**Academic Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

**MONDAY, April 25, 2022**

**Approved**

***Call to Order***

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

***Public Comment:*** None.

***Oral Communication:***

Senator Horst: I have some Oral Communications. First off, I just had a transition meeting with Lisa Huson and Jeannie Barrett. She will be coming back into town in June, and we will continue those conversations. So, that was fun.

Are there any comments about the Academic Senate Calendar? We are maintaining the two possible Faculty Caucus meetings. We can always cancel them.

I wanted to let you know that there’s a possible National Council of Faculty Senates meeting that is probably going to happen on August 4th. If you’re interested, I could send you information. It’ll probably be in Houston. The call goes out to senate chairs and secretaries across the country. I went there. The last in-person meeting we had was three years ago in Austin. It was a lot of fun. But then we had a virtual meeting. We’re trying to get another in-person meeting. So, if anyone is interested in information on that, I’d be happy to send it to you.

***AIF Transparency (Dist. to Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)***

***04.22.22.02 Kalter Email\_ Questions for the April 20 meeting***

The other Oral Communication is regarding Professor Kalter’s email. I did meet with AVP Elkins. He was very much interested in creating a document that would describe the Provost’s spending, call it… “what is the Provost’s story regarding all of the programs that they are sending out to the departments.” So, the suggestion on the floor was that it would go to the AABC during the budget process.

Provost Tarhule: Is this normal?

Senator Horst: It would be a new thing.

Provost Tarhule: Yeah. But why are we doing it?

Senator Horst: Well, I’m just describing the conversation that I had with AVP Elkins. He thought it would be a documentation of the types of spending that the Provost’s office did -- a documentation to all the kind of money that you do send out to the departments; but it is an item for the Executive Committee to decide. This was a formal suggestion from senators on the floor, and then I proposed that solution. What do people think? Should we put it on the Issues Pending List as something to discuss for AABC in the fall when they do their general budget discussion? (Pause) Stacy is nodding yes.

Senator Nikolaou: They can talk about it.

Provost Tarhule: What are we trying to accomplish? What’s the goal?

Senator Horst: The goal was transparency, I believe, in one word.

Provost Tarhule: I had an office discussion about that, and I wanted to check with you guys. One of the things my office has really tried to do—and we discuss this every time—is to improve transparency. If I were to take, especially on the budget, Dan Elkin’s evaluation and do a word map, I think the one word that will stick out in those evaluations is transparency. Just how transparent the process has been. Now, I’m not saying we can’t do better. We can always do almost anything better. But I left last meeting wondering if maybe there is a disconnect between the people who are writing those evaluations and highlighting the transparency as one of the biggest things that they have seen improve, versus the narrative. So, actually, I wanted to ask this group what you all thought about the transparency in the Provost’s office? Because my sense, and the feedback I’ve been getting, especially on the budget, has been very good. So, I got caught a little bit surprised by the idea that we need more transparency. Is that what you are saying?

Senator Otto: I’m just agreeing with you that it is the question. I think that’s the question in the email that we received, about transparency.

Provost Tarhule: So, we can raise questions sometimes, right. But is the narrative and the information informing it correct? Is this a general perception or is this isolated? What are you all seeing from your stakeholders? What is it you would like about the budget that is not being provided?

Senator Horst: Todd, did you raise the question on the floor?

Senator Stewart: Well, I did it on behalf of a constituent.

Senator Horst: Okay. So, do you agree that there should be some further information about the Provost’s budget?

Senator Stewart: I don’t think it could hurt. I’ll admit, I haven’t been to the Provost’s website. Right. So, some of the information is available there. To answer the Provost’s question, I think I would need to talk to more people around CAS to get a sense of what they think about this. I just don’t know.

Senator Garrahy: I sit on the AABC, and AVP Elkins has provided us with any data that we have asked for to understand the process. I’m going to be honest; I haven’t been on the Provost’s website to check the budget since I was an administrator, but I’m assuming, you know, we’ve had those COVID years where we haven’t had the presentations over at the Alumni Center. I’m assuming those will come back later on. Those are open to the University community, and I’m sure the constituents that would like to attend it would attend it. I believe, again, having not been on the website, I believe that those presentations from all the deans end up on the website, at least mine used to end up on the website. So, I’m not quite sure how much more should be posted, or what else is missing.

