**Academic Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

**MONDAY, April 17, 2023**

**approved**

***Call to Order***Academic Senate chairperson Martha Callison Horst called the meeting to order.

***Public Comment***

None.

***Oral Communication:***

Senator Horst: My first oral communication has a little bit to do with SGA. I want to clarify that on May 1 the current Exec will meet and set the agenda and they will also be going through the Vice-Presidential Commentary. We have hard copies in the Senate office, so you’re welcome to do that review ahead of the May 1 meeting.

Historically, we’ve had this problem that the Faculty Caucus Exec members are seated by May 10, but the Student Executive Committee members are not determined until the beginning of the fall. The problem is that during COVID we didn’t have anyone but the Student Body President.

Senator Walsh: We will be doing that differently from now on. We will be electing on May 3 this year. So, you will know the three others by May 10.

***2023-2024 use of shared documents prior to Exec meeting -- should legal also be able to comment on these drafts?***

Senator Horst: We are still trying to refine how we work with Legal in receiving their comments. We received a lot of comments regarding the bylaw changes on the Monday before the Wednesday that they went up for an action item. One thought I had was could they put the comments on the drafts the way we do, and we could incorporate their comments into the same draft. Tracy was not able to come today so she wrote I would suggest having some clear guidelines for what should be commented on, changes related to needed policy changes per law changes seem to be the most relevant for committees. We’re still trying to figure out how best to receive legal comments. Frankly, the ones that were coming in at the last minute for the bylaws were difficult to simulate so quickly.

Senator Cline: Do you think what’s happening right now is related to their lack of staff?

Senator Horst: Yes.

Senator Cline: So, it might improve when they are able to get fully staffed?

Senator Horst: Yes. But this year we started this process where Exec is doing this review of the policies and making comments on a separate draft. Do you think it’s appropriate if Legal also puts their comments on the same draft?

Senator Blum: I think it’s fine as long as they do it. With the bylaws, for some reason it slipped through the cracks, right, and then the night before we’re meeting with Legal. It worked out fine, but it would have been better had it not been rushed.

Senator Horst: We could encourage them to look at the drafts earlier. So, we’ll forward them the same drafts that we’re looking at and combine their comments and Exec comments or do you think that’s not appropriate?

Senator Nikolaou: So, is the idea for Legal to give us comments before the committee looks at it, or is after we’ve done all the work for them to tell us after the changes if there are any additional changes that need to be made? It could be that… didn’t we say that we were going to give them access to everything on the issues pending, for example? So that they can go in and add comments. Because if it is something legal that we need to do in a specific policy, well, we might want to know it before we even talk about it in the committee.

Senator Horst: Well, we’d need to incorporate their feedback earlier in the process. Of course, committee chairs should be reaching out to legal in the process. At one point we established designated lawyers for each policy, but that fell away because they don’t have the manpower. Once they have a full staff, it would it be appropriate, because we are receiving these drafts with all of their comments. As committee chairs, would you rather have all of the comments on one draft, or would you rather have them separated out? The Legal comments and the Exec comments? I’m just asking.

Senator Nikolaou: I guess ease of access if it is in one document. But to make sure that these are legal issues that need to be done it would be more useful if they were on a separate document and then that’s what the Senate has talked about. The different committees in Exec and then put them together.

Senator Cline: I guess the question is are the legal comments part of the editorial process, or are they a last check? That’s a discussion to have with the new committee chairs, I think, next time. If they are part of the editorial process, I think having them on the same document as Exec is fine. But if it’s a final Legal check before it goes out, then I think that could be useful to be separated. And we’ve had that conversation about if Legal providing feedback or is Legal providing instruction that this needs to change or something like that.

Senator Horst: Yes. They are providing a lot of editorial comments. So, the editorial work you think it would be okay to combine but the Legal check should be done separate. Yes?

Senator Blum: For me, the biggest problem was just the timing. Separate, together, it was so late in the process I was scrambling. We were trying to figure out what we have to do and what we can wait until next year. Had we known that even a few weeks earlier it would have been a little bit better. There is a sorting out of what needs to be addressed immediately. It depends. The bylaws are a little bit different than the policies. Both have potential legal issues, but policies may have a lot of legal issues around them. But there were also things that they wanted us to address, and we wanted to address too, but we didn’t have time to address them in the bylaws.

Senator Horst: But frankly, they are giving a lot of editorial comments that are sort of usurping the role of the Senate.

