

Faculty Senate Meeting April 16, 2021
Zoom/Hames Room

Attendees: Scott Anderson, Robert Bradley, Andrea Brown, Donna Caldwell, Rodney Carmack, Ross Carroll, Sarah Davidson, Addie Fleming, Amanda Gryffin Wheeler, Joanna Grymes, John Hershberger, Annette Hux, Amy Hyman, Cheryl Knight, Natalie Johnson-Leslie, Jeff McLaughlin, Loretta McGregor, Bill Maynard, Suzanne Melescue, Pradeep Mishra, Amanda Mohler, Vicent Moreno, Nikesha Nesbitt, Tim Oliver, Arianne Pait, Robert Robinette, Amany Saleh, Ed Salo, Richard Segall, Marcus Tribbett, Wayne Wilkinson, Karen Yanowitz

Proxy Attendees: N/A

Absentees: Than Boves, Mary Donaghy, Joe Ford, Hans Hacker, Katie Hill, Donghoon Kim, Joseph Loar, Paul Minor, William Rowe, and Paul Sikkel

Meeting Called to Order: Donna Caldwell established a quorum. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm by Donna Caldwell

Order of the Day: Motion to accept made by Marcus Tribbett, Andrea Brown seconded, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes motion made to approve April 2, 2021 minutes made by Richard Segall, Rodney Carmack seconded, motion carried

Guest Speakers:

Dr. Shane Speights COVID 19 Update- across the globe still a struggle, primarily in Eastern Europe, Brazil and South Africa. There are still issues with variants and availability of vaccines. Seeing a new up-tic in US due to variants. Arkansas is not doing well in current numbers of testing. Craighead County is also seeing an up-tic, the question is how far will they go up and that is a wait and see. Takes several months to determine the impact of the lifting of mask mandates. No CDC updates on higher education but they are recommending K-12 wear masks and maintain 3 feet distance. UK Variant has a higher viral load and is becoming the primary strain in the US. Higher number of people in their 30-40's being hospitalized. Breakthrough cases - only .008% positive after full vaccination. How long does it last? – 8 months to 1 year. Pfizer shown 100% efficacy for adolescents 12-15 years of age, will submit for FDA approval soon. Johnson and Johnson concern for rare Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis. Discussed what you can do and should not do after you have been fully vaccinated.

Len Frey COVID 19 Financial Update- Russ Hannah: (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds HEERF). Each release has had a student component and an institutional component. First rounds released in March 2020, funds were released before clear guidance on disbursement. Same issue with the second round in January 2021. Student aid remained the same but institutional amount was increased in the second round. In recent weeks it has become clearer how monies may be used. Third round came in March 2021 but as of today (4/16/21) AState has not received official notification of amounts. To date over \$9 million has been used for student aid with over \$37K left of those funds. Institutional money – expectation for room and board

refunds, took most of first round of money. Remaining went to Reserves for FY21. Second round, one of the primary uses was to replace lost revenue resulting from the pandemic \$10.9 million. We forecast we have lost over \$15 million in revenue – we are still below what we need to replenish from loss of the pandemic.

Q: Auxiliary operations- exist to supplement the institution – housing, food services, parking, FNBA, athletic, student union for example – each area has seen a decrease in revenue.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

Constitution and Bylaws- Amanda Mohler – met Monday April 12, 2021 and now feel best to present to Chancellor and legal before presenting to FS. Should be ready to present by beginning of Fall 2021 semester- only have 2 by-laws left to review.

SGOC Proposal 202110-02 Admissions Policies – Up/Down Vote- Motion made to vote to support the admissions policies by Loretta McGregor, Marcus Tribbett seconded and William Maynard called the question. 20 in Favor, 10 Against, and 1 Abstention

New Business:

Standing Committee Reports: N/A

Nominations Committee: Met Monday April 12, 2021 Faculty Senate President Elect. Addie Fleming announced the candidates: Dr. Tim Oliver and Dr. Ed Salo. Voting will open via Qualtrics on April 26, 2021 and will close April 27, 2021

Other Business:

Open Forum: Credit and No-Credit option- Donna Caldwell was approached by students asking that we (Faculty Senate) again consider this option. Today April, 16, 2021 is the last day to withdraw from a course. Arianne Pait moved that we recommend asking administration for CR/NC for the Spring 2021 semester, second Robert Robinette. Motion Failed: For 7, Against 20, Abstained 3

Adjourn:

Motion made by Ed Salo to adjourn the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.