



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Faculty Senate

23/M/6

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE  
FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 19, 2024 – 3:30–5:00 P.M.  
SUNROOM, MEMORIAL UNION

**Present:** Armstrong, P.; Bagley, R.; Behnken, B.; Bhattacharyya, R.; Bigelow, T.; Blankenship, K.; Bolser, K.; Butler, A.; Cho, M.; Cook, K.; Cordoba, J.; Cowan, A.; Cunnally, J.; Cutrona, C.; Day, C.; Day, T.; Denizel, M.; Dewell, G.; Fleming, C.; Frank, M.; Freeman, S.; Gillette, M.; Holtkamp, D.; Hornbuckle, B.; Janvrin, D.; Jia, Y.; Kedrowski, K.; Kovnir, K.; Li, Q.; Lonergan, E.; Mao, H.; Martin, M.; McGrail, M.; Mellata, M.; Munkvold, G.; Nair, A.; Oberhauser, A.; Olsen, M.; Parsa, R.; Perkins, J.; Pistolesi, S.; Pittoni, P.; Prabhu, G.; Reddy-Best, K.; Robertson, A.; Rosentrater, K.; Schaal, M.; Schieltz, J.; Schmitz-Esser, S.; Schrier, T.; Segner, A.; Smalley, S.; Smiley, A.; Smith, D.; Stacy-Bates, K.; Wallace, R.; Wang, Q.; Wilgenbusch, E.; Wood, A.; Wu, H.; Zarechnyy, O.

**Absent:** Bardhan, R.; Bennett-George, S.; Cho, Y.; Daniels, T.; Davis, R.; Deam, D.; Faber, C.; Griffiths, P.; Lavrov, D.; Obbink, M.; Peters, D.; Poplin, A.; Shin, Y.; Svec, C.; Townsend, T.; Vary, J.; Wheeler, A.; Zenti, S.; Zerbib, S.

**Substitutes:** Johnson, D. for LeSar, R.; Zhang, L. for Xiang, C.

**Guests:** Wickert, J. (SVPP); Bratsch-Prince, D. (Assoc. Provost); Jordan, T. (Asst. Provost); Knief, A. (Parliamentarian); Budlong, J. (Univ. Relations); Waagmeester, J. (ISU Daily); Seo, H. (Library); Kettler, H. (Library); Gray, N. (BUS); Stinga, P. (Math); Beard, J. (ISBA); Davis, S. (English).

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President-Elect Parsa at 3:31 p.m.

- a. Seating of Substitute Senators - As listed above, two substitute senators were seated.  
It was determined that quorum was present for this meeting.

**2. Consent Agenda**

- a. FS Agenda March 19, 2024 – [23/A/7]
- b. FS Minutes February 13, 2024 – [23/M/6]
- c. FS Docket Calendar – [23/C/7]

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

3. **Special Order: Immediate Access 2.0** - Heather Dean, Assistant Director, and Rita Phillips, Director, ISU Book Store

The following is a synopsis of the PowerPoint presentation given by Ms. Phillips and Ms. Dean:

- A course materials rental program began approx. 10 years ago, but is no longer active.
- Publishers continue to move toward production of digital media; the Bookstore now focuses on ‘course materials’ rather than books, *per se*.
- The current program provides course materials to students that are made available on the first day of class through Canvas. Since the start of the program, it is estimated that the program has saved students about \$10M; during the Fall 2023-Spring 2024 year, a savings of approx. \$2.5M was realized. Overall savings since the program began totals approx. \$19M.
- There is about a 97% participation rate in the program; students may opt-out of the program within the first 10 days of the semester and would receive refunds.
- Faculty make decisions about the kinds of resources provided: ~87% participate in the immediate access program, about 11% are for traditional printed materials, and ~2% are for “other” digital resources..
- Starting in Fall 2024, the second phase of the program will begin, Immediate Access 2 - “One price. One program, Day One Access” and will replace Immediate Access 1.
- It was emphasized that the amount charged to students IS NOT A FEE, but is the cost of participating in a ‘subscription program’. There will still be a textbook charge.
- The mission of this program ‘Making costs affordable and predictable for all undergraduate students. The benefits have direct student impact by being beneficial to have class materials available on day one of the semester.
- ***All of the technology needed to participate in the program can be found in Canvas.*** The \$259 flat-rate charge is assessed at the start of each semester and this finances all costs for class materials. For Winter and Summer sessions the fee is \$69. This helps by being a predictable expense for budgeting/financial aid calculation purposes, and includes the opt-out ability within the first 10 days of classes.
- Most media compatible with this program are in digital format; for some print books required there would be a need to source “hard copy” books if these were not available digitally. This includes lab manuals or course packets produced locally.
- Digital presence in the educational materials market from publishers is up and may surpass print books (currently about 50:50); older students tend to prefer printed books.
- Most participants state that the top two benefits of the program are that 1) it is “more convenient” and 2) “saves money”. Approximately 87% had Immediate Access for at least one course.
- Faculty can have impact in the process by adoption of specific textbooks or other reading materials; faculty are limited to adopting *only one textbook per course*, given the shared cost model based on financial relationships with publishers.
- The system is designed to adopt digital resources first; print versions can be adopted secondarily.