Senator Nikolaou: Right. And if we have everything in one document, can they make clear which document are because of Legal side and which ones are because they may not like the language. So, there’s going to be a disclaimer, like Legal Language and then the comment. And then if it is just editorial, they can just put it in there because if it is editorial, it is up to the committee, but if it is a legal issue, we know that we need to do that. We cannot say oh yeah, we’re not going to change this.

Senator Blum: It would help if they would explain. Like, legally you can’t say it this way because.

Senator Holmes: I tend to agree with that. I think they shouldn’t just say that this should be changed because I’m a lawyer. They should say this should be changed because x, y, z, the actually reason not just because of my position.

Senator Horst: Yeah. And their comments to the committee have been that it has to be this way which is not necessarily the case. But people are now scared to edit anything that comes from Legal. Right? Is that an accurate perception?

Senator Cline: Um-hum.

Senator Blum: Yeah.

Senator Horst: I will continue to work with the Legal office to refine this process. I think it will be better once we have more lawyers on board and we’ll try to work on it next year.

Senator Blum: Well, I mean you don’t want to do anything to harm the university, right.

Senator Garrahy: That is our first goal.

Senator Blum: And the committee’s goal too. Right. People don’t want to do things that would potentially might harm. I don’t want to do anything that puts the university at risk.

***Canvas Open House setup outside Old Main before the last Senate meeting of the year***

Senator Horst: Moving on. Rosie Hauck emailed me. They have this idea about getting the word out about Canvas. She was wondering if they could set up information booths with demos of Canvas sites before the Senate meeting on May 10. What do you guys think of that idea? We’ve really never done anything like that.

Senator Cline: I think it would be smart. I’m part of the pilot and we’ve been talking a lot about this. Faculty are just having these events and faculty are only kind of trickling in because they are trying to survive this semester. Right. They are not thinking about next semester. But I think as many opportunities as you can have to interface. If they want to come set up a little kiosk there with the laptop and there’s one or two senators that decide to stop and talk to them, I think that’s valuable, as long as you don’t think it would be distracting. But I think if they want to come out and do that, I don’t think that would be a problem. It’s a nice follow-up too, because they’ve presented to us a number of times at Senate.

Interim Provost Yazedjian: I have a question. If it’s set up outside and they’ve asked permission is there potential for future groups to ask the Senate for that same opportunity to do something?

Senator Horst: The Executive Committee manages the business of the Senate. We’re managing pre-senate events. So, it would have to be somebody that approached the Executive Committee.

Senator Cline: I think it makes sense, Provost, because it’s a continuation. We’ve had two or three presentations. So, it’s not just like a random group, right. it’s a follow up. I think if we start getting random requests, we can say this wasn’t just some random thing. This was connected to a series of reports that they gave to us and updates that they gave to us.

Senator Horst: But let’s say the union or interest group wants to set up shop and have an FYI before the Senate meeting. We would just approach that by a case-by-case basis?

Interim President Tarhule: Would they come to you, or would they just ask the Bone for permission to use the space?

Senator Holmes: I can tell you the Bone would not give them a table. They would probably put them on the concourse by like Barnes and Noble if they asked the Bone to do that.

Senator Horst: So, it’s more the Bone’s call?

Senator Holmes: Well, what you are trying to do is you guys would tell the Bone you want a table outside the room, and they’d put a table outside the room for Canvas. But if per se the union came to the Bone and was like we want a table outside the Academic Senate meeting, they would be like no you can’t do that, but we can have you table down the hallway if you want. But that doesn’t really do the same thing because they really wouldn’t be getting all the senators, you’d just be getting whoever is in the Bone, which is not the same audience.

Senator Horst: And I’m hoping that we would alert the senators on the communication of the meeting that this is happening.

[***https://www.wglt.org/local-news/2023-04-13/isu-athletics-director-resigns-after-questions-about-spending-for-big-ten-trip-on-aaron-rossis-plane***](https://www.wglt.org/local-news/2023-04-13/isu-athletics-director-resigns-after-questions-about-spending-for-big-ten-trip-on-aaron-rossis-plane)

* ***Report to Senate from President Tarhule and Vice President Vickerman (others?) on resignation on Athletic Director Kyle Brennan***
* ***Presentation of full financial audit of intercollegiate Athletics to Senate in the future.***

Senator Horst: There was an interesting article on WGLT recently and an announcement that the Athletics Director has resigned. I have been communicating with several faculty that would like to hear more. I think the student body would like to hear more. So, I’m proposing that we put it officially on the agenda. Also, there’s this Foundation component, and Vice President Vickerman does not traditionally come to the Senate. The Athletics Director does not traditionally come to the Senate, in this case the new one is Jeri Beggs. So, we could invite them to receive the comments of the Senate and the Student Government Association.

