

# Kentucky State University Faculty Senate Minutes

February 26, 2018

	<u><b>SENATORS</b></u>	<u><b>UNIT</b></u>	<u><b>Ex Officio Members &amp; Guests</b></u>
	<u>Amusan, Ibukun</u>	<u>Math &amp; Science</u>	Wilfred Reilly
	<u>Andries, Kenneth</u>	<u>AFE</u>	Mara Merlino
	<u>Desborde, Rene</u>	<u>Business</u>	John Sedlacek
<b>A</b>	<u>French, Asha</u>	<u>LLP</u>	Bruce Griffis
	<u>Gebremedhin, Maheteme</u>	<u>AFE</u>	David Shabazz
<b>A</b>	<u>Gibson, Caroline</u>	<u>Fine Arts</u>	Tamara Sluss
	<u>Gilliam, Erin</u>	<u>BSS</u>	Elgie McFayden
	<u>Griffin, Robert</u>	<u>Fine Arts</u>	Cynthia L. Shelton
<b>E</b>	<u>Gyawali, Buddhi</u>	<u>AFE</u>	Kim Sipes
	<u>Hampton, Dantrea President</u>	<u>Library</u>	Kirk Pomper
<b>A</b>	<u>Hannemann, Jens</u>	<u>Computer Science</u>	James Obielodan
	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>AQU</u>	
	<u>Lu, Li</u>	<u>Math &amp; Science</u>	
<b>E</b>	<u>Marraccini, Patti</u>	<u>Nursing</u>	
	<u>McKay, Marlin</u>	<u>Fine Arts</u>	
<b>A</b>	<u>Rajendran, Narayanan</u>	<u>At-Large (MASC)</u>	
	<u>Ramon, Donavan</u>	<u>Whitney Young</u>	
	<u><b>VACANT</b></u>	<u>BSS</u>	
	<u>Rye, Reba Secretary</u>	<u>At-Large (FA)</u>	
	<u>Sharma, Rita</u>	<u>Math &amp; Science</u>	
	<u><b>VACANT</b></u>	<u>At Large</u>	
	<u>Smith, Peter Vice-President</u>	<u>LLP</u>	
	<u>Ulrich, Stephen</u>	<u>PUA, Social Work</u>	
<b>A</b>	<u>Cynthia L. Williams</u>	<u>Nursing</u>	
	<u>Vedder, Catherine</u>	<u>LLP</u>	
<b>A</b>	<u>Walston, Herman</u>	<u>Education</u>	
<b>A</b>	<u>Wang, Changzheng</u>	<u>At-Large (AFE)</u>	

The eleventh regularly scheduled meeting of the AY 2017-18 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:23 pm on Monday, February 26, 2018, Hathaway Hall 123. The agenda was approved with no amendments, minutes of the February 12, 2018 regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting were approved with no amendments, and minutes of the special Faculty Senate meeting of February 20, 2018 were approved with no amendments.

Secretary Rye pointed out interim Parliamentarian Wang was not present and Senate needed a Parliamentarian for the meeting to proceed. Senator Marlin McKay volunteered to act as Parliamentarian, and Senate approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### **Senate President Report:**

President Hampton reminded Senate she had shared analysis of Senate Bill I (teacher retirement system) with faculty, attached to meeting notice. She reached out to KTRS staff for their opinion but has not yet heard back.

A Senator reminded faculty that teachers in West Virginia have closed down most schools with a strike for pay negotiations.

President Hampton reminded those who were not able to attend the Special Session Faculty Meeting that Senate had voted to return to the academic schedule in place two years ago that was not in conflict with SACS instructional contact hour requirements, with two exceptions. Finals for FY19 Spring semester will be Monday – Thursday, with no reading day and Friday Commencement. The Academic Calendar creation policy was reaffirmed and APC was directed to re-submit.

