



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate

22/M/6

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023 – 3:30–5:00 P.M.
SUNROOM, MEMORIAL UNION

Present: Anderson, M.; Behnken, B.; Bigelow, T.; Burrough, E.; Cho, M.; Cutrona, C.; Day, T.; Denizel, M.; Dewell, G.; Dubisar, A.; Fleming, C.; Frank, M.; Freeman, S.; Hall, S.; Hernandez, B.; Janvrin, D.; Johnson, D.; Kang, S.; Kedrowski, K.; Kreider, B.; Lonergan, E.; Lutz, R.; Mao, H.; Martin, M.; Mellata, M.; Nair, A.; Parsa, R.; Perkins, J.; Peters, D.; Peterson, D.; Prabhu, G.; Reddy-Best, K.; Robertson, A.; Roe, K.; Schaal, M.; Schieltz, J.; Schrier, T.; Schwartz, C.; Smiley, A.; Stacy-Bates, K.; Wade, N.; Wallace, R.; Wang, Q.; Wheeler, A.; Wilgenbusch, E.; Wood, A.; Wu, H.; Xiang, C.; Zarechnyy, O.; Zerbib, S.

Absent: Al Shihabi, D.; Armstrong, P.; Bardhan, R.; Bennett-George, S.; Bolser, K.; Cook, K.; Daniels, T.; Davis, R.; Faber, C.; Gillette, M.; Hanson, V.; Hornbuckle, B.; Kovnir, K.; McGrail, M.; Munkvold, G.; Obbink, M.; Padgett-Walsh, C.; Pistolesi, S.; Poplin, A.; Rosentrater, K.; Shin, Y.; Smalley, S.; Svec, C.; Townsend, T.; Vary, J.; Watanabe, O.; Williams, C.; Winer, E.

Substitutes: R. Bagley for Berger, D.; D. Smith for Micich, A.; J. DiBlasi for Morgan, E.; Zarecor, K. for Architecture

Guests: Wickert, J. (Provost); Bratsch-Prince, D. (Assoc. Provost); VanDerZanden, A. (Assoc. Provost); Jordan, T. (Asst. Provost); Knief, A. (Parliamentarian); Budlong, J. (Univ. Relations); Clellan, J. (ISU Daily); Rodriguez Ocasio, E. (GPSS).

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jon Perkins at 3:34 p.m.

- a. Seating of Substitute Senators - As listed above, four substitute senators were seated.
- b. It was determined by the Secretary that a quorum was present for the meeting.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. FS Agenda February 14, 2023 – [22/A/6]
- b. FS Minutes January 24, 2023 – [22/M/5]
- c. FS Docket Calendar – [22/C/6]

The Consent Agenda was adopted by voice vote, without opposition.

3. **Special Order: Peer Institution Process** – Jonathan Wickert, SVPP and Karen Zunkel, Executive Director Institutional Research

- The Provost explained that the Board of Regents has charged each of the Regent Universities with re-evaluating their lists of peer institutions and updating them based on the criteria each institution developed. It was noted that the “Peer 10” list for Iowa State University was developed in 1986 and has only been minimally updated since that time. Another peer list, IPEDS (*Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System*) has 97 institutions listed as ISU’s peers.
- A committee of 13 members, representative of various units and functions of the university, was seated to evaluate the current lists of peer institutions and using various criteria, make recommendations on an updated, revised list of peers. This committee met in the Fall 2022 semester and developed a set of objective and subjective criteria by which potential peer institutions would be evaluated and compared. This information was conveyed with a PowerPoint presentation and explained the details of committee composition and activity.
- Dr. Zunkel then presented the methods by which the data were gathered and the criteria by which prospective peer universities were evaluated and compared with ISU. The comparisons were conducted using publicly available data, and were conducted on 24 potential candidate institutions, particularly for R1 institutions; there were 19 variables compared including both qualitative factors and quantitative factors. It was desired that ISU was placed somewhere ‘in the middle’ of the list of ranked peer institutions such that there were aspirational goals for improvement when compared to peers.
- Provost Wickert showed the ***current list*** of 10 peer institutions: Michigan State*, North Carolina State*, Purdue*, Ohio State, Pennsylvania State, Texas A&M, Univ. California – Davis, Univ. Illinois, Univ. Minnesota, Univ Wisconsin. (*institutions on current and proposed lists)
- He then showed the ***list of 10 proposed peer institutions***: Michigan State*, North Carolina State*, Purdue*, Colorado State, Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Oregon State, Univ Missouri, Univ Nebraska, and Virginia Tech.
- The Provost then explained that all of the proposed peer institutions are R1 Land Grant universities with extension roles, range geographically from coast to coast, and have enrollments between 22,000 and 50,000 students. Nine of the 10 institutions have associated veterinary colleges, and three have schools of human medicine.
- Regarding the IPEDS list of peer institutions, the current number of 97 was reduced to 29 institutions; this includes the 10 proposed universities on the Regents Peer 10 list, the 7 institutions removed from the current Regents Peer 10 list, Arizona State Univ, and an 11 additional R1 universities.