Interim President Tarhule: As I mentioned to Martha, there’s actually not very much we can say. Resignations are personnel matters, and by privacy and law is private. We can’t talk about it. If they were terminated, we could talk about it. But when someone resigns, we can’t. So, I can talk to you about what we are doing going forward to address any concerns about Athletics. But there’s really nothing I or Pat can say. As you know, people resign from various positions, some resign for medical reasons, they resign for no reason at all. So, we can’t be in a situation where we say if you resign for this reason we can talk about it, if you resign for this reason, we can’t talk about it. There’s a blanket policy that if people resign it becomes a personnel issue. If they are terminated then we have to give at least…So, to tell you how serious it is, if it’s a termination, I’ve got to be able to tell the individual why they are being terminated. Sometimes they can talk about it why they might question that. But in a resignation, there’s no such discussion. So, I can’t even tell you why they resigned. Somebody might come up and say I’m going to resign. There’s no reason. There’s no discussion. They just resign and it goes into their personal file.

Senator Holmes: Could you talk about the surroundings circumstance and the trip itself? I mean, there were other employees of the university who were on that trip as well, or at least allegedly, other members of the Athletics depart.

Interim President Tarhule: I just wanted to share that, and I’m very happy to talk about the things I have done and the things I’m still getting in place to address the concerns that came up. But legally we can’t talk about it. Also, the audit, I have to check on that. Just so you know, the university does an audit of every unit every year. In fact, there’s a cycle. So, I don’t know if those audits typically come to the Senate or not. So, in athletics they are on schedule for an audit next year. So, even if nothing happened, there would be one. All I have done is I brought that audit forward. So, I need to check the regular audits. Everyone gets audited. And there’s a whole cycle. The audit department just goes through the audits for everyone and then they start all over again, and so on. I checked to see when the last time Athletics was audited and when is the next time they are due for one, and they said next year. So, I said move it forward. Start that this week. But it’s no different from all the other audits; I just changed the timing of it. I’m not sure if I can talk about it or if when every unit gets audited it comes to Academic Senate for a report, I don’t know. But I can certainly check.

Senator Cline: President Tarhule, I think you and Dr. Beggs can probably anticipate the questions that people will have, right. Like, I get stuff thrown back at me because I stayed at a hotel that was $20 over the amount, right. So how did this happen? So, that kind of thing is going to come from faculty. Students are probably going to have questions about where their fees are going to go, and things like that. I think it’s valuable without having to go into personnel matters.

Interim President Tarhule: Here’s the complication. There isn’t a threshold that says if you spend this much money cultivating donors is too much. Right. So, the university doesn’t say this is how much you should spend. There isn’t a threshold. So, legally, strictly speaking, any individual can go to court and say I didn’t spend too much. In order to say you spent too much you have to establish that you can spend $7, but you spend $9, that’s too much. We don’t have any such restriction. So, once it becomes a certain judgment to such activities… It’s really hard to give a threshold. Sometimes people can say, no, that doesn’t look good, that doesn’t smell good. But legally, if we went to court, what is too much? How can you prove that this is too much?

Senator Horst: That’s why if Vice President Vickerman was there and he heard the perception from the faculty and the students about how this was outlandish and against our Code of Ethics, then perhaps he could develop some sort of framework like we have to live with. All I’m saying is I think it’s very important to have the ability of the campus community to ask questions about this matter to the administration. And you can certainly say I cannot comment on this, but I can give you this sort of solution. But at this point, I’ve been receiving a lot of negative comments of what went on.

Interim President Tarhule: Sure. I understand. Just so you know, it’s not going to be very different because where the law is, I’m not suppose to, but what I can tell you that I can share it here (I know you are trying to develop an agenda). Kyle has resigned, of putting in an AD that I think who has impeccable integrity and a lot of experience, whose been working nationally on several athletic departments, I am moving (this is the part I haven’t discussed openly) I am moving the fundraising arm for Athletics to Pat Vickerman so that they have more oversight. So, I am doing that. And I’m doing that audit to make sure that there is nothing else I don’t know. That’s what I have done and that’s so that the audit is going to tell me if there is anything else that I don’t know that I should know. Then I’m going to put it under more oversight. I have someone who will look after it. That’s all I can really say. The specifics of what has happened, you know, and the personnel, why did this person resign, I can’t answer those.

