

Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 11/15/23)

Session 5

Wednesday November 1, 2023 (Student Center - Ballroom B)
3:15-5:15 pm

Attending: Corsianos, Pressley-Sanon, Nelson, Judd, Brewer, Elton, Krish, Neufeld, Welsh, Dieterle, Ovidiu, Foster, Pawlowski, McIntyre, Simoes, Gray, Millán-Serna, Spragg, Walsh, Bushinki, Brock, Barton, Flowers, Lee, Carpenter, Ferdousi, McCleary, Bcker, Marino, Fields (Guest), Longworth (Guest)

I. **Call to Order -3:23 pm**

II. **Approval of the Agenda 11/01/2023**

Motion – Pressley-Sannon ; Second - McIntyre – all in favor, 0 no, 0 abstain

III. **Approval of the Minutes: [10/18/2023](#)**

Motion - Soltani; Second - **Pressley-Sanon Pressley - all yes, 0 no, 1 abstain**

IV. **Open Forum**

At the last Faculty Senate meeting, concerns related to the use/role of generative AI (genAI) in the classroom were raised by the English department faculty. Following up on this, Suzanne Gray shared an update from the Academic Issues (AI) Committee. The AI Committee reviewed EMU's current approach to classroom policy regarding genAI, which differs by class depending on the instructor as opposed to one university-wide policy. The AI Committee believes that this is appropriate and aligns with what other universities are doing, and recommends that individual instructors be allowed to determine their class policies on genAI; however, the AI Committee also stressed the importance of providing faculty with resources to assist with creating classroom policies related to genAI. They recommended to FDC that it create some resources for faculty regarding policy options, as well as making a university-wide announcement encouraging students to check their course's policies regarding the use of genAI.

The provost said that her office would be sending a message out to students to check their syllabus for policies. They will also offer links for faculty in the email that's typically sent before the following semester with recommended and required syllabus language.

V. **Appointments and Elections (Elton) (3:20 pm)**

A. DPS committee - Monthly integrity testing of gun detection technology

FSEB Appointments -

Marilyn Corsianos, SAC (CAS)

Jessica Elton, CMTA (CAS)

Bill Welsh, G&G (CAS)

Nomination from the floor: Ovidiu Calin

Nominations – [Nominee Information](#)

Frank J. Fedel, HPHP (CHHS)

Tareq Khan, School of Engineering (CET)

Michael Switzer, Health Sciences (CHHS)

Ovidiu Calin, Math and Statistics (CAS)

Unanimously approved the slate

B. Vacancies:

1. Gen Ed Subcommittee on Assessment – [Nomination Form](#)
Gen Ed knowledge of discipline in Quantitative Reasoning – 1 Faculty Member
Gen Ed knowledge of discipline in Natural Science - 1 Faculty Member
2. University Budget Committee (UBC) - [Nomination Form](#)
CAS (Sciences) – 1 Faculty Member
3. Faculty Senate Budget and Resource Committee (FSBRC) - [Nomination Form](#)
CAS (Sciences) – 1 Faculty Member
4. Educational Environment and Facilities Planning Committee - [Nomination Form](#)
COE - 1 Faculty member

VI. **Photographer to take picture of the FS (3:30pm to 3:45pm)**

[Photos available in Senate shared drive](#)

VII. **. Discussion**

A. Provost's Update (3:45 pm-4:20 pm)

- ***General Education Review***

Provost shared a handout ([see attached](#)) that outlines the 3-year plan for Gen Ed review, noting that as the process continues, Faculty Senate will be more and more involved in the process. The years run according to the calendar year (December-December).

Year 1 – (December 2023-December 2024) FDC will be guiding these--reading, discussion groups, speakers, etc.--about the major issues related to gen ed and the value of a 4-year degree. These will be open to anyone on campus and are more discussion groups. Keep an eye out for FDC announcements regarding these.

Year 2 - Gathering and examining feedback from key constituencies.

