

**Faculty Senate Meeting February 5, 2021**  
**Hames Room FNBA and Zoom**

**Attendees:** Scott Anderson, Than Boves, Robert Bradley, Andrea Brown, Donna Caldwell, Rodney Carmack, Ross Carroll, Sarah Davidson, Mary Donaghy, Addie Fleming, Amanda Wheeler-Gryffin, Joanna Grymes, John Hershberger, Katie Hill, Amy Hyman, Donghoon Kim, Cheryl Knight, Natalie Johnson-Leslie, Joseph Loar, Jeff McLaughlin, Loretta McGregor, Bill Maynard, Suzanne Melescue, Paul Minor, Pradeep Mishra, Amanda Mohler, Vicent Moreno, Nikesha Nesbitt, Tim Oliver, Arianne Pait, Robert Robinette, William Rowe, Ed Salo, Richard Segall, Marcus Tribbett, Wayne Wilkinson and.

**Proxy Attendees:** N/A

**Absentees:** Joe Ford, Hans Hacker, Annette Hux, Amany Saleh, Paul Sikkel and Karen Yanowitz

**Meeting Called to Order:** Donna Caldwell established a quorum. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Donna Caldwell

**Order of the Day:** Accepted with changes motion made by Ed Salo, seconded Loretta McGregor.

**Approval of Minutes** motion made to approve January 15, 2021 minutes by Marcus Tribbett seconded by Rodney Carmack, motion carried.

**Guest Speakers:**

*Dr. Alan Utter*

Congratulations on successfully completing the first four weeks of the Spring 2021 semester.

1. The scheduling for summer and fall was sent out Monday 2/1/21. Deans, Chairs and Program Directors were instructed to build schedules as if pre-COVID. There are still unknowns but this is the goal. Plan B is to again utilize the 15 non-traditional spaces that have been constructed. The university must continue to practice social distancing and vaccinate. Students are looking to faculty as role models.

2. Search for Dean of CNHP: 3 finalists – face to face interviews Feb 15, 18, and 22.

3. Dr. Ruth Owens has been hired as the new director of the faculty center

4. Dr Tara Burcham has been hired for the position vacated by Jeannie Cossey

5. Updates on Task Force

\*Admission Criteria Task Force: have submitted suggested guidelines and changes to admission policy. Proposal is being vetted.

\*Evaluation General Education Task Force: the Provost is pleased with work that has been done. Preliminary report has been submitted and work is 70 to 80% complete. Will be vetted when finished

\*Evaluation of all academic programs on campus- task force worked on metrics to evaluate programs and are now wrapping up. When finished they will make proposal available and departments will go through recommendations.

6. February 12, 2021 is the deadline for students to submit abstracts for Create Astate, this is an opportunity to showcase work of our students (undergrads and grads).
7. He has not lost sight of the fact we are dealing as faculty with challenges secondary to Covid. Please reach out if having issues.

*Shane Broadway*

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HB 1218 and HB 1231: On January 20, 2021 when the bills were filed, Dr. Chuck Welch called a meeting and a motion was made opposing both bills. Talking points were developed for the university and university counterparts. Faculty are asked to hold off contacting members due to the fact that there is a new general assembly and new education committee, they are working through a feel for the dynamics (as a side note, faculty and staff are always encouraged to not use a state email during state time if contacting a member of the general assembly).

All members were text and visited personally by Broadway. A meeting was also set up with sponsors of the bill – shared our concerns and position. We were able to sow some reasons why they might consider that this is not a higher education problem. They believe HB 1218 is dead, do not anticipate the sponsor will run the bill at all. On February 4, 202 at 4:45 pm the sponsor filed an amendment that removed Higher Education from the bill. Broadway stated we feel good where we are at and our strategy.

Q: Appropriate to support K-12? A: Yes, still behind them to help them stop it. K-12 has been reassure we stand with them and will help them through the process.

### **Old Business:**

Constitution and Bylaws Committee – Met briefly and are in the process of reconstructing Constitution and Bylaws, will be sent for review this semester.

### SGOC

2020FA:02 Tested Experience Faculty Credentialing – vote up or down.

Discussion- Curious why General Education classes were specifically exempt from the proposal.

A: HLC careful to make sure general education courses are taught by persons with masters within the specific area. If outside of discipline, they have to have 18 hours specific to the discipline. Also a requirement by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Motion to support the proposal made by Marcus Tribbett, seconded by Rodney Carmack 93% for 7% against (28-4).

### **New Business:**

Standing Committee Reports: N/A

**Other Business:**

William Maynard AAUP email was sent to all of the faculty – it might not be appropriate at this time to vote in solidarity it may not be appropriate – but good to read, and possibly revisit. If bill comes back to life or if anything changes Shane Broadway will advise.

Two Discover 2025 presentation – heavy in terms of recruiting initiatives – any movement on a replacement for Vice Chancellor of Enrollment – not at this time due to hiring freeze and positive efforts of the interim Chancellor.

**Adjourn:**

Motion made by William Maynard to adjourn the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 3:46 pm