

Faculty Senate Minutes
Thursday, July 30, 2020, Via WebEx, 10:30 AM

I. Attendance

K. Armbruster, J. Bohus, V. Brown-Kennerly, P. Davis, E. Fan, T. Foley, E. Goedereis, S. Jensen, J. Lassetter, B. Lynch, S. Mahfood, J. Palmer, M. Preuss, T. Reilly, L. Risik, D. Stiles.

II. *Upon motion by P. Davis, seconded by M. Preuss, the Senate unanimously approved the minutes of the July 23, 2020 Faculty Senate meeting.*

III. New Business

A. Debrief of July 23, 2020 meeting with Administration – B. Lynch

1) As a follow-up to the July 23, 2020 meeting with the administration, President Lynch would like to know any specific questions the Senate continues to have to take to his meeting with the administration this afternoon. These are the questions that were collected:

1.How frequently will admin be reporting to the Webster community how many positive cases as well as the protocol for dealing with them?

2.What are the cleaning protocols between classes?

3.Who is making the decision as to whether an individual person will be granted an accommodation, what criteria will be used, is there an appeal process for requests that are denied, and if so, what is it?

4.Has the committee considered asking faculty who requires/prefers face-to-face teaching and who prefers hybrid but plans to include at least some face-to-face meetings as part of that hybrid strategy? This information might help the university apportion available classrooms in a way that both meets the pedagogical needs of classes and the need to make sure dorm students have some (at least partially) face-to-face classes.

5.What are the specific criteria for escalation of classes, buildings, and campus shutdowns?

6.Where should students be directed for testing if they are feeling sick and need to miss class, prior to testing?

7.What is the administration's plan for getting instructors for face to face classes if contingent and full-time faculty have accommodations?

The Senate unanimously passed a motion by E. Goedereis, seconded by K. Armbruster, asking President Lynch to present the above questions to the Administration to address their concerns.

2) President Lynch said that he would be sending out a new cover letter and the newly revised Attestation Agreement tomorrow to the Assembly.

IV. Spring and Fall Institutes

The Senate discussed the upcoming, rescheduled 2020 Spring Institute slated for August 18, 2020 and the October 2, 2020 Fall Institute.

C. Guehring reported that she had spoken with Elvir in OLC regarding how to set up the Institute on WebEx. He told her that it would be better to schedule a pre-breakout meeting and a post-breakout meeting and that those individuals leading the breakout sessions should set up their own meetings, possibly in their own WebEx rooms.

President Lynch explained that he did not want to use a personal room in WebEx for the pre- and post-breakout meeting and do a scheduled meeting instead.

Vice President Palmer reported that all Webster Groves campus faculty and staff will have Zoom at their disposal beginning next week, so Zoom would be a possibility for the meeting as well.

A Senator suggested that pedagogical shifts that have occurred during the pandemic and are working well be discussed among the break-out groups. Another Senator expressed his concern about what is going to be done with the information gathered from the Institute moving forward.

A Senator explained that she believes there are difficulties in understanding what is going on with the Institute among the Senate because this institute was supposed to have taken place last semester and now there are a whole new raft of Senators that were not privy to prior discussions about it. She explained that in the past each Senator pick either the upcoming Fall or Spring Institute to work on so the workload is divided.

T. Reilly asked if anyone would like to help out with the Fall Institute on October 2, 2020. She said the Multicultural Studies Committee (MCSC) and the BIPOC faculty and staff met with President Lynch and VP Palmer. They need to form a sub-committee for the Fall Institute and would like volunteers from the Senate.

The Senate unanimously passed a motion by T. Reilly, seconded by S. Jensen, to invite all contingent faculty to the October 2, 2020 Fall Institute.

The Senate unanimously passed a motion by B. Lynch, seconded by J. Lassetter, to include and invite all Webster Groves campus staff to the October 2, 2020 Fall Institute.

The Senate agreed to have a Spring Institute planning committee meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 2:30 PM via WebEx (or Zoom).

The Senate agreed to schedule a Senate meeting on August 13, 2020 at 2:30 PM via WebEx (or Zoom).

The Senate unanimously passed a motion by B. Lynch, seconded by T. Reilly, to adjourn at 12:20 PM.