



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate

23/M/4

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2023 – 3:30–5:00 P.M.
SUNROOM, MEMORIAL UNION

Present: Armstrong, P.; Bagley, R.; Bardhan, R.; Behnken, B.; Bennett-George, S.;
Bhattacharyya, R.; Bigelow, T.; Bolser, K.; Butler, A.; Cho, M.; Cho, Y.; Cook, K.; Cowan, A.;
Cunnally, J.; Cutrona, C.; Day, T.; Denizel, M.; Dewell, G.; Faber, C.; Fleming, C.; Frank, M.;
Freeman, S.; Gillette, M.; Griffiths, P.; Hanson, V.; Hornbuckle, B.; Janvrin, D.; Jia, Y.;
Kedrowski, K.; LeSar, R.; Li, Q.; Lonergan, E.; Martin, M.; McGrail, M.; Mellata, M.;
Munkvold, G.; Oberhauser, A.; Olsen, M.; Parsa, R.; Perkins, J.; Pittoni, P.; Prabhu, G.;
Robertson, A.; Rosentrater, K.; Schaal, M.; Schieltz, J.; Schrier, T.; Smalley, S.; Smiley, A.;
Smith, D.; Stacy-Bates, K.; Vary, J.; Wallace, R.; Wheeler, A.; Wilgenbusch, E.; Wood, A.; Wu,
H.; Xiang, C.; Zarechnyy, O.; Zerbib, S.

Absent: Blankenship, K.; Cordoba, J.; Daniels, T.; Davis, R.; Day, C.; Deam, D.; Holtkamp, D.;
Kovnir, K.; Lavrov, D.; Mao, H.; Nair, A.; Obbink, M.; Peters, D.; Poplin, A.; Reddy-Best, K.;
Schmitz-Esser, S.; Segner, A.; Shin, Y.; Svec, C.; Townsend, T.; Wang, Q.; Zenti, S.

Substitutes: Stanley, L. for Pistolesi, S.

Guests: Wickert, J. (SVPP); Bratsch-Prince, D. (Assoc. Provost); VanDerZanden, A. (Assoc.
Provost); Jordan, T. (Asst. Provost); Knief, A. (Parliamentarian); Budlong, J. (Univ. Relations);
Boyles, J. (GSJ).

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Bennett-George at 3:33 p.m.

- a. Seating of Substitute Senators - As listed above, one substitute senator were seated.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. FS Agenda December 12, 2023 – [23/A/4]
- b. FS Minutes November 14, 2023 – [23/M/3]
- c. FS Docket Calendar – [23/C/4]

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

3. Special Order: Fall 2023 Graduation List Approval [23-8]

- The Fall 2023 Graduation List was approved by the Faculty Senate by a voice vote.

4. Special Order: Memorial Resolutions [23-9]

- Memorial resolutions were presented for six faculty colleagues who have recently passed away. The body stood while a moment of silence was held in their memory.

5. Unfinished Business

a. FH 7.2.5.1.4 Interim Action – modification [23-5] – Freeman

- The proposed change would clarify the time period required for the interim action process, changing ‘working days’ to ‘calendar days’. No comments were received about this proposal since its first reading. The action was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

b. FH 7.2.6.1 Appeals to the University President [23-6] – Freeman

- This change in Section 7 of the *Faculty Handbook* will more specifically explain the procedure of how faculty can appeal a decision to the President or Provost. No comments were received about this proposal since its first reading. The action was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

c. Master of Applied Statistics [23-7] – Schieltz

- This new Master’s degree program in Applied Statistics will be an on-line degree program targeted at students who are working professionals. This new degree will provide an alternative to the existing on-campus MS degree in Statistics. No comments were received about this proposal since its first reading. The action was adopted by voice vote without dissent.

6. New Business

a. ISU Catalog Proposed Policy: Grading as it Impacts Repeating Courses [23-10] – Schieltz

- This proposal from the Academic Standards and Admission Committee seeks to clarify language in the University Catalog about the relationship between transferred courses and those taken at ISU, and describes how credits are recorded and which are recorded for purposes of calculating a GPA. No questions or comments were received at the first reading of this proposal.

b. Name Change: B.A. Scientific Illustration and Visualization [23-11] – Schieltz

- A change in the name of the existing undergraduate program in Biological and Pre-Medical Illustration is being proposed. This name change was suggested as a result of an external review of the program; the name change will better reflect the current curriculum being taught, would expand the breadth of disciplines included

beyond the biological sciences, and would reduce confusion for students. No questions or comments were received at the first reading of this proposal.

- c. Undergraduate Minor Applied Mathematics [23-12] – Schieltz
 - The new minor will differ from the current Minor in Mathematics that the curricular content of the proposed new ‘Applied’ minor does not include the requirement to take a ‘proofs’ class, and can satisfy the new minor’s requirements with a different array of courses. No questions or comments were received at the first reading of this proposal.

- d. Master of Digital Health [23-13] – Schieltz
 - This proposal is for a new on-line Master’s degree program which focuses on various technologies including ‘wearable technology’ and digital applications in human health-related areas. No questions or comments were received at the first reading of this proposal.