#### **Curriculum Committee:**

Chair Andries reported the Curriculum Committee did not have a quorum on Monday but discussed and voted electronically to bring forward:

**FSCC 17-18-11** : Create a B.A. option for the Chemistry degree program. This will allow more student access to STEM degrees while creating a flexible option for students interested in chemistry but pursuing career paths other than post-graduate study in Chemistry, such as a health career professional or chemical engineer. (Verbatim as written)

Extensive discussion and debate ensued. This action item was brought forward previously and sent back to committee. An advocate Senator said this is intended as a “pre-professional” degree option with elective options that are not pre-set to allow for directed study.

A Biology non-Senator argued the sole component that sets this degree apart is two less Chemistry classes and suggested Chemistry should retain the intention of preparing students “professionally”.

A counter argument was that Western Kentucky University and Eastern Kentucky University have similar B.A. degrees in Chemistry. The Biology professor argued that the proposed B.A. Chemistry overlapped to a significant degree with the B.S. in Biology with the potential of “diluting” both options. The argument was presented that the Division of Math Science needs to work together to create viable degrees instead of unilaterally and the contention was made that currently Chemistry has on average about 2 graduates per year while Biology has 12-15.

Chair Andries pointed out that Chemistry is trying to address recognized needs. Biology faculty desire a “combined degree” that does not overlap and compete but is collaboratively designed.

A non-Senator inquired of the opinion of the Divisional Chair, Dr. Bigdeli. Chair Andries said she had signed and approved the action item. The Biology professor contended the degree should set requirements for specific desired professional pursuits instead of offering a list of electives.

Senate voted an extension of time for 10 minutes with one abstention.

A Senator inquired if a B.A. in a science field holds value in professional work. Chair Andries said that it is conceivable that a B.A. in Chemistry could be a desirable complement to a Law Degree, or pre-pharmacy, but he questioned the concept of a B.A. in a science discipline. The argument was again made that WKU and EKU have B.A. degrees in Science disciplines.

A Senator questioned the lack of specificity of directed classes for desired professional directions and students need more advisement in that area.

A non-Senator raised the possibility of cross-listing for such a degree and more collaboration within the Division.

The issue of CPE approval per “new degree” classification and CIP degree code per number of graduates was raised and discussed. A non-Senator said that if the change is less than 25% of the curriculum approval is at the University level and does not need CPE approval.

Deputy Provost Sipes pointed out that when some degree programs recently changed from B.A. to B.S., for an indication of “professional” status, the change did not have to go to CPE. A Senator pointed out in most of those cases there was no change to the curriculum but just change from B.A. to B.S. The Biology faculty member said the Division should work toward a double major in Chemistry and Biology instead of two competing degrees. A B.A. requires a minimum of 20 hours in specified discipline while a B.S. requires 30%. (B.A. must be 25-30% in major discipline)

Dean Shelton said that somewhere, she was not sure where, there is policy that there should be a way to complete a B.A. if the student cannot take the B.S. option. The Biology professor said that the student can fulfill that option in Biology already.

Motion to extend time for vote was passed by voice vote with one abstention.

A friendly amendment was accepted to table and send back to committee. Motion passed by voice vote. Chair Andries recorded that one non-Senator voted. Senate Secretary requested a show of hands instead of voice vote and motion passed by 11 aye, 1 no and 1 abstention.

#### **Academic Policy Committee:**

Chair Gebremedhin brought forth:

**FSAPC 17-18-08:** The changes will bring the 2018-2019 calendar in line with current policy.

This action item includes all of which was approved at Special Faculty Meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Approved by voice vote with one abstention.

### **FSAPC 17-18-09: 2019-2020 Academic Calendar**

Approved by voice vote with one abstention.

President Hampton thanked the committee for work over the weekend to bring forth these necessary action items.

#### **Professional Concerns Committee:**

PCC did not meet due to confusion of calendar but voted via email to elect Dr. Buddhi Gyawali Chair to replace Wilfred Reilly who left Senate to assume position as University Ombudsman.

#### **Budget & Academic Support:**

Chair Rye reported that while the BASC is yet to receive budgetary data on personnel salaries, as approved by President Brown, they are optimistic because Greg Rush (former VP of Finance) has been re-employed as Special Assistant to the President and he has committed to providing the data as requested. He was the contact person for the two years in which BASC received such data. President Brown was a party to the conversation and authorized Rush to do so.

