

**Minutes of Faculty Senate 3/20/17 Meeting  
123 Hathaway Hall**

**Senators**

Ibukun Amusan (Math & Sci)  
Ken Andries (AFE)  
Nancy Capriles (BSS)  
Rene Desborde (Business)  
Gary Elliott (WYS)  
Maheteme Gebremedhin (AFE)  
Caroline Gibson (FIAR)  
Cindy Glass (BSS)  
William Graham (EDU)  
Robert Griffin (FIAR)  
Buddhi Gywali (AFE)  
Dantrea Hampton (Library)  
Jens Hannemann (Comp Sci)  
Ashok Kumar (at large)  
Vikas Kumar (AQU)  
Li Lu (Math & Sci) A  
Patti Marraccini (Nursing)  
Rebecca McCoy (Nursing)  
Joe Moffett (LLP)  
Narayanan Rajendran (at large)  
Reba Rye (at large)  
Rita Sharma (Math & Sci)  
Kimberly Sipes (at large)

Peter Smith (LLP)  
Stephen Ulrich (PUA, CJ, SW)  
Changzheng Wang (at large)

**Ex Officio Members and Guests**

VPAA Candice Jackson  
Abdul Turay  
Mara Merlino  
Marlin McKay  
Tierra Freeman  
Roosevelt Shelton  
Erin Gilliam  
Christina Leath  
Marsh Frost  
Ron Chi  
Helen Smith  
Cary Nelson  
Shelia Stuckey  
Sharon McGee  
Staff Regent Derek Gilmore  
David Shabazz  
Will Reilly  
Rick Smith  
Regent Elaine Farris

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:12 pm. Sixteen senators were present.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as submitted.

3. Approval of minutes

The Minutes of the 2/13/2017 Faculty Senate meeting were passed with all in favor and one abstention.

The Minutes of the 2/20/2017 Faculty Senate meeting were passed with all in favor and one abstention.

Minutes for the full faculty meeting on 2/27/2017 will be reviewed at the next full faculty meeting according to VPAA Jackson.

#### 4. Faculty Senate President Report

##### a. Presidential Search / Board of Regents meeting

Faculty Senate President Sipes discussed the Board of Regents meeting last week. A new regent, Ron Banks, was sworn in and the Board voted 7-3 to offer the position of president to Dr. Brown.

##### b. Status of the vote of no confidence on the Board of Regents

President Sipes noted that for the second motion at the 2/27 meeting, among the first 16 votes were possibly 2 that were ineligible, and so those were set aside and Dr. Jackson provided the Registrar with a list of individuals who needed to revote. Those revotes will take place Monday, 3/20 and Tuesday, 3/21.

##### c. Completion of the vote of no confidence on the board chair, March 22-23.

Depending on the outcome of the revote, the second motion may be added to the first for a vote on Wednesday, 3/22 and Thursday, 3/23. All votes will be by secret ballot administered in the Registrar's office.

#### 5. Report of the Academic Policies Committee – Joe Moffett

Vice Chair Kumar had run APC's last meeting in Chair Moffett's absence. The committee sent forward 16-17.05 Administrative Withdrawal. Chair Moffett explained that this proposed policy could be used to strengthen the conversation between faculty and the Office of Educational Support. Many students persist on class rosters when they have stopped coming to class or have ceased to submit assignments. This policy would start a process that would attempt to get students back in class and delivering work. If a student didn't respond, then the policy could save student GPAs from unearned Fs which might impact a student's eligibility for financial aid. The Registrar asked if this proposed policy would interfere or overlap with her office's current reporting. Chair Moffett said he didn't think it would since its purpose would be to intervene with students and only when such intervention were unsuccessful to move on to withdrawing a student from a course.

A motion to add 10 minutes passed unanimously.

Dr. Erin Wheeler was asked if this policy would work. She said that she thought it would be helpful since it would formalize the efforts between her office and faculty. Documenting student cases would be important and EAB could be used for that purpose. She noted it might also help her office reinforce the importance of class attendance.

President Sipes noted there would need to be a procedure that goes along with the proposed policy. Chair Rye made a motion to accept the policy and have the committee work with Dr. Wheeler's office and the Registrar to come up with the procedure.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 6. Report of the Curriculum Committee – Ken Andries

CC Vice Chair Wang filled in for Chair Andries.

##### 16-17.31 BA in Sociology

Chair Glass explained that in the past there had been a BA in Sociology that was then revised to a BA in Social Sciences. Since Sociology is often a major chosen late in a student's career, this change would help students get on track earlier.

The item passed unanimously.

##### 16-17.32 Update Cross-list Subject Code for BSS

Changing the code will simplify preparing reports. The request came up during the Chairs' Council. A guest mentioned that this will help simplify the complicated problem of cross-listing courses in the division.

The item passed unanimously.