- e. B.A. Sports Media and Communication [23-14] – Schieltz
 - This new degree is being proposed by the Greenlee School – Will provide hands-on instruction and will be associated with the Athletics Department, and has 400 hours of internship work required as part of the proposed curriculum for the new B.A. degree. No questions or comments were received at the first reading of this proposal.

7. Announcements

- a. Faculty Senate President – Bennett-George
 - President Bennett-George spoke about some of her experiences at the APLU meeting in Seattle, and noted that ISU is “ahead of the curve” on many issues being worked on by faculty Senate groups at other universities around the country, particularly on our policies and procedures related to Term Faculty.
 - She continues to receive feedback and concerns about the Board of Regents recent actions regarding the DEI report and the subsequent policies that were voted on and adopted by the Board. President Wintersteen is developing an advisory committee to discuss these issues, incorporate feedback from focus groups and other sources, and to prepare several advisory recommendations about how to develop a response to the Board of Regents that is due at the April 2024 meeting.
 - She received a communication from Faculty Senate Liaison Max Porter who asked if a reminder could be delivered via the Senate to retired or retiring faculty about the ISU Retirees Association, and invited retirees to join the organization.
 - The proposal to transition the Graduate Council to the Faculty Senate structure was met with a ~90% positive vote by the graduate faculty. The transition will continue to proceed over the next months.

- Prior to “going live” with Workday Student, a summary presentation and discussion will take place in Spring 2024 to disseminate information and to provide opportunities for having questions answered.
- Several senators have contacted her about the Bookstore’s ‘Flat Fee’ proposal and have concerns about it – this will continue to be discussed next semester.
- It was noted that there are still many issues for the Senate to work on during the Spring 2024 semester.
- President Bennett-George thanked the body for a ‘Great Fall semester’,

Questions:

- Senator Butler asked about how to provide feedback to the committee regarding the DEI actions. Once the committee is convened and functional, mechanisms for input will be announced.
 - Sen. Oberhauser asked if faculty could step forward to provide more direct responses about the DEI focus group activities.
- b. Faculty Senate President-Elect - Parsa
- President-Elect Parsa asked senators to consider serving on Faculty Senate Councils and Committees when vacancies need to be filled on these important sub-groups of the Senate.
 - The Faculty Senate Spring Symposium on Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Research will be held on March 21 and March 22. This event will be held in conjunction with a related symposium being held by ISU faculty in the Arts and Humanities. Speakers have been identified and there will be several break-out discussion sessions on a range of topics.
 - Dr. Parsa wished senators to have Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and “good luck with grading!”
- c. Senior Vice President and Provost – Provost Wickert
- The Provost reflected on how this semester began with the Power Plant fire, and thanked faculty for being resilient and responsive in switching to virtual teaching modes, etc. to get the semester started on time despite the issues related to cooling of the classrooms, laboratories, and other campus facilities following the fire.
 - He announced that Fall Commencement will be held on this coming weekend (Dec. 15-16) and that there are 227 graduates from the Graduate College, and 998 graduates from the undergraduate colleges receiving their degrees
 - Dr. Wickert noted that accreditation review is important for many academic programs that are done at regular time intervals. Similarly, the University is preparing for re-accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission as part of the normal cycle. This for accreditation of the entire University and all of its constituent academic programs. Assoc. Provost Anne Marie VanderZanden is leading the effort for the preparation for the re-accreditation review, and is coordinating several teams of faculty and staff that will work on specific aspects and focus areas in preparation of a final accreditation document to be submitted to the HLC for their review.

- He concluded his remarks by thanking everyone for successfully completing another great semester!

- d. P&S Council – No report
- e. Student Government – No report
- f. Graduate and Professional Student Senate – No report

8. Good of the Order

- Sen. Butler noted the comment period for the Ownership of Educational Materials Policy is open until February 15th, 2024, and urged caucus members and leaders to discuss this matter carefully and continue discussion at future Faculty Senate Meetings. She feels the policy should reside in the *Faculty Handbook* and not the Policy Library, noting it is more difficult to update and change items in the policy Library than it is if placed in the *Faculty Handbook*.

- Sen. Smiley responded that once the revised policy is in the Policy Library, similar description of the policy also needs to have a place in the Faculty Handbook. It is very apparent that educational materials clearly belong to faculty, and this documentation is accounted for in the revised policy language. The real questions remain about issues of ‘continuity’.

- Sen. McGrail asked about the proposed Flat Rate Fee from the Bookstore and 1) if the plan has been finalized, and 2) are there (or were there) opportunities for faculty input on the development of this proposed fee policy. Assoc. Provost VanderZanden replied that this program is set to ‘go live’ in the Fall 2024 semester, and that there are benefits of this process that add ‘immediate access’ to books and related teaching materials for students and with a cost savings for students.

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:11 pm

A Networking Reception followed the conclusion of the December 2023 Faculty Senate Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Robert S. Wallace, Secretary - ISU Faculty Senate