Year 3 - Committee formation and formal input process; Faculty Senate will appoint members to the committee and will have a role in shaping the plan and implementation.

-teaching modalities

-[FS input on Course modality definitions](#)

Has some additions to this list and is writing a memo to share with Faculty Senate

-[Cluster hire proposals \(handout\)](#)

11 total submissions that were ranked on a scale from 1-5 (3.5 was the average rating). Submissions culminated around 15 themes and involved 23 departments; six have been approved to move forward in the process, others were not approved at this time (either need to go through DEI training or need to develop the proposals more—not getting approved now doesn't mean these cannot be submitted in the future); will keep us informed as the process moves forward.

Hiring cycle may depend on the types of positions requested (and approved) in the clusters—may coincide with the regular hiring cycle (in Fall 2024) but may not. Some of the proposals are for new interdisciplinary programs and others are not (cluster hire in one department).

Turnaround for those that have been approved for the next round of review is fairly quick (may be end of November), but all who submitted proposals have been informed of the Provost Office's decisions. The Provost's Office would like to fund as many of these as possible, particularly because it may improve or facilitate interdisciplinarity.

Long-term goal is to continue this and use successful past proposals as models for future proposals. Eventually, there may be invited proposals, but as this initiative begins, proposals will be open. Much of this will be based on enrollment trends.

Discussion – some concern about interdisciplinarity and how it works at EMU, which makes delivering true interdisciplinary programs challenging.

Question: When will searches begin: depends on the request. Some that incorporate staff and lecturers might move faster. Appointments that cross departments will need to involve discussions with EMU-AAUP. Some disciplines have more flexibility in search times than others. Failed searches will be reconsidered on a case by case basis.

Question: What will the discussion with the union involve? Can hire with a single tenure home within the current contract. Can't speak to whether joint appointments would be a possibility until these conversations occur. Just now getting into the details.

Question: Will all 6 get funded? Likely more than one, but not all 6.

Question: When are full applications due? Believe it is the end of November.

Question: When would they be approved? Targeting the end of this semester.

Provost is enthusiastic about these proposals. Moving toward supporting more interdisciplinarity.

Question: How will we address resource struggles for current interdisciplinary programs? Provost feels this is a step in the right direction.

Question: Assigning credit hour production is an area of concern. How will this be addressed? Need to have further discussions with the union about employment issues related to this.

-textbook and course materials disclosure ([presentation](#)) – Doris Fields

The Higher Ed Opportunity Act requires universities to publicly post all materials that will be required of students in courses. Required to post these before each semester begins. Due to buyouts and changes in bookstore ownership, we have struggled with compliance with this mandate. We have to make a good faith effort to comply. During the pandemic, adherence to this law lapsed (there were issues with the bookstore, including the inability to mail materials to students and turnover of staff), but it's necessary to reestablish adherence to this rule.

EMU will return to an in-house system for compiling and posting materials. Winter semester will be the last time the bookstore process is used.

We must list any materials that are required for students. The concern is students' ability to get affordable materials, and posting information early enables more options for finding affordable course materials. There will be multiple options for submitting course materials information.

Books are listed by CRN number. Each section needs to submit their requests for textbooks.

Senator statement: Problems with bookstore getting books on time. Problems acknowledged. May need to identify a different vendor. Bookstore is not in a good financial state.

Question: Can the textbook submission process be streamlined? Will work on this

Email questions to Jessica Elton or Marilyn Corsianos and they'll share questions with the Provost during the next FS leadership meeting

Discussion - Concerns about the bookstore and how their ordering process hinders student access to books; creating our own list of student materials/books means we will be able to share this list widely (we can share this list with local vendors, as well)

-Academic Calendar – starting work on these, and in future academic calendars, there is room to build in a week-long fall break; Fall breaks are driven by the cycle of mental health for students, which reaches a high point around midterm. Proposed calendars will be brought before FS, and there will likely be creating calendars for four years (past what's already been scheduled/approved).

