. Unfinished Business

- a. Debate Guidelines for Faculty Senate Meetings – Bennett-George
 - President Bennett-George introduced this action as Unfinished Business, noting that the issue will be continued to future EB and FS meetings, following input on the proposal from college caucuses.
 - Sen. Butler raised concerns that having even informal guidelines within which debate is constrained may have a stifling effect on important discussion of senate business.
 - The group agreed that the proposed guidelines should be vetted through the college caucuses; caucus chairs were charged with the task of discussing the proposal's concepts and recommendations of debate guidelines with the senators in their respective caucuses. They are to then communicate these discussion points, concerns, and recommendations for further consideration by the EB.
 - Parliamentarian A. Knief volunteered to meet with caucuses to answer questions about parliamentary procedures and debate guidelines.

4. New Business –

- a. FH 7.2.5.1 Interim Action – Modification [23-5] – Freeman
 - Senator Freeman explained the rationale for the proposal is to update this section of the FH to change “calendar days” to “days” to clarify specific time requirements and reduce ambiguity of interpretation.
- b. FH 7.2.6.1 Appeals to the University President [23-6] – Freeman

- This proposed change will provide more procedural details about how conduct cases can be appealed to the Provost and University President. It explicitly documents the required process and makes minor clarifications of language as outlined in the proposal.
- c. Master of Applied Statistics [23-7] – Schieltz
 - The proposal is to develop a Master of Applied Statistics degree. The instruction of the courses required for this graduate degree will primary be conducted on-line. It was explained that this degree is directed at a different target audience from a traditional Master of Statistics degree (with thesis); the degree program will be directed toward working professionals, and will be a non-thesis degree. A range of on-line courses is being developed which will focus on the needs of the applied aspects of statistics specifically useful to those in business and industry. The EB discussed other curricular aspects of the degree and agreed to move the proposal forward.

5. Announcements

- a. President - Bennett-George
 - President Bennett-George said that she will be attending the APLU conference at the time of the November FS meeting; President-Elect Parsa would preside at that meeting.
 - She encouraged everyone to read the report of the Board of Regents DEI Committee.
 - There was discussion about the DEI Committee report and how FS will respond, including strategies for interacting with the Board of Regents related to the report.
 - The proposal to transition the Graduate Council's activities to functioning within the Faculty Senate academic structure is moving forward. There will be a Town Hall meeting to discuss this issue on Friday, Nov. 10th at 3 pm in the Campanile Room of the MU. A vote of the full graduate faculty will be required to adopt the proposal. Sen. Hornbuckle posed several questions about the transition and noted that Dean of the Graduate College William Graves is in favor of the proposal.
- b. President-Elect - Parsa
 - President-Elect Parsa reported that planning for the Faculty Senate Spring Symposium is moving forward, and the committee is looking for speakers, and that requests have been made to several potential speakers and they are awaiting responses. At present, it is planned to have two keynote speakers, one panel, and six break-out sessions, as well as poster session. Through cooperation with several faculty in the humanities who were also planning on having a special event devoted to Artificial Intelligence, the symposium has now been extended to two full days of activities. The symposium will be held on March 21st and 22nd, 2024 in the Memorial Union.
- c. Past-President – Perkins
 - Past President Perkins noted that the proposal for the new Minor in Artificial Intelligence has developed to the point where it has been sent to the LAS College Curriculum Committee for their meeting on November 14th. He reported that two new courses are being developed. He also thanked Sen. Annemarie Butler for her careful work on the development of this proposal.
- d. Senior Vice President and Provost - Wickert
 - The Provost thanked everyone who has been working on the development of the proposal for the new Minor in Artificial Intelligence.
 - He also thanked everyone who assisted over the summer with the production of the report on DEI activity at ISU that was submitted to the Board of Regents DEI Committee.