- The Provost stated that these proposed Peer 10 and IPEDS lists will be presented to the Board of Regents at its March meeting in Des Moines.
- Provost Wickert thanked the committee for their work and thanked Karen Zunkel for her leadership, effort, and expertise in the development and presentation of the revised peer institution lists.

4. Unfinished Business

- a. No Unfinished Business items were presented for this meeting.

5. New Business

- a. No New Business items were presented for this meeting.

6. Announcements

- a. Faculty Senate President - Perkins
 - Reminded faculty to complete the Board of Regents Faculty Activity Survey; in some cases, the e-mails have been going to Junk Mail folders.
 - Noted that the many Fulbright Scholars at the university has ISU ranked 7th or 8th in the country.
 - The Strategic Issues Advisory Committee will be receiving proposals over the next few weeks proposals are due on April 15th. This is part of the initiatives of fulfilling the Strategic Plan with funding support. To date, the Jump Start initiative has received 73 proposals.
 - A Chat GPT Working Group has been formed on campus and is evaluating various aspects of this AI environment, and is working toward presenting a set of recommendations to assist faculty in how to respond to this new phenomenon.
- b. Faculty Senate President-Elect – Bennett-George - No report
- c. Senior Vice President and Provost - Wickert
 - The Provost wanted to acknowledge the human toll of the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and to keep our colleagues from that region in our thoughts.
 - He also spoke briefly about the shootings on the campus of Michigan State University on Feb. 13, and wanted us to keep our colleagues there in our thoughts.
 - The Regent university presidents testified before the Education Sub-Committee of the Iowa legislature; President Wintersteen requested a \$12M increase in the ISU budget for the next fiscal year.
 - The next Board of Regents meeting will be held in Des Moines at the BOR Office. Curricular requests presented to the Academic Affairs Committee will include the new BS in Biomedical Engineering; other actions from ISU to be presented are the closing of the Plant Genome and Transformation Center and approval of honorary degree recipients for the Spring 2023 Commencement.
 - The Annual Distance Education Report has been completed. This notes the recent reorganization improvements and developments of the Iowa State Online initiative, with support to all colleges. At present, ISU has 35 fully on-line degree programs. The provost noted that previously there was a dis-incentive to develop on-line programs – recent development of new fee and other structures have

reduced the operating cost by 80%, with the hope that this new structure will incentivize further development of on-line courses and curricula.

- The Provost noted that ISU is a 'top producer' of Fulbright Scholars in the USA, with a ranking of Number 8 nationally.
- Finally, he stated that national awards and recognition by ISU faculty increased 7% over last year.
- d. P&S Council - No report
- e. Student Government – No report.
- f. Graduate and Professional Student Senate –
 - Mr. Efrain Rodriguez invited faculty to attend the 11th Annual Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference. This event is to showcase graduate research being conducted at ISU and to promote interdisciplinary research. The conference will be held on April 12th in the Memorial Union. Additional information may be found at: <https://www.gpss.iastate.edu/conference>

9. Good of the Order

- No comments were presented.

10. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by President Perkins at 4:21 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Wallace, Secretary - ISU Faculty Senate