Senator Horst: But for instance, Senator Mainieri had a question about the potential search and how this is going to impact that search. For the search for the Athletics Director. And I have a question about shared governance. And I think the students have their own set of questions. I think those questions would happen regardless, but what I’m proposing is that we make sure that Jeri Beggs is there to receive any information and feedback, and also Pat Vickerman.

Senator Blum: One of the things that come to mind, you pointed out it’s about judgment. But at some point, people have to have some kind of guidance to make a judgment. And what I wonder is where is that guidance or where does it come from? I read the article, just like other people did. Some of it was kind of interesting about how the other universities made similar types of judgments, but I have no clue about—I mean other than what seems crazy to me—to me what I would feel is there has to be… sure people have to have judgment but there has to be some sort of standards and norms and that sort of thing. And if we don’t have that I think sort of asking for it in some form.

Interim President Tarhule: There’s an article North Dakota State University about our situation. They’re talking about it. The writer makes an interesting point, this is chicken change for some universities. Right. If you are UT Austin and they say, hey your athletics Director spent $23,000, they would laugh at that. That’s chicken change. That’s nothing. And they say, hey, they took their donors to a strip club. The word he used was that’s a blip. These things happen every day. The only reason its news is we’re small. Right. So, that’s actually what we are talking about. And even for us, if you were trying to court someone to try to give you $100 million is $23,000 too much to spend to try to get $100 million? Or if you are trying to court someone to try and give you $50,000 is $23,000 too much to spend? You have to spend money to make money. So, where is the dividing line and how can you draw that guidance, you are asking for? This is where the question of we rely on the person to make the judgment. That’s the difficultly. There is no standard, or there can’t be a standard. We can’t tell someone, don’t spend more than $20,000 on donors. What if spending $20,000 will give us $50 million? That’s a very good investment. And even in this case, even let’s say that this particular donor had given us $3 million—what he promised—is it too much to spend $23,000 to get $3 million? Now how you spend it is another matter. So, there is a certain number of convergencies here that make the situation look especially bad, because we didn’t even get the money. If we got the money, sure, I would bump his hand and say yeah you spent $23,000 (maybe not in this way) you get us $3 million. That is the challenge. Put yourself in that role for a second. You are the one going out to get money. You are not going to get it if you don’t treat these people well. But how do you make that judgment? So, that’s where if we can give them guidelines that say never spend more that $10,000 and you said oh gosh, if I had only spent $10,000, I could have brought a $100 million to the university.

Senator Blum: But even then, I think you actually stated several guidelines within what you are saying. You are saying amount, likelihood of return. Okay. Those are guidelines.

Senator Horst: We’re not a grand jury here. All we’re trying to do is put it on the agenda.

Senator Blum: Yeah. Let’s get it on the agenda.

Senator Horst: I know that the SGA has a formal proposal going through on Wednesday that’s directly related to it. I have a whole load of questions. I have faculty that are outraged. And I think part of the administration’s job is to communicate with the constituents and receive their complaints and address them as best they can within the legal parameters of what your job is. I appreciate that you have some legal constraints as to what you can say. But certainly, there are a lot of questions about how we can address this situation going forward. We can do our best to shape the conversation that way. I am suggesting that we invite the vice president that never goes to the Senate; I don’t think he’s ever been there. And Jeri Beggs is certainly a person who might want to hear some perception as to how Athletics is perceived in the ISU community after this event.

Senator Garrahy: You know, the bottom line is, Craig, you are using the word guidelines, right, and I can think of a situation that I’m dealing with right now where the absolute absurdity of a faculty member is beyond my comprehension of 38 years in education. So, we can have guidelines out the wazoo, we have an ethics exam we are all supposed to take. But the bottom line is you cannot legislate common sense. Now, the one thing I’m thinking about I can’t believe someone didn’t have common sense in this area. This area, same thing. But there’s nothing anyone’s going to be able to do to control that because common sense is the least common of our senses.