She reported that there has been an initial meeting of the appointed committee to conduct a salary equity study for staff/administration and faculty. She is appointed as lead for the faculty equity research and will keep Senate and faculty updated on progress. Data will be collected over the next two weeks and the committee will meet again on March 27<sup>th</sup>, after Spring Break. Retired Professor and Special Assistant to the President Dr. Gus Ridgel is chairing the committee. She will advocate for comparisons with other state funded universities in Kentucky, other schools of similar size, other HBCU's with Land-Grant status, and CPU 2011-12 benchmarks. The committee recognizes the exceptional status and salaries of Land Grant faculty who devote a maximum of 25% of appointment to teaching. Additional comparisons of equity across campus will consider unit, division, group, length of service and rank, including part-time, adjunct, retired part-time, visiting, and artist-in-residence positions.

Time was extended five minutes with one abstention.

The committee decided what to include in the BASC report as part of President Hampton's report to the Board of Regents. The submitted report reiterated BASC's offer to forward past studies and budget comparisons on request, and points out the disparity between the target for Instructional spending in the KSU state budget request (22% by FY20) and the will of Senate per FSBASC 16-17-01 and 02 of graduated increases to target 30% over the five-year strategic plan. BASC will continue to advocate for significant increases in the percentage of KSU's budget invested in Instruction. One argument for this disparity with all other comparison groups, that has been advocated over four administrations, is claimed inaccurate and inconsistent coding and entries. If this is a problem BASC welcomes these corrections in this administration.

Chair Rye projected a 2016 chart that was given BASC by former President Burse and had been presented to him by legislators. It shows, at that time, the cost per graduate at KSU was exceptionally higher than all other state funded institutions. KSU \$17,649; UK \$9,537; UL \$7,477; MoSU \$5,709; MuSU \$5,427; ECU \$5,030; WKU \$4,724; NKU \$4,148. A non-Senator observed that UK was the second highest and it too is a Land Grant institution and this could be driving up the numbers. Rye said that is a good observation and it would be good to find out if Land Grant is factored in, but it still looks

disproportionately high even considering economy of scale, and this is data that legislators are looking at.

**Board meeting:**

President Hampton reminded committee members and Senators to consider what we want her to present the KSU Board of Regents at the Thursday quarterly meeting.

**Other:**

University Ombudsman Reilly reported dossiers of candidates for Tenure and Promotion were at the beginning of the previous week in Academic Affairs and are now with President Brown for his review.

His understanding is that letters will be sent to candidates that breaks down assessment and reasons for either approval or denial. He reported Provost Thomas was out and in the hospital for two weeks with the flu.

He said President Thomas questioned the policy of tenured faculty signing annual contracts. He also emphasized that policy is not always followed. A Senator pointed out that under the Sias administration policy was followed and the Burse administration set in place the impression that policy does not have to be adhered to.

Time was extended for 10 minutes with two nay votes.

Reilly pointed out that there has been rapid turnover in administration that has contributed to confusion regarding policy. He said the goal is to have dates everyone can depend on for the Tenure and Promotion process.

Secretary Rye suggested that annual workshops/training for both faculty and administrators is called for in policy and adherence to that practice would help.

Vice-President Peter Smith inquired of the distinguished professor. Deputy Provost Sipes suggested that the planned monthly meetings between senate leadership and Provost Thomas would be a good place to bring this up. She has been talking with Thomas about getting it on the 5 year calendar plan.

A Senator asked about software to reserve rooms and facilities across campus. Ombudsman Reilly will relay that suggestion to administration.

A non-Senator inquired of announcements for deadlines of annual convocation awards ceremony. Deputy Sipes said that is usually forthcoming the first part of April.].

**Announcements:**

As part of the March 28<sup>th</sup> Career Expo students will be offered professional headshots and faculty should spread the word to students.

Blazing off the Pounds will be tomorrow, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 11-1 p.m.

Senate adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Minutes Submitted by: Reba Rye, Faculty Senate Secretary