

University Faculty Senate Minutes

August 22, 2022 Zoom Meeting

Please note that a complete audio recording of this senate meeting is available at [UNI Scholarworks](#). The time stamps noted throughout these minutes refer to that recording.

Senators in attendance: Francis Degnin (Chair), Melissa Dobosh (Vice-Chair), Gretchen Gould (Secretary), John Burnight (Past Chair), James Mattingly (Faculty Chair), Imam Alam, Nick Bailey, Megan Balong, Karen Breitbach, Michael Conrad, Robert Earle, Julie Kang, ~~Randall Harlow~~, Mark Hecimovich, Rob Hitlan, Charles Holcombe, Sang Koh, Karla Krueger, Matthew Makarios, Andrew Stollenwerk, Ali Tabei (Fifty percent quorum met, with 18/19 voting senators present; the Faculty Chair is non-voting, as provided in the Faculty Constitution, and the Senate Chair votes only in case of a tie.)

Call to Order at 3:30 PM

Call for Press Identification

Introduction of Guests and Welcome to New Senators [time stamp 00:00:30]

New Senators: Sang (Steve) Koh, Randall Harlow, and Robert Earle

Regular Guests: Mark Nook, José Herrera, John Vallentine, ~~Patrick Pease~~, Becky Hawbaker, Chris Martin, Leila Masinovic

Additional Guests: Cara Burnidge

Courtesy Announcements

Comments from President Nook [time stamp 00:01:43]

President Nook welcomed everyone back and thanked Senators for their service. He congratulated everyone involved for getting the UNIFI curriculum underway and discussed how UNIFI is generating a lot of excitement among students and alumni, as well as counselors and students at community colleges. President Nook also highlighted the work of the Council for Inclusion, Transformative Social Justice, and Advocacy, and Social Justice. The Council has partnered with Rankin & Associates to conduct a campus climate survey. They have already gathered data through listening surveys and are not getting ready to roll out the campus wide survey. President Nook emphasized the importance of getting a good response and would like us to encourage our colleagues and, especially, our students to participate in this survey.

Comments from Provost Herrera [time stamp 00:08:46]

Provost Herrera welcomed everyone back and noted the energy on campus. The search for the Chief Academic Nurse is underway. The first candidate is on campus and all of the candidates look great. There will also be another search for the dean for graduate college (though the official title has not been agreed upon yet). The committee is being formulated and will be given the charge soon. This position is important because we need to increase graduate enrollment.

President Nook also informally announced that we have a new Associate Counsel, Emily Pittinger, [time stamp 00:12:27], who will begin her duties on Monday, October 3rd (per the group chat).

Comments from Faculty Chair Mattingly [time stamp 00:14:11]

Faculty Chair Mattingly shared that the Fall Faculty Meeting will be on Monday, October 3rd at 3:30 in the Lang Auditorium. Virtual attendance is possible, but he is hoping for more face to face attendance. Covid-pending, there will be a reception at 3pm in front of the auditorium. This meeting will celebrate new faculty and award winners. Faculty Chair Mattingly also reminded everyone that the new Senate delegation framework that passed on March 28, 2022 (docket item 14.81). Senate bylaws now state that each department can elect a Senator (instead of each college delegating a certain number of Senators). The nominating committee will be working on a new approach to electing Senators and Faculty Chair Mattingly requests that Department Heads start thinking about how to elect new Senators.

Senator Makarios, Chair of the Governance Committee, clarified that the committee hopes to get a proposal out regarding at-large Senators this fall ahead of Spring elections.

Comments from United Faculty President Hawbaker [time stamp 00:17:38]

United Faculty President Hawbaker welcomed everyone back and expressed how struck she was by the Fall Faculty Speaker and their definition of burnout as the gap between the aspirations you have for your career and the reality of your work life. United Faculty can help bridge this gap and they recognize the workload of our faculty. She emphasized 3 key things that are happening this year. First, there will be a recertification election that will then allow UF to bargain for a new contract with administration. Finally, after that contract is bargained there will be elections for new union leadership and UF President Hawbaker emphasized this as an opportunity for faculty to learn how to support and advocate for faculty. She reminded us to Vote Yes for UF during the last two weeks of October.