Senator Cline: And I would just say, President, that if you don’t have Jeri there and if you don’t have Pat Vickerman there all of the questions are going to come to you in your presentation. The questions are going to be asked whether it’s on the agenda or not. It would be better to be prepared.

Interim President Tarhule: I want to be clear; I’m not opposed to having those people, I’m not opposed to having the discussion. I’m just saying even if you had 1,000 guidelines, they are not going to prevent… we have 1,000 rules and guidelines about not killing people, but it still happens. So, in this case, I think for me, it is a lot more productive what we have done in response. I can talk about that. The actual details of the why and the how I want to notify this group and mimic it. And it’s okay for people to talk about it.

I did hear about the proposal—and maybe this is not the place—but the last comment from me. Opposing the fee increase. SGA is thinking about having a resolution. I almost wish they would reconsider because if you think about it the people who have committed poor judgment are gone. The only people we now penalize are the students who had nothing to do with this. So, it almost seems like double penalties. So, we’re penalizing the students for something they have no control over, and the people who actually did it are no longer here.

Senator Holmes: I can make the argument for why I’m proposing the resolution…

Senator Horst: But it is 4:34 and that’s not on our agenda. So, I think we’ve all agreed that we’re going to have a healthy discussion on this issue. And we’re going to have some invited guests.

Motion by Senator Cline, seconded by Senator Holmes, to amend the agenda to approve committee minutes of March 20, 2023.

Motion by Senator Garrahy, seconded by Nikolaou, to approve the committee minutes of March 20,2023.

***Distributed Communications:***

***From Janice Bonneville: (Information/Action Item 04/26/23)***

***04.07.23.01 Bonneville Email\_ Policy 3.1.30***

***04.14.23.02 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation (Current Copy)***

***04.14.23.03 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation and Employment History Review (Mark Up)  
04.10.23.01 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation and Employment History Review (HR and OGC comments\_mark up)***

***04.07.23.02 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation and Employment History Review (Clean Copy)***

***Faiths Law\_105 ILCS 5\_22-94  
Temp1-ISBE-Sexual-Misconduct-Disclosure-Form-Applicant***

***Temp2-Auth-Release-Sexual-Misconduct-Related-Info***

Senator Horst: There is an additional revision to Faith’s law. The ISBE needed to issue guidance and that came quite late. So, they weren’t able to ascertain how we should revise our policies until they received that guidance, and now this is going to become law on July 1, 2023. All of the editorial comments will be forwarded to Janice Bonneville. People comfortable with this going straight to the floor? (Pause) Okay. And in general, do you think this policy should remain a Senate policy?

Senator Garrahy: Help me remember the pros and cons.

Senator Horst: Here is a policy that’s processes are really belonging to HR. They affect all employees, but is it in the academic area broadly conceived? It’s about hiring, but it’s not necessarily about classroom disruption. When a change is required, it has to go through the Senate process, which can be another hurtle that it has to go through. Are we expert content on this? I don’t think so.

Senator Garrahy: Here is what I would suggest; this is a policy to protect the safety of the K-12 students over at Metcalf and U-High, I’m assuming as well. I don’t think the Senate needs to worry about this one. I think this is one that is an HR policy and, in all honesty, all public-school districts in the State of Illinois have to have a policy in place for criminal background checks.

Senator Horst: Yeah. We did the first draft of this.

Senator Cline: I might argue that (and Tracy might if she were here) make it advisory, in the sense, not that we need to review it, but it’s helpful for the Senate to know that this is happening. Because sometimes faculty will then hear it and speak—oh, did you know this new law passed—but not that we should be content creators on it.

Senator Garrahy: this is not new. This has been on the books for years.

Senator Cline: But there have been some adjustments.

Senator Horst: I remember we made some adjustments a few years ago.

Senator Cline: Yeah. There was a law that was passed about criminal background checks, hiring, and this threshold for how criminal does it have to be before you have to report it.

Senator Horst: Right, and we sent that one straight to the floor too because we weren’t content experts on that either. I’m happy to send this straight to the floor as an information/action item, but in the future, I would advocate for this being an advisory policy.

Senators: Yes.

***From Jana Albrecht: (Presentation on 04/26/23)***

***Annual Recruitment and Retention of Students from Groups Traditionally Underrepresented in Higher Education report for the Senate***

There were not comments about the presentation.