Senator Horst: Can I clarify? There were two requests. The one was the departmental budget request, and you said this is posted on the Provost’s website. The second request was information about Provost spending related to kinds of money that’s coming into the Provost’s office, and there was a request for more transparency about that. That is what I talked to Dan Elkins about. He started saying we spend this much money on PIE, and we’re spending this much money on AIF. He just started listing the programs that the Provost’s office is doing to give back money to the departments. So, that’s what I was speaking about with Dan Elkins. Not the idea of the departmental budget request. But the Provost’s budget specifically.

Senator Otto: I think Deb raises a really important point. Part of this is COVID, obviously. I think people have really missed those presentations in the last couple of years and so maybe feel more out of the loop.

Senator Cline: I have a really basic question. So, as I understood it from the emails, there has been an adjustment in how departments are compensated when a person goes on sabbatical. If that is the case, which I think it is, is that Senate’s purview? Or is that the Provost’s office?

Senator Horst: Well, we can certainly ask for information about budgets.

Senator Cline: Right. Our scope, I’m just asking because when PIE came up, you said that that’s not really our… you can give advice to the Senate of what you are doing, but you don’t have to get our approval.

Senator Horst: Right, advisory.

Senator Cline: Advisory. So, if that decision has been made, that’s okay to make outside of Senate’s purview, but we would like information about it.

Senator Horst: Informed about the kind of spending that the Provost’s office is doing.

Senator Cline: Right. So, I guess my only question is if it goes to the committee, what could they possibly accomplish, if these decisions are rightfully made outside of Senate purview. I mean, would they simply…

Senator Horst: Transparency.

Senator Cline: Okay. So, we would request for information when these decisions are made. I’m just sort of saying, what is the efficacy of giving it to the committee? What could the committee reasonably do?

Senator Horst: Gather information about how the Provost’s office spends its money. Be informed.

President Kinzy: Anything that the Provost money spends their money on? Like literally, that’s a deep, very large hole. There’s a lot of money there. At what point…

Senator Horst: Yeah. He and I talked about not including personnel, and we’re not talking about paperclips. He seemed very excited about it, maybe I got the wrong impression, but he seemed to be excited about telling the Provost department’s story about how they’re sending money out to the different departments, and the kinds of programs that they’re using. I can’t go through the list, but he started talking about supporting faculty that are international faculty and they have green card expenses, and they have a budget for that. He just started listing the different kinds of ways that they support the PIE initiative, for instance. The different programs that the Provost’s office has to get money out to the departments. So, I interpreted it as a positive thing for the Provost’s office.

Senator Cline: I would just make a suggestion, as someone on Academic Affairs who would have things in the IP folder that would sort of say, investigate things. Like what do you want us to do as a committee? Because sometimes it a bit of a… it’s a different senate. If we’re going to send it to the committee, I suggest that we give it a specific charge from somewhere, like a specific thing to look after. I think it puts a lot of burden on the committee who wasn’t necessarily involved in the conversation, to sort of somehow into it what cause this thing to appear on their list.

Provost Tarhule: I’ll make a couple of comments that I’ve made before. We have a budget process, the one that people talk about. It’s quite meaningless. The budgeting and all the presentations you make has no impact on the money that the departments get. Nobody uses it. The money doesn’t even come from me, it comes from the Vice President for Finance. I have no role in it.

President Kinzy: He doesn’t change it either though.

Provost Tarhule: It doesn’t change.

Provost Kinzy: To be clear, he just passes through what has been historically done at this University.

Provost Tarhule: So, every year we get people around the table, make a budget, and it has no impact. So, when we talk about transparency, to my mind, I think there’s something almost unethical about asking people to present a budget when you know nothing is going to happen to it. Let’s keep that in mind. But if people want to go through that, and say, hey, let’s have this presentation, we can. I just want you to know it’s totally meaningless. Nothing will change. Nothing changes. Everybody gets exactly what they got from last year because we have a historical budget process. So, that’s one. The second on the transparency, if there’s an actual question, or people are concerned (that’s why I ask about your constituents, or what you have heard) and we need to dig deeper, I’m happy to do that. But we also have to be careful about creating a narrative about something if it’s not really there. That’s why I want to know, are you hearing concerns about this transparency, or is that something that one person is creating?

Senator Horst: Regarding a sabbatical, yes. I did hear that from a couple of department chairs, I’m just going to tell you that.