Faculty Senate Chair Degnin reminded everyone that not voting counts as a “no” vote.

Comments from NISG President Masinovic [time stamp 00:21:13]

NISG President Masinovic stated that NISG has been tabling and plans to hold a debate this Fall.

Comments from Senate Chair Degnin [time stamp 00:23:48]

Senate Chair Degnin reminded Senators to send the name of their alternate to Karen Breitbach and Melissa Dobosh. Additionally, Senate Chair Degnin recognized how effective the new Senate schedule has been working since being implemented last year. As a reminder, the Senate transitioned from meeting as a full Senate twice a month to meeting as a full Senate once a month and meeting in committee once a month. He sent his thanks to Jim Mattingly, Amy Nielsen, and John Burnight for their work on this. Finally, Senate Chair Degnin is finalizing the committee memberships and, as those get shared, asked that committee chairs set up the calendar and calendar invites for the year.

Comments from Guest Cara Burnidge [time stamp 00:26:22]

As a member of the Council for Inclusion, Transformative Social Justice, and Advocacy, and Social Justice, Burnidge wanted to thank us for the opportunity to work on the council and shared that she has had the opportunity to take an informal inventory of the DEI activities across campus. As a result, the Council recommended a climate study with an external partner as part of the process. First, she is co-chairing the Climate Study Working Group with Kristen Moser. The group includes 16 members including students, faculty, and staff and has partnered with Rankin & Associates. This working group held 18 listening sessions and spent the summer following up on the recommendations and suggestions that came from these sessions. Second, the next step will be the administration of a campus-wide climate study survey. This will be an online survey available October 4-November 4th. It is critical that faculty not only take the survey, but also encourage their students to take the survey, too. Dr. Burnidge also emphasized some of the safeguards in place for participant confidentiality and emphasized that we need a robust response from the campus community. For more information, go to uni.edu/resources/climate-study.

Minutes for Approval:

Minutes from April 25 2022 [time stamp 00:34:02]

MOTION: Breitbach/Makarios (14 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

MINUTES APPROVED WITHOUT AMENDMENT

Minutes from May 9 2022 (special meeting) [time stamp 00:35:24]

MOTION: Hecimovich/Makarios (16 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

MINUTES APPROVED WITHOUT AMENDMENT

Docketed Items:

1498 [End of year report from the Governance Committee](#) [time stamp 00:36:37]

MOTION TO RECEIVE: Gould/Hecimovich (15 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention)

MOTION PASSED

1499 [End of year report from the Nominating Committee](#) [time stamp 00:38:13]

MOTION TO RECEIVE: Holcombe/Conrad (13 in favor-0 against-0 abstention)

Senator Breitbach asked that everyone check their own status on that report and in the committees.

1500 [End of year report from the Policy Committee](#) [time stamp 00:39:35]

MOTION TO RECEIVE: Balong/Holcombe (14 in favor-0 against-0 abstention)

MOTION PASSED

1501 [Emeritus Request: Jennifer Waldron](#) [time stamp 00:40:17]

MOTION: Hecimovich/Conrad (12 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention)

Associate Provost John Vallentine and Faculty Senate Chair Degnin offered comments in support of the emeritus request.

1502 [Emeritus Request: Ivonne Cuadra](#) [time stamp 00:42:38]

MOTION: (14 in favor-0 against-0 abstention)

Faculty Senate Chair Degrin offered comments in support of the emeritus request.

1503 [Emeritus Request: Chris Lukasiewicz](#) [time stamp 00:44:41]

MOTION: (13 in favor-0 against-0 abstention)

Faculty Chair Mattingly and Faculty Senate Chair Degrin offered comments in support of the emeritus request.

1504 [Emeritus Request: Joseph Marchesani](#) [time stamp 00:47:34]

MOTION: Breitbach/Holcombe(15 in favor-0 against-0 abstention)

Senator Breitbach, Faculty Chair Mattingly, and Faculty Senate Chair Degrin offered comments in support of the emeritus request.

Adjournment by 4:22PM. Balong/Makarios [time stamp 00:50:48]

Please note that the letters of support for the emeritus requests are appended to these minutes.

Submitted by Melissa Dobosh, Vice-Chair of the University Faculty Senate