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Meeting Minutes

Faculty Senate

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10-11-2022

**October 11, 2022**

University of Mississippi. Faculty Senate

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# The University of Mississippi

## Faculty Senate

### Meeting Minutes

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This meeting was held on October 11, 2022 @ 6:00PM via Zoom. Details appear at the end of the document.

**Senators present:** Dan Durkin (Chair), Melissa Cinelli, George McClellan, Sasan Nouranian, Annalise Caudle, Carrie Smith, Shari Holt, Zenebe Beyene, Joe Sweeney, Bob Barnard, Brian Boutwell, Heather Allen, Cole Stevens, R.J. Morgan, Nadeeja Wijayatunga, Hans Sinha, Chad Russell, Louise Arizzoli, Burhanettin Keskin, Scott MacKenzie, John Lobur, Enrique Cotelo, John Berns, Christy Nielson, Elliot Hutchcraft, Melissa Bass, Simone Delerme, Joel Mobley, KoFan Lee, Andre Liebenberg, Joshua First, Carolyn Higdon, Jon-Michael Wimberly, Joseph Carlisle, Lance Yarbrough, Angela Green, Brian Reithel, Brad Jones, Kerry Bowers

Not present/excused: Alex Watson

- The Chair welcomed the members and called the meeting to order.
  - Minutes - The Chair made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on September 13, 2022. Several members of the Faculty Senate commented on the content and format of the minutes. The Chair suggested tabling the minutes pending revision and indicated that they would be voted on at the next Faculty Senate meeting, to be held on November 8, 2022.
  - Service on Committees - The Chair indicated that there were several Faculty Senate committees that needed participants. He discussed the importance of recent work on several committees and encouraged voluntary service but indicated that he would assign members to the various committees if it proved necessary.
- New Items
  - Revised Grievance Policy – The Chair indicated that the Revised Grievance Policy was to be voted on that evening, and said he received some emails suggesting editorial changes. Several members voiced concerns regarding the changes and asked for additional time to review and share these changes with their departments before putting the Policy to a vote. A motion to table the vote was made and seconded. Carrie Smith of the Governance Committee, which drafted the policy, cautioned that time was a factor, as the current policy gave faculty only 5 days to file a grievance. The Chair circulated a survey to table the vote; the result was 23 for and 16 against, a 59%

majority. The vote was tabled until the next meeting. In the interim, the Chair agreed to circulate a version of the policy that showed the changes from old to new.

- Hood Award – After the previous meeting, the Chair received several emails from people who were concerned by Josh Elyer’s report regarding the Chancellor’s decision not to create an award for Non-Tenure-Track faculty. Both the Faculty Senate and the ASB have passed resolutions indicating the need for such an award, and the GSC is set to pass a similar resolution soon. The EC suggested meeting with the chair of the Hood selection committee to discuss next steps. Shari Holt commented that Josh’s report didn’t reflect that the committee had any awareness of the resolutions the FS had previously passed. The Chair agreed to send an email containing all three resolutions to the members for review.
- Health Insurance Premium Increase – Employees of the University expressed dismay recently upon discovering that their health insurance in 2023 was subject to a considerable increase. Both the premium (+6%) and the deductible (+\$300) will be affected. The Chair suggested inviting the plan’s administrator, Pamela Johnson, to the next meeting to discuss the issue.

- Updates

- UFSAM – The Chair will bring up the recent Health Insurance increases at the next meeting of UFSAM.
- Joint Governing Body – The Chair emphasized the importance and significance of the FS’s close relationship with the ASB and stressed that it should be developed even further to the benefit of both.
- COIA – The Council on Intercollegiate Athletics is a work in progress; it is still under development.
- SEC Faculty Senates – The Chair met with the President of this nascent organization, and she agreed to serve as its Chair.
- IHL Policy Changes – The Senate Working Group has put a stopgap policy in place for the time being to ensure that all faculty up for promotion have a statement ensuring their professionalism and compliance with the IHL’s new conduct requirements. This is an ongoing issue, the Chair suggested, and it will be addressed at every FS meeting for the foreseeable future. The policy has far-reaching consequences for future faculty, so its language must be refined for their protection.

- Committee Updates

- Academic Conduct (Interim Chair: John Lobur) – Nothing to report.
- Academic Instructional Affairs (Chair: Alex Watson) – Absent; nothing to report.

- Development & Planning (Chair: Vacant) – Nothing to report.
- Finance & Benefits (Chair: Joseph Carlisle) – Mentioned the Health Insurance increase.
- Governance (Chair: Carrie Smith) – Reiterated the need to pass the Revised Grievance Policy, and mentioned that this committee had other important work to complete in the future.
- Research & Creative Achievement (Chair: Vacant) – Nothing to report.
- University Services (Chair: Heather Allen) – Nothing to report.
- Old Business
  - There was no old business.
- New Business
  - George McClellan mentioned a public incident that occurred on television, during which a University Staff Member appeared to lay hands on a student out of anger or frustration. He inquired whether this was an issue to be dealt with by the Faculty Senate. Noel Wilkin stated that this incident would fall under the purview of personnel, although the faculty member could also report the incident to the UPD.
  - The Chair mentioned that he thought it was a good idea to have a social event for the Faculty Senate so that its members could get to know each other better. He said it would likely be some time in December.
- Adjournment
  - Motion
    - Seconded
      - The meeting was adjourned at 6:53PM on October 13, 2022.

*These minutes were taken by Kerry Bowers. Zoom information appears on the following page.*

Daniel Durkin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Faculty Senate Meeting October 11, 2022

Time: Oct 11, 2022 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

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