

Faculty Senate Executive Council  
January 27, 2020  
MINUTES

Present: Joel Anderson, Misty Anderson, Ernest Bernard, Michael Kilbey, Laurie Knox, Alexander Lapins, Beauvais Lyons, Bruce MacLennan, David Manderscheid, Bonnie Ownley, Rebecca Prosser, Amadou Sall, Beth Schussler, Gary Skolits, Rob Spirko, Shawn Spurgeon, Anthony Welch, James Williams

Guests: Amy Broemmel (for David Patterson/Graduate Council), Lisa Yamagata-Lynch

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

G. Skolits called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the Executive Council meeting of November 4, 2019, were presented for approval. B. Lyons moved for approval, R. Prosser seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

## **III. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

### President's Report (G. Skolits)

G. Skolits welcomed everyone and explained that committee chairs were asked to prepare brief progress reports. At the 2019-2020 Faculty Senate Retreat, each committee chair was tasked to facilitate discussion amongst fellow committee members and set annual goals. These goals are reflected [here](#). Due to the start of the new semester, G. Skolits asked each committee chair for an update on what progress has been made so far, what goals have been met and what plans are in place for the Spring semester.

### Senate Committee 2019-2020 Progress Reports

Committee chairs discussed goals met and provided outlines for future plans of action.

### Provost's Report (D. Manderscheid)

D. Manderscheid provided an update. He reported that the Budget Allocation Model will be addressed at two sessions this week. Regarding ORI, there are 23 people on that committee. He explained that the committee will be meeting again Wednesday to discuss a draft white paper that will inform the next step in the process around the strategic vision. Regarding the Senate home location for meetings, the Provost is working with G. Skolits and R.J. Hinde (facilities), acknowledging that, for Senate leaders, the law school space is not ideal for the Senate meetings.

## **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

### Undergraduate Council (A. Welch)

A. Welch began by thanking the FSEC for being willing to hold an e-vote in order to expedite the approval process for more than 90 Vol Core courses. He explained that FSEC held its own e-vote in December, however members voted only to approve the list of Vol Core courses. Those courses were approved and sent to the full Senate for a vote on January 13 but the full minutes of the UG Council's November 21 e-vote include at least one other voting item from the General Education Committee. Therefore, a formal vote on the November 21 minutes is required in order to ensure that the full document is duly ratified. Additionally, the UG Council held another e-vote to approve roughly 50 more Vol Core courses on January 15, 2020.

Minutes of the Undergraduate Council e-vote meeting of November 21, 2019 and January 15, 2020, were presented for approval. M. Anderson moved for approval; B. Lyons seconded. Both minutes were unanimously approved.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

Elections Preview, Caucus Elections, Faculty Representative to the UT Faculty Council and to the UTK Advisory Board (G. Skolits)

There will be a Senate vote on candidates for two positions (the University Faculty Council - UFC and the UTK Advisory Board) in upcoming Faculty Senate meetings. Currently, there is one candidate for UFC, and two candidates for the UTK Advisory Board. At this time, Senate leadership are waiting to start on the analysis of the faculty survey. G. Skolits reported that a final reminder email was sent to faculty today and the cutoff date will be Friday. Additionally, a revision of the current Faculty Senate Bylaws, starting with the sections addressing each of the committees, will be made before the end of the semester. Finally, Senate Committee chairs, caucus chairs, and all senators are strongly encouraged to contact any of the senate leadership team members (current president, immediate past-president, and president-elect) regarding any issues, concerns, or suggestions.

Promotion and Tenure External Review Committee Report (G. Skolits)

Deferred to next meeting.

## **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Committee reports were approved unanimously.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

G. Skolits adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.