***From Academic Affairs Committee: (Action Item 04/26/23)***

***02.23.23.01 Policy 2.1.9 Baccalaureate Degree Programs (Current Copy)  
04.14.23.04 Policy 2.1.9 Baccalaureate Degree Programs (Mark Up)***

***04.13.23.07 Policy 2.1.9 Baccalaureate Degree Programs (Clean Copy)***

Senator Cline: I apologize to the group, I actually introduced errors accidentally by sending an out-o- date policy to Cera when she was making this change. If ya’ll remember, it was on the floor, it was an action item, Senator Helms identified a bit of a problem, so we tabled it and we have introduced new language for that problem that was shared with you about senior credit hours. In short, state law articulates senior credit hours in a slightly different way than we were articulating it in the policies. So, our policy wasn’t out of step with state law, but our language was just stating it in a minimum rather than maximums way. So, we simplified it and unified it with another policy on campus and Senator Helms is all for it. Cera redistributed it to you with the new credit hour issue and also the initiating body at the end is fixed. I apologize for that. But Senator Helms is happy. Stacy Ramsey is happy. And Amy Hurd is happy. So, pass it, please.

***From Faculty Affairs Committee: (Information/Action 04/26/23)***

***04.13.23.03 Policy 3.5.2 Laboratory School Continued Service - Faculty Associate (Current Copy)***

***04.14.23.06 Policy 3.5.2 Laboratory School Continued Service - Faculty Associate (Mark Up)***

***04.13.23.04 Policy 3.5.2 Laboratory School Continued Service - Faculty Associate (Clean Copy)***

Senator Horst: We have an item from the Faculty Affairs Committee. They suggested no changes; however, there were some editorial comments. One of the comments from Senator Nikolaou was wondering if it was 45 calendar or business days. I forwarded that to Anthony jones the Director of the Laboratory Schools (I just did that like an hour ago). I think we can just find that information out and do an amendment on the floor. Otherwise, everything is editorial that we can do on the floor. I sent a note to Tracy. This is a set of policies, there are trio policies regarding laboratory schools, faculty associates, and 3.5.1 actually defines faculty associates. So, I showed her how it was laid out on the policy website. I think when you see it in the entire context in the policy webpage, it makes more sense because that’s where the first policy defines what a faculty associate is. She had a comment about that, but I think it’s okay if you see the entire context. This has been reviewed by Anthony Jones and the College of Education dean.

***From Planning and Finance Committee: (Endorsement by Senate 04/26/23)***

***04.13.23.08 Pedestrian and Vehicular Safety Priority Brief***

There were no comments.

***\*\*Approval of Proposed Senate Agenda – See pages below\*\****

**Academic Senate Orientation**

**Wednesday, April 26, 2022**

**5:30 P.M.**

**FOUNDERS SUITE, BONE STUDENT CENTER**

***5:30 p.m. Introduction to the Academic Senate for New Senate Members***

***6:30 p.m. Faculty Caucus for New and Returning Faculty Senators***

* Nomination of Senate Chairperson
* Nomination of Senate Secretary
* Nomination of Executive Committee Faculty Representatives (4)

***\*Elections will be held by Full Senate on 5/10/23\****

***Proposed* Academic Senate Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday, April 26, 2023**

**7:15 P.M.  
Old Main, Bone Student Center**

***Call to Order***

***Roll Call***

***Public Comment: All speakers must sign in with the Senate Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.***

***Presentation: Recruitment and Retention of Underrepresented Students (Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Jana Albrecht)***

***Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of March 29, 2023 and April 12, 2023.***

***Chairperson's Remarks***

***Student Body President's Remarks***

***Administrators' Remarks:***

* ***Interim President Aondover Tarhule***
* ***Follow up on Athletic Director Brennan’s resignation (Interim President Aondover Tarhule, Professor Jeri Beggs, and Vice President of University Advancement Pat Vickerman)***
* ***Acting Provost Ani Yazedjian***
* ***Vice President for Student Affairs Levester Johnson***
* ***Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***

***Consent Agenda: (All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items.)***

* ***Engineering:***[***Engineering***](https://academicsenate.illinoisstate.edu/consent/2023-04%20Engineering.pdf)
* ***Engineering:***[***Electrical Engineering***](https://academicsenate.illinoisstate.edu/consent/2023-04%20Electrical%20Engineering.pdf)
* ***Engineering:***[***Mechanical Engineering***](https://academicsenate.illinoisstate.edu/consent/2023-04%20FIF%20Mechanical%20Engineering.pdf)

