University Faculty Senate Special Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2022 Online 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) John Burnight (Past Chair), James Mattingly (Faculty Chair), Gretchen Gould (Secretary), Imam Alam, Nick Bailey, Megan Balong, Karen Breitbach, Michael Conrad, Kenneth Elgersma, Mark Hecimovich, Thomas Hesse, Rob Hitlan, Charles Holcombe, Syed Kirmani, Karla Krueger, Matthew Makarios, Andrew Stollenwerk, Ali Tabei, John Wiles (Fifty percent quorum met, with 14 of 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.)

Regular Guests: José Herrera, John Vallentine, Patrick Pease, Becky Hawbaker

Additional Guests: Katelyn Browne, Amy Igou, Sang Koh, Chris Martin, Amy Nielsen, Theresa Westbrock

Call to Order at 3:30 PM
Chair Degnin [time stamp 0:00:32] Chair Degnin reminded the Senate Committee Chairs that their end-of-year reports should be submitted within the next week or two, and that they will be received by the Senate at our first meeting in the fall.

Courtesy Announcements
Faculty Chair Mattingly [time stamp 0:01:47] Faculty Chair Mattingly thanked the Senators and guests for making time to attend the meeting during a busy finals week.

UF President Hawbaker [time stamp 0:02:23] President Hawbaker echoed Faculty Chair Mattingly’s thanks, and also thanked the attendees of the listening posts related to docket item 1498 (Due Process and Review of Faculty Misconduct Cases) the previous week.

Comments from Senate Chair Degnin [time stamp 0:03:00] Senate Chair Degnin thanked the committee who worked to develop the new language and procedures related to docket item 1498. Associate Provost Vallentine also thanked the members of the Provost’s working group, as well as the Faculty Handbook Committee.

Docket Item:
1498 Consultation: Due Process and Review of Faculty Misconduct Cases [time stamp 0:04:35] Associate Provost Vallentine outlined the process of modifying the Faculty Handbook, and the desire to finish the work by the end of the semester so that it could be included in the July 2022 handbook. Past Chair Burnight asked about the committee’s vote, and whether any of the committee members had reservations about the new language. UF President Hawbaker discussed some of the remaining concerns that might be addressed in future handbook discussions. Associate Provost Vallentine discussed the differences between “preponderance of evidence” and “clear and convincing” standards, noting that the debate on these standards is applicable to many other UNI policies, as well. Senator Elgersma and UF President Hawbaker raised questions about section VIII.A.4 and 5, and how possible objections to potential Hearing Board members might affect the total number of Board members. Faculty Chair
Mattingly offered a point of clarification based on the language of VIII.A.3. Associate Provost Vallentine thanked the meeting participants for attending.

Other New Business
None

Adjournment at 3:53 PM
MOTION: Elgersma/Dobosh

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

Submitted by John Burnight, Immediate Past Chair of the Faculty Senate