Provost Tarhule: Sure, but is that transparency or do you need more information? So, let’s use the words correctly, right. Transparency is almost an insinuation that something is totally all right. You can ask for information about, why did we change that. That’s a question I’m very happy to discuss. Putting it in the realm of transparency, it’s like almost… we have to be thoughtful about the people who do these things too, right. People in my office spend a lot of time putting out as much information as they can, only to hear something like this that maybe is not based on very much. It can be discouraging to people sometimes. And I can tell you that this is one that was. I heard it from folks in my office, like, “really, what more should be put out in order to be transparent?” So, what they were asking me is what really should we do? And I’m not sure. That’s why I want to hear from this group, what more can they do to be transparent? Is it really transparency or are you just wanting clarification about something?

Senator Horst: Let me just read the request, “Will the Senate receive a transparent report regarding a) how these newly centralized monies are being spent,” that’s up for debate, “b) where they are being spent, c) how much additional money is being transferred from the departments / schools to the Provost's office annually, d) which colleges or departments are benefiting most and/or which centrally administered functions are being newly supported and how.” I took that request to Dan Elkins, and he started talking about a document simply stating how the Provost spends its money at the biggest level. I didn’t really know all the information he was talking about, and I actually found it quite informative to find out how the Provost spends his money. So, I see it as an opportunity for the Provost office to talk to the Academic Senate about all of the programs you have. I didn’t know a lot of them. So, I don’t see it as necessarily a bad thing. I see it as an opportunity to find out more about the Provost office and how they’re supporting the University.

Senator Cline: Can I ask a question, or make a suggestion? I don’t know if the next Senate meeting is too soon, but what if either this next Senate meeting or the first Senate meeting in the fall AVP Elkins gives a presentation saying all of those things? Since we haven’t had the big presentation at the Alumni Center, maybe he could start with a 15-20 minute “where does the provost money go” presentation.

Senator Horst: Yeah. And just in terms of the budget, we are constitutionally obliged to look at the budget. That’s part of our function. We could put it in front of the entire Senate, we could put it in front of one committee. The budget always goes through AABC. So, it could go in tandem with that. My concept is when we get the full presentation from Stephens, we could also get a little presentation as to the budget from the Provost’s office.

Senator Cline: Sort of a response to the email, and the fact that there are several people who have the concern, I just thought that maybe a mini presentation, it could stand alone, and sort of help quell some of that.

Senator Garrahy: I get concerned when I hear “several people,” because what defines –and I’m not using your several, I know what you are saying—but what defines several? What defines constituents? Is it an end of 1? Is it an end of 10? What is it?

Senator Cline: I’ve heard zero from my constituents. Zero. But I don’t want to discount the fact that some people have.

Senator Spranger: Is it an issue that people just don’t know where to find the information? I have that conversation with my residents, like, “well, I didn’t know that was a policy.” Well, you signed it. You read it. There’s a lot of places to find it and they just don’t know where to look. Is it on the website and people just don’t know how to get to it?

Provost Tarhule: It’s a bit funny because every program, if we put out a program like PIE, we advertise. For the past year we’ve been trying to give out the money. So, we advertise, and we say apply for this. If we do a sabbatical, we advertise, people apply, and they get it. There’s no money that we give out that is not advertised. So, I’m sitting here trying to figure out what is the budget that would be reported?

President Kinzy: It’s not the budget, it is what departments benefit and what don’t. But it’s whoever follows the criteria, right?

Provost Tarhule: Yeah. Every money we ever touch, right, I say this is how much we have for PIE and maybe at the end of it we can come back and say this is how much we gave out. I’m trying to figure out what the reporting would be that would be done. That’s why I go back to what I said. Sometimes if you ask the wrong question or you write the right question incorrectly you may still not get the answer. So, I want to make sure and know what the problem here is. Is it a transparency issue? Is it people don’t know where the information is posted? Dan goes to the budget committee to give this presentation, right? What is it that they have wanted to see that is not there? Should that committee ask for more information? So, I’ll do whatever you guys say we should do, but let’s be clear on what it is we are trying to do. Everything we do is public. Everything we do is out there. We’re happy to talk about it, but I just want to make sure that it’s not a runaround of stuff that is already there in 101 different ways.