VII. Guest: (4:20 pm - 4:45 pm)

- A. Faculty Senate Committee for Implementation of Campus Survey on Sexual Misconduct Recommendations (PowerPoint)
(formerly "FS Title IX Research Implementation Committee")- (Simoes and Corsianos)

EMU has settled the sexual misconduct lawsuit, although details are not known. The new Title IX Coordinator will be attending the next FS meeting, and Simoes and Corsianos shared a presentation to review the committee's recommendations. The presentation highlighted the recommendations deemed most important by the committee; however, the university has done very little to implement any of the recommendations. Committee is looking for new members, and there will be a formal call for new members for the committee. Committee will be pursuing grants to help with the implementation of their recommendations.

Specific recommendations were made by the Faculty Senate Committee for Implementation of Campus Survey on Sexual Misconduct Recommendations.

3 priorities that have not yet been implemented

-required class on sexual violence for all EMU students

-required training on sexual violence every semester for all students (current outsourced offering for this is insufficient)

-Create a center, called the Sexual Assault Prevention and Survivor Support Center to specifically address prevention and support.

The Title IX office was renamed, but did not incorporate the recommendations of the committee.

Current training module can be circumvented and still receive certificate of completion.

Recommendations have been shared with the Title IX office.

Question: Is it useful to make students repeat the same training module over and over again? This was not the recommendation of the committee.

Statement from Senator: universities don't want the optics of having a center labeled in this way because they don't want to advertise that this is a reality.

Statement from Senator: disturbing that the Title IX office was renamed, as it does not provide survivor focused support

Discussion – EMU, like many campuses, doesn't want to confront that there's a problem. Frustration about the administration's lack of action regarding the recommendations

VIII. Old Business -

Association of Governing Boards consultant on shared governance Dr. Steven Bahls

Kathy Stacey has reached out to Dr. Steven Bahls who has agreed to work with Faculty Senate leadership, AHR, BOR, and other administrators (including Mike Valdes, who agreed to participate at the last senate meeting); FSEB will keep the Faculty Senate membership informed of the progress on this.

IX. New Business (4:45-5:15 pm)

a. Committee Reports:

Budget and Resources (Carpenter)

FSBRC is working on closing up their report from last year. Since the FSBRC started making recommendations (about 7 years ago), of the 61 recommendations they've made, only 3 have been implemented. The committee is trying to work through what that means moving forward. Received some questions from FS reps, and Carpenter has followed up with Carroll regarding those. In particular, received clarity about what the "other" category was. It's anything that isn't academic affairs (DPS, president's office, etc.)

Also addressed what Valdes said about the role of UBC in the Centrio deal. The UBC is refusing to meet in subcommittees based on the lack of consideration of previous recommendations. The UBC has requested to meet with the president to address the lack of consultation with the UBC, which is a committee that reports directly to the president. That meeting will happen on Monday (11/6).

Academic Issues (Gray)

Shared [approved minutes](#) from the 10/23 meeting. There's no data on how widely used hy-flex rooms are, so until the university has data, they're putting a hold on creating more of these. Rooms are currently controlled by the colleges in which they're situated for scheduling. Those classes scheduled for hy-flex modality will be automatically scheduled in these rooms. Usage data is now being generated.

Knack – there has been an increase in the use of online tutoring, and McFarland is looking at other online platforms for online tutoring. Because the Knack contract will be ending soon, the university will have to decide what to do (renew or seek another platform).

Also previewed some of the work the AI Committee will be doing in upcoming meetings.

Graduate Council (McCleary)

Tabled until next meeting

Committee for Action on Intersectionality, AntiRacism, and Equity (Neufeld)

Tabled until next meeting

Institutional Issues (Barton)

College of Business will be moving to Pierce Hall (rollout will be over 3 years)

Technology Committee (Evet)

Faculty Issues (Welsh)

Intercollegiate Athletic Advisory Committee (Spragg)

Student Issues (Brewer)

Adjourn 5:21

X. Announcements:

- A. Next Faculty Senate is scheduled for **Wed. November 15 (zoom)**