- Dr. Wickert noted that the Board of Regents will be meeting next week, and at that meeting approval of FPDA requests will be voted on, and that the ISU Faculty Activity Report will be presented.
- At the BoR Meeting next week, Sophia McGill will report on the status of the implementation of ISU's Strategic Plan and progress to date in achieving these goals.
- At the conclusion of his report, the Provost took questions from the group.

e. Council Chairs Reports

- Academic Affairs – Schieltz – The AAC has had a “quiet agenda”; the council is reviewing the policy on repeating courses.
- FDAR – Hornbuckle – The council has been working on 2 documents regarding extension scholarship moving toward revision of FH Section 5.2.2.5 regarding definitions of scholarship by extension faculty; the documents re being prepared for forthcoming consideration of revising this section of the FH. Hornbuckle noted that there are travel grant funds available for faculty to go to other Big 12 schools to do research. The council received 2 requests for review: a) that spouses of post-docs can be assessed in-state tuition if enrolled at a regents university, and b) to consider allowing Associate Professors to be eligible to be named as a University Professor. This item was then discussed by the EB regarding eligibility of Tenure Track faculty for these honorific title awards (Distinguished, University, and Morrill Professorships), and how Term Faculty could also be considered for these titles.
- Governance – Frank – The Governance Council will meet next week and is continuing to review FH sections regarding Term Faculty advancement; additional discussion is progressing regarding Term Faculty transitioning to administrative roles. Input will be sought from various groups about the role of term faculty as administrators and the definitions related to these positions.
- J&A – Freeman – The J&A Council will be proposing 2 docket items in the future that may result in changes to the FH about the annual review process, specifically the department chair summary assessment. This also involves how to modify the FH language about explicit components of the PRS, faculty performance, and overall assessment.
- RPA – Bigelow – Meetings of the council continue to be held; discussion is taking place on several issues: The caucuses should know or be aware of resources and their allocations within the colleges; there should be some guidance developed for faculty/FS representatives speaking with deans about college budgets; and concerns are being raised about streamlining the administrative actions needed for the research process.

f. Caucus Chair Reports

- BUS – Janvrin – The College of Business caucus is reviewing several proposed changes to the college governance document and other leadership positions.
- CALS – Smalley – The CALS caucus will meet next Thursday and will review various council updates and the Guidelines for FS Debate.
- HUM SCI – Gillette – No updates at this time,
- DES – Wheeler – The College of Design caucus met on Oct. 27th. The CoD may develop a mediation committee that will deal with various issues within the college.
- ENG – Bigelow – No updates at this time,
- LAS – Butler – The LAS caucus met with all of the interviewing candidates for the position of dean of LAS and also met with Provost Wickert to discuss the candidates following the on-campus interviews. The caucus also met with Dean Schmittmann and discussed salary policy as well as issues involving post-doc salary and benefits. It was noted that the ‘Reimagining LAS’ initiative is making some progress on resolving the college debt issue. Dean Schmittmann gave a brief “points of pride” summary of accomplishments

she oversaw as dean of the college for the past 12 years. The caucus also discussed whether the FS would sign-on to the proposal the P&S Council is planning on submitting to the legislature.

- VET – Day – The caucus met with Dean Grooms and discussed salary policy, went through the College budget and discretionary funds, and discussed term faculty within the college. The caucus also met with Steve Lonergan and discussed ownership of educational materials developed by faculty.

6. Approval of the November 14, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda

- Senator Butler proposed the addition of a discussion period during the November FS meeting for the discussion of DEI concerns. Several comments regarding having a discussion in advance of the Regents' public announcements and forthcoming decisions and recommendations were presented; the general theme was that a discussion session in the Senate at the November meeting would be premature and speculative. Concerns were also raised about public perception of such a discussion session in advance of the release of the report and recommendations of the BoR DEI Committee. The EB as a group did not move forward with this proposal. Motion to approve the November 14th FS agenda as presented by Perkins; second by Bigelow; motion was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

7. Good of the Order

- None

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Wallace, Secretary - ISU Faculty Senate