- It was noted that this subscription program is in alignment with goals of the current ISU Strategic Plan, and will continue to be following the program upgrade ‘Immediate Access -2’ beginning in the Fall 2024 semester.
- Sen. Wood stated he was not convinced that all students would save money through this program. It was reiterated that students could opt-out of the program up to the 10<sup>th</sup> day of classes and that the \$259 subscription program cost would be returned.
- It was asked why the program is “opt-out” rather than “opt-in”? The response was that if the latter format was used (opt-in) for program participation, the book publishers would no longer offer discounts, thereby making the program financially non-viable.

#### **4. Special Order: Athletics Council Election**

- Names of three candidates were received in advance of the meeting. A call for nominations from the floor yielded no further candidates to be added to the list. Each of the following candidates provided brief statements about why they wanted to serve on the Athletics Council: Jon Beard [ISBA], Sarah Davis [ENGL], and Pablo Stinga [MATH]. Written ballots were cast by senators, collected, and the results tabulated. It was later announced that Sarah Davis had been elected to be a representative on the Athletics Council

#### **5. Special Order: [23-21], [23-22]**

- a. Proposal to Rename the US Diversity Requirement Category [23-21] – Schieltz
  - Senator Schieltz explained that this action is in response the Board of Regents Diversity Equity Inclusion Directive Number 6 and that this was being considered as a Special Order due to the time sensitivity of this matter. It is proposed that the category name be changed from “U.S. Diversity” to ‘U.S. Cultures and Communities’. It was emphasized that this is only a name change of ‘category’ of degree requirements; none of the approved courses are changing and the review, acceptance, and maintenance of the list of approved courses are not changing in any way. The action is presented in the Special Order format such that adoption of this name change can be reported by President Wintersteen at the April meeting of the Board of Regents as one of the actions ISU is taking in compliance with the 10 Adopted Board of Regents DEI directives.
  - After some discussion, Sen. Reddy-Best opined that “cultures and communities is redundant” and proposed an amendment in the form of a motion: she proposed the name of the category be changed to ‘U.S. Cultural Diversity’; Sen. Butler seconded the motion. After brief discussion, a voice vote was conducted and the motion to amend was defeated. A voice vote to change the category name to the originally proposed “US Cultures and Communities” was adopted.
- b. Free Expression Syllabus Statement Proposal [23-22] – Schieltz
  - Similar to the action above, this is in response to Board of Regents DEI Directive 4b and the required syllabus statement will state that no person will be compelled to

disclose their personal pronouns; individuals may disclose their pronouns if they choose to. This syllabus statement will serve to provide clarity for syllabus-related operations in ISU course that are already currently done, and will protect instructors if issues are raised about course policies and pronoun use. President Wintersteen would also report this as another action of compliance with the Board of regents DEI Directives at the April Board of Regents meeting.

- Sen. Butler stated that she was concerned that the wording of this action may have the effect of “politicizing syllabi”.
- Sen Oberhauser has concerns about students for which gender identity and pronoun use are important and personally significant.
- Sen. Reddy Best stated she was not in favor of this action and urged senators to vote against it.
- With no further discussion, a voice vote was taken and President Elect Parsa could not determine success or failure of the motion based on this voice vote. A request to divide the house was received and a hand vote was taken, with 38 in favor of the motion and 20 against. The motion for the new syllabus statement was adopted.