***Information/Action Item:***

***Information/Action Items:***

***From Faculty Affairs Committee:***

***04.13.23.03 Policy 3.5.2 Laboratory School Continued Service - Faculty Associate (Current Copy)***

***04.14.23.06 Policy 3.5.2 Laboratory School Continued Service - Faculty Associate (Mark Up)***

***04.13.23.04 Policy 3.5.2 Laboratory School Continued Service - Faculty Associate (Clean Copy)***

***From Executive Committee:***

***04.07.23.01 Bonneville Email\_ Policy 3.1.30***

***04.14.23.02 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation (Current Copy)***

***04.14.23.03 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation and Employment History Review (Mark Up)  
04.10.23.01 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation and Employment History Review (HR and OGC comments\_mark up)***

***04.07.23.02 Policy 3.1.30 Criminal Background Investigation and Employment History Review (Clean Copy)***

***Faiths Law\_105 ILCS 5\_22-94  
Temp1-ISBE-Sexual-Misconduct-Disclosure-Form-Applicant***

***Temp2-Auth-Release-Sexual-Misconduct-Related-Info***

***Information Item: None.***

***Communications***

***Adjournment or Hard Stop 9:30 p.m.***

Motion by Senator Holmes, seconded by Senator Garrahy, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

***From Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:***

***04.13.23.09 AABC Request Regarding Spring Break***

Senate Nikolaou: One of the issues on our issues pending list was the possibility of changing the spring break so that it matches one of the breaks with district 87 or unit 5. In 2018 the AABC looked into it. They contacted district 87 and unit 5 if they would have any interest in changing their spring break to match our spring break. They said no.

Senator Horst: They had Senator Smith contact them.

Senator Nikolaou: And then Senator Marx left a comment on our issues pending list on if we wanted to have ISU match one of the spring breaks of district 87 or unit 5. So, we talked about it in the committee. Our student senators also commented that the time when the break happens is actually pretty good in terms of time, it’s kind of in the middle of the semester compared to the fall break where it is towards the end of the semester. They were worried that if we move it later to match district 87, we might have the same issue that we have with fall where it is too late in the semester and then you have two weeks before you end the semester because also unit 5 goes into June when it comes to classes. So, they have a longer period. We talked about it, benefits and cost, and then what it would take for the university and all the different units to come together and see all the different implications on switching it, even for one or two weeks. We all unanimously voted not to change it, even though we did say yes it would be great if we could coordinate it with at least one. But the cost outweighed the benefits. That’s why our request, since it was from 2018, to remove it from our issues pending list. The AABC is still going to consider the other request about creating mental health days for the fall. But for this item we ask the Office of the Provost, Planning and Finance, and Student Affairs if there are any specific issues that we need to address. There was mention in Music and Art of placement that you need to do at the beginning of the semester for students, how that would play, or for Sciences that it might cause problems with the labs that they had. So, there are too many moving parts of the fall break/mental health. That’s why, for this one, we are going to continue looking into it. Our request right now is to remove changing the spring break from our issues pending list.

Senator Blum: I’m good with it. I think actually these breaks are aligned, 87 and unit 5. I think the bigger problem is I don’t think they have, like where we always have ours come at a same time, I think they move theirs around. I don’t think that would work very well.

Senator Garrahy: I think theirs aligns with the Easter holiday. I think.

Senator Blum: It sometimes does but it didn’t this year. Anyway, moving it around is not really attainable, and if the students like it better I also think that’s important consideration.

Senator Holmes: I can say that some of the ed majors have talked to us, completely anecdotal, but some of them like when you go on your spring break and then if they are in a class and they have to go and do observation or whatever then that district goes on break the next week or something, so you kind of get two weeks of break. So, like a week of break and then like a week of I don’t have to go to observation because my kids are gone, or that kind of thing.

Senator Blum: Actually though, as an instructor who teaches during that time, it’s actually presenting certain curricular issues that are not there in the fall. But it’s okay.

Senator Garrahy: The other thing is that between the two school districts you are talking about 17,000 students in the two school districts. So, would it always align with Bloomington, would it always align with Normal? There are a whole bunch of issues that come with it.

Senator Horst: But it could rotate. And I’m just going to speak on behalf of the parents and other people who put this forward, that I spend money during the Unit 5 breaks because my children are out of school but I’m not. Then my spring break is occupied with all my I children. You say there’s no associated cost, all the parents that are faculty here have to deal with their children when they’re on break.