##### 16-17.33 BS in Psychology

This change is similar to Sociology. Dr. Freeman explained that Dr. Roosevelt Shelton had helped in getting the degrees in order. President Sipes asked what makes a degree a BA versus a BS. Dr. Shelton responded that it has to do with the number of elective hours (BA) compared to required courses (BS).

The item passed unanimously.

##### 16-17.34 Certificate in Music and Culture of the African Diaspora

Vice Chair Wang asked Dr. Shelton why this was being called a "short term" certificate, to which he responded that it is due to the fact that it is 12 hours. Discussion ensued on the point that several certificates had been passed by Senate this year, particularly from AFE, that were also 12 hours but they weren't termed "short-term." President Sipes observed that this program would align well with the university strategic plan. A guest asked if the courses in this certificate would substitute for IGS courses. Dr. Shelton said they would.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16-17.35 MUS 099 Fundamentals of Music to MUS 101 Basic Music Theory

Dr. Shelton explained that since the university has phased out remedial courses, this course need to be changed.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16-17.36 Minor in Music Industry and Production

Dr. Shelton observed that the program has had the courses for this 18 hour minor, but they were not organized in this way previously. They could be selected in BA framework, but not a minor.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16-17.37 Certificate in Music Industry and Production

This was another 12 hours certificate.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16.18.38 BA in Information Technology

Chair Shen noted this program would require no new classes.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16-17.39 Name Change PHI 330 and PHI 390

#### 16-17.40 Change in Minor in Philosophy and New Courses

Dr. Elliott explained that these changes included a number of alterations, including changing the focus of courses. There was concern about re-using existing course numbers. Senate Vice Chair Kumar pointed out that numbers cannot be used for more than one course and that Dr. Elliott should work with the Registrar to identify new numbers

All voted in favor of extending time for 20 minutes.

After further discussion, a motion carried to send the proposals back to committee.

#### 16-17.41 Change UNV 101 to KSU 101

#### 16-17.42 Change UNV 102 to KSU 102

#### 16-17.43 Create KSU 201

#### 16-17.44 Delete UNV 370, Create KSU 301

#### 16-17.45 Create KSU 401

Dr. Wheeler explained that the proposed changes all relate to executing a retention plan. KSU would be one of few universities that would have a success plan from first to last year. The

changes would allow for the tracking of students through their first year. In the past, 102 had been for transfer students. The upper level courses would be for zero credit and seminar based.

A guest noted that his major has mandatory courses for first year students; would students have to take both courses? Dr. Wheeler answered they would not, and that coordination would take place with programs across campus. President Sipes voiced concern about adding required courses since some majors are already packed with requirements and that this could increase their graduation requirements beyond 120 hours. A guest rebutted that only a few programs have so many hours that this would happen. Dr. Jackson observed that the second semester for first year students is crucial to make sure they return in the fall. Past President Smith questioned if SACSCOC would be on board with zero credit courses.

A motion to send the items back to committee passed with all in favor except one opposed.

#### 16-17.46 AFE Certificate in Environmental Measurements

This 14 hour certification would be part of the Environmental Systems program.

Time was extended by 10 minutes by a unanimous vote.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16-17.47 AFE Certificate in Geospatial Technology

This 12 hour certificate is a collaboration with COS and entails the sophisticated uses of maps and satellite images. There is increased demand for individuals with this background.

The item passed unanimously.

#### 16.17.48 AFE and DCS Minor in Geospatial Technology Application

This 18 credit hour minor could help to recruit more students. Certain industries require coursework in geospatial technology.

The item passed unanimously.

### 7. Report of the Budget and Academic Support Committee – Reba Rye

Chair Rye explained that the committee had no action item. It did express non-support of bringing back dean positions, but was asking for input from faculty. The dean structure was eliminated with the encouragement of Senate during the presidency of Burse.

At its last meeting, BASC discussed the possibility of the Senate Executive Committee meeting with the Board of Regents, but members of BASC registered their opposition. Chair Rye reported that members were adamant on this point.

Chair Rye noted some faculty members have said they don't have enough data about the finances of the university, although some of that data is available in the Senate documents that have been sent out with meeting notices. Consultant Dr. Nelson noted that HBCUs spend less on instruction and more on student support. BASC is going back to look at benchmark institutions to compare. This information includes IPEDS data for June of 2015 and 2016.

#### 8. Report of the Professional Concerns Committee – Cindy Glass

Chair Glass reported that PCC continues to work on Tenure and Promotion revisions. The committee has finalized a new evaluation instrument for faculty. It has been given to Dr. Jackson, who forwarded it to chairs. President Sipes clarified that this is the first step in revising the guidelines. Chair Glass confirmed that point and said PCC is still working on the *Faculty Handbook*.