## **6. Unfinished Business**

- a. Resolution to Support Student Voting on Election Day [23-16] – Kedrowski
  - Sen. Kedrowski reiterated her comments that the actions suggested in the current resolution being considered are recommendations; the resolution is being proposed with in enough time for faculty to plan Fall syllabi and course schedules to accommodate allowances for students to vote on election day.
  - Sen. Hornbuckle read the modifications proposed and agrees that it encourages students to make a plan for voting or to hold class asynchronously.
  - Sen. Smiley also agrees that students should be encouraged to develop a plan to vote
  - Sen. Fleming presented a motion (seconded) to delete the portion of the resolution to “hold class asynchronously”; a voice vote on this motion was defeated.
  - The body called the question on the original resolution, and by voice vote the resolution was adopted.
- b. Term Faculty FH Revisions (FH Sections: 3.3.2; 5.4.1.2; 5.4.1.3) [23-17] – Frank
  - Sen. Frank explained the recent amendments and updates, including those adopted in previous meetings. The ‘years in position’ was changed from 6 years to 7 years to be in alignment with Post Tenure Review of T/TE faculty.
  - Sen. Butler noted that there were still parts of these sections that were unclear and additional amendments to the proposed language are needed.
  - Sen. Smiley stated that two consecutive negative post tenure reviews triggers an action plan; making Term Faculty parallel to this process would be valuable.
  - Sen. Butler moved to postpone the vote on these FH revisions until the Faculty Senate meeting of April 9<sup>th</sup> to allow further revisions and discussion; a second

was received from Sen. Armstrong. The motion was adopted by voice vote without dissention.

## **7. New Business**

### **a. Minor in Applied Artificial Intelligence [23-18] – Schieltz**

- Sen. Schieltz introduced the proposal, and Past President Perkins was available to answer questions.
- Sen. Schaal asked about adding new courses to the Minor; Past President Perkins replied that adding courses would be addressed through the Minor’s Advisory Committee and would review and add relevant courses to the minor for courses submitted for consideration.
- Past President Perkins proposed a motion to waive the second reading of this proposal to have the degree adopted before the registration period for the Fall 2024 semester. Sen. Armstrong seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion to suspend the second reading was adopted by voice vote.

Absent further discussion on the main proposal, a voice vote was held and the proposal was adopted without dissent.

### **b. Undergraduate Certificate in Health Care Management [23-19] – Schieltz**

- Sen. Schieltz introduced the proposal for the undergraduate certificate.
- No questions or comments about the proposed certificate were received.
- The proposal will be continued on the April Faculty Senate Agenda for its second reading.

### **c. Name Change: Fashion Design and Merchandising [23-20] – Schieltz**

- Sen. Schieltz explained the proposal for changing the name of the current program in ‘Apparel Management’ to ‘Fashion Design and Merchandising. The new name follows trends in the field and will be more attractive to students looking for degree programs in this area.
- A motion was received from Sen. Reddy-Best, second by Sen. Bolser, to waive the second reading of this proposal. This motion was adopted by voice vote without dissention.
- Several brief comments were received about the name change proposal. A voice vote was held and the proposal was adopted without dissention.

## **8. Announcements**

### **a. Faculty Senate President – Bennett-George**

- President Bennett-George was unable to attend the meeting and was absent.

- b. Faculty Senate President-Elect - Parsa
  - The Spring Symposium on Artificial Intelligence “is all set” for this coming Thursday and that he is looking forward to everyone’s participation.
- c. Senior Vice President and Provost – Provost Wickert
  - Provost Wickert provided an update with respect to Grants and Contracts – Grants received this past year were in excess of \$250 which is \$58M more than the previous year, an increase of 30%. Congratulations and Thank You to those who were part of this external successful funding effort.
  - At the February Board of Regents meeting ISU reported that its administrative costs were generally lower than the other regent universities.
  - On Friday morning, March 15<sup>th</sup>, a burst-pipe “flood” and a fire occurred in the basement of Catt Hall. Similar basement flooding also occurred in the nearby Palmer Building. Clean-up and restoration are being facilitated as quickly as possible.
  - The LeBaron Hall re-build project will begin demolition of the existing building in a few more weeks; the building is being prepared for removal. The duration of the construction is anticipated to be about 2 years. As part of the construction, Morrill Road will be closed for most of the construction period.
- d. P&S Council – No report
- e. Student Government – No report
- f. Graduate and Professional Student Senate – No report

**9. Good of the Order**

- Sen. Frank noted that the Governance Council will be discussing amendments to [23-17] next week and senators should feel free to provide feedback and suggestions.
- Sen. Butler said she is taking a poll that asks for suggestions and ideas on what the future priorities should be for continuing with AI efforts related to its use and impact in academic activities.
- Sen. Olson related a story about his travels to Florida with the Ames High School Marching band and meeting ISU Students at Disney World. Given that they met ISU students there during this trip, it was determined that “it’s a small world!”!

**10. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 pm

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

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