Senator Garrahy: I get that, Martha. But when you talk about the number of parents of ISU faculty and you compare it to 17,000 public school students in two different school districts, it can’t be anywhere near comparison to change all other families spring breaks to heel to the ISU faculty.

Senator Horst: We rotate the breaks of Thanksgiving, right.

Senator Garrahy: You’re talking about ISU doing this?

Senator Horst: Oh. Okay. Well, if you want to the have the conversation about ISU…

Senator Cline: But if ISU aligns with District 87 that leaves the Unit 5 people out. But then it becomes a logistical nightmare to flip every year where this is landing in people syllabus and when it’s landing in their programs.

Senator Horst: I’m just asking. I would like this to go to the floor. Personally, if you have children, it’s a burden.

Senator Nikolaou: The student senators that we had in the committee all said ideally it would match with one of the districts, but they were also in agreement that there is not a clear way to say that we are going to align with Unit 5, we are going to align with District 87.

Senator Horst: Did you look at the academic calendar of Unit 5 and District 87 schedules? Did you have a projection of the breaks going forward?

Senator Nikolaou: No.

Senator Blum: My wife’s worked in both the school districts and her break was always aligned with my sons. So, I don’t think there are differences; they seem to align. I do think that a problem with this is it’s not a family friendly. I think that’s exactly right. We have faculty that have children, particularly younger children, that need childcare during this.

Senator Horst: It’s a financial hit. We’re spending a couple hundred dollars on childcare.

Senator Garrahy: A member of our committee has children in Unit 5 and the comment was made, would this be beneficial to me, of course it is, but it’s a much bigger picture.

Senator Cline: If I may, maybe just turn our perspectives, Senator Nikolaou, you are asking us is it okay to take it off the issues pending. But what you started in your conversation was what the committee voted on it, and they voted no.

Senator Garrahy: That’s correct.

Senator Nikolaou: Everyone in the committee voted in favor of removing this from our issues pending list.

Senator Cline: Right. So, they decided as a committee that they don’t want to pursue it any further. It’s not so much taking it off the issue pending, it’s that the committee made a decision.

Senator Garrahy: Lea, I’m glad you said that because I’m sitting here thinking, okay, so, now we’re back to committees where decisions are made but that might not be the decision.

Senator Cline: Right. That we would be overturning a committee decision.

Senator Horst: I would just say that in 2018 the student that called was a student senator and I was upset that a faculty person didn’t take that on. I don’t think the committee ever even got the calendars of District 87 and Unit 5 to study how they rotated. I appreciate that it’s been on for a long time. I’m frustrated as a parent because it’s a difficulty that happens every year. And that’s why a lot of people try to send their kids to U-high, so they get the breaks aligned. You have a letter from Dan Liechty in your file saying, from his perspective, that it really needs to be addressed. But I appreciate that the committee voted on it.

Senator Nikolaou: Right. The previous committee reviewed that and the calendars, at that point they decided not to pursue it. Then the next question came from David Marx. Then we focused more on that side.

Senator Cline: So, the committee has reviewed it twice. Two versions of the committee.

Senator Horst: Okay. So, is everyone comfortable removing it from the issues pending list but keeping the fall break one on? Yes. Okay. I’m going to mention something that I discussed with former President Kinzy that I thought was a great idea. I brought this issue up to her and she had this idea that ISU could have some sponsored camps for the children of staff and faculty. I thought that was a great idea. It might be something that the administration can think about.

***Adjournment***

Motion by Senator Holmes, seconded by Senator Garrahy, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Attendance:***

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| ***Martha Horst***- Chairperson- WKCFA Faculty | Present |
| ***Patrick Walsh-*** Vice Chair and Student Body President | Present |
| ***Dimitrios Nikolaou-*** Secretary-CAS Faculty | Present |
| ***Craig Blum-*** COE Faculty | Present |
| ***Lea Cline***- WKCFA Faculty | Present |
| ***Deb Garrahy***- CAST Faculty | Present |
| ***Tracy Mainieri***- CAST Faculty | Excused |
| ***Zoe Smith-***Secretary of the SGA Assembly | Absent |
| ***Braxton Myers***- President of the SGA Assembly | Absent |
| ***Interim President Aondover Tarhule***- Ex-officio non-voting | Present |
| ***Acting Provost Ani Yazedjian***- Ex-officio non-voting | Present |