#### 9. Faculty Regent Report

Faculty Regent McFayden reported that a new Regent was installed at the last Board Meeting: Ron Banks. A vote was taken, 7-3, to offer a contract to Dr. Brown as the new KSU President. Vice Chair Wang asked when the new president would start. Regent McFayden said he didn't know; contract negotiation is going on now. President Sipes added that Dr. Thompson's contract ends on 6/30. Regent McFayden noted that historically there has been an overlap, usually a month or so, so that the outgoing president can work with the incoming president.

#### 10. Other Business

A senator noted that he had been receiving phone calls from alums who were concerned about the upcoming vote of confidence. They wanted to know what he was doing about the issue. He had been trying to concentrate on his teaching and not become involved in the vote. He has asked what Senate could do to rectify the issues, but there have been no answers. Recruitment has proven difficult under these circumstances. He asked if there could be a motion to nullify the motion to take a vote. President Sipes replied that Senate doesn't have the authority to overturn what the full faculty has decided. He then asked if Senate could rescind the motion that had sent the question to the whole faculty, but President Sipes reiterated that once the full faculty has made a decision, Senate alone cannot overturn it.

A guest noted that according to Robert's Rules a motion can be rescinded if there is a 2/3 vote. A different guest asked if would be possible to call a faculty meeting for tomorrow at 11 to discuss the motion. Past President Smith noted that state law says a body cannot call a meeting for business with less than 24 hours' notice.

A senator asked that since Senate doesn't have the authority to rescind the vote, can it pass a motion to urge faculty to vote confidence? There was no clear answer to the question. A guest asked if the vote could be delayed. Past President Smith noted that too would take a vote of the full faculty.

The guest then asked how it was known who still had to complete the second vote. It was noted that Dr. Jackson had a list of those who had voted. She added that the problem was that hires had been made that bypassed her office and so the list was not complete at the time.

A senator argued that anything is possible with regard to the vote, but expressed frustration with the actions Senate has taken. He asserted that the VPAA could stop the whole vote if she wished.

President Sipes confirmed with Dr. Nelson that AAUP doesn't have a formal protocol for votes of confidence. Dr. Nelson observed that since there aren't codified procedures for such votes, there is a great deal of flexibility.

A guest observed that since the vote was scheduled for this week, there is an issue of having enough time to discuss the issues. We want to be sure the integrity of the vote is beyond reproach.

Chair Rye pointed out that the full faculty voted overwhelmingly to proceed with vote #1 and one vote wouldn't change that since it was 42-28. While it may be the case that individuals have changed their minds, that could be reflected in how they vote. Good work has gone into Dr. Nelson's report, but it doesn't change the concerns.

A guest echoed Chair Rye's point, noting that voters can vote for confidence, or abstain.

Dr. Nelson was asked if he spoken to any other Board members aside from the Faculty Regent and the Chair. He replied that he hadn't, and he spoke only to those who sought him out. Regent Farris replied that she is a Board member and she is concerned with the report and that he hadn't reached out to the rest of the Board. President Sipes asked who paid for this report. Regent Farris said she would like to know as well since it hadn't been approved by the Board. She suggested that faculty go ahead with the vote.

Dr. Jackson noted that Dr. Nelson's visit was arranged very quickly and an agenda had to be made based on certain individuals' schedules. The one thing she has asked for throughout this process is that everyone be fair. During faculty meetings she speaks only when she feels compelled to do so. She expressed concern that the list of grievances disseminated at the 2/27/17 full faculty meeting weren't signed or dated. She said the statements made against the Board Chair were scandalous and had made a mockery of the institution and the faculty. She noted that the Registry consultant had drafted a rebuttal to the list of grievances, which she then passed out in hard copies.

Dr. Nelson added that some salary raises were based on legal actions that couldn't be discussed publicly. He also pointed out that there had been equity raises for contingent faculty. President Sipes responded that no one disagrees with those.

A guest asked who sets the budget, to which response was made that it is the President. President Sipes noted, however, that the Board approves the budget. Chair Rye added that some

raises were in the 20-30% range—something the Board should have considered. President Sipes observed that the Board Chair sets the agenda.

A quorum was lost at 5:22pm.

Assistant General Counsel Christina Leath asked the Minutes to reflect that the loss of quorum does not mean a meeting is automatically over. It was pointed out that no new business could be conducted.

Dr. Roosevelt Shelton read a resolution declaring the establishment of the Faculty Caucus of Color. Among its statements were the lack of faculty of color, which has led to the marginalization of minority faculty. This is particularly troubling given the institution's HBCU status, and the resolution noted that "faculty with similar backgrounds provide stronger role models." The resolution called upon the Board and administration to make deliberate efforts to recruit more diverse faculty and to therefore strengthen their voice on campus, especially as it relates to issues such as shared governance. A guest suggested more members of FCC should join Senate next year to improve the situation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe Moffett, Faculty Senate Secretary

[Unanimously approved, as distributed, at the 5/1/2017 Faculty Senate Meeting]