Senator Nikolaou: It could be framed more; in the last meeting we were talking about the AIF, and you asked if we could get the last ten years. So, it might be more of knowing the trend over times. Is it that, let’s say at the beginning we had that the budget was allocated more towards this type of activities and over time we have changed more into instructional capacity or more professional development? So, we don’t need to frame it as it is not a transparent process, it’s just that we heard that the money is being reallocated to different sources, but some people are going to be new and will not know what the resources are. And then it could be that we see over time based on the needs that we have for our students, for our faculty, did we have a change where certain portions of the budget were reallocated. And it could be presented more as information, similar to what Lea was saying, just an information, that’s what we do, and a way to advertise more for people who might not know about the different programs within the Provost’s office. So, we don’t need to present it in a negative way.

Senator Horst: Right.

Senator Nikolaou: We can make it more, “look at all these great things that we are doing through the Provost’s office, and because the needs have changed over time, that’s how the budget has been reallocated, let’s say, from this type to this other type.”

Senator Horst: This is a positive chance for the Provost’s office to advertise the ways that they are supporting the University community. It is now 4:22 p.m. Would you like to table this and have the next executive committee decide? Or would you like to put this on the AABC IP list that they work with the Provost’s office to investigate how they spend their money?

Senator Garrahy: But see, that word investigate. I’m sorry, Martha, but again….

Senator Horst: We see the Provost’s information on their budget.

President Kinzy: For this particular program?

Senator Horst: I’m not going to limit it to programs because I don’t have the information that Dan Elkins had. When I was in his office, he listed ten items that he thought that he would include. I just don’t have that knowledge.

Senator Garrahy: Then maybe I would suggest tabling it and perhaps you might be able to get with Dan Elkins and find out what it is. Again, the AABC, we spent a lot of time with Dan this semester. We’ve included his presentation to us so that everybody on the Senate and anybody that wants to pay attention, it’s in our annual report—which did not happen last year. So, that information was there. If there’s a specific question a constituent is looking for, transparent about what? Period. Fill in the blank.

Motion by Senator Garrahy, seconded by Senator Spranger, to table. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Distributed Communications:***

***Issues pending lists for internal committees:***

***AAC IP 2022-04-18***

***AABC IP 2022-04-18***

***FAC IP list 2022-04-18***

***PF IP 2022-04-18***

***Rules IP 2022-04-18***

***04.22.22.01 2022-2023 Policy Review Needed***

Senator Horst: I distributed the Issues Pending Lists just to complete the process. In the beginning of our term, we went through all the Issues Pending Lists, and over the summer I highlighted things that I thought should be priorities, and we drafted those letters. So, the process I’d like to do today is to go through the Issues Pending Lists and get your perspectives as to what you think you would like to see as a priority for next year. Please realize that all of the items that haven’t been signed by President Kinzy remain on the Issues Pending List; they’re still in process. The other thing is that if there is something that the Executive committee would like to remove, we can do that as well. So, if there was an issue/article from five years ago that we feel is irrelevant now, we can remove it at this time. So, prioritizing things and removing things. So, let’s start with the Academic Affairs Committee. Is there anything that they didn’t accomplish that you think should be a priority for next year?

Senator Cline: I can tell you what my priority is when we get back, if they decide to make me chair again, is to deal with the issue of the curricular process in 300/400 levels. We had some just leveling and other things sort of happening, we wanted everyone to be kind of solid. I think, at least as far as Amy Hurd and I are concerned, that’s the first thing that we’ll do.

Senator Horst: Okay. Very good.

Senator Nikolaou: Item 14 listed?

Senator Horst: Correct. Other items? I have a big question about the Code. I don’t know if the Student Code is being worked on?

Senator Spranger: It was at one point.

Senator Nikolaou: When I was chair in Academic Affairs it was still there.

Senator Horst: It’s been in the ad hoc committee for five years now. I’ll talk to Levester Johnson about that one. Any other items on this list? Anything anyone wants to consider for deletion? Okay. Seeing nothing.

We’ll go to AABC. They have a lot on there. What do people think should be a priority?

Senator Nikolaou: Number 12, seems it’s been there forever. Do we know where we stand with it because I’ve heard both sides, that we need to revisit when the student break happens to align where most of the children of faculty and staff and the university are attending. But I also heard the other side where they say, “Well, it might benefit some, but it’s going to make someone else worse off.” So, there is no solution to this problem. I just don’t know where we stand in terms of the process, because it’s like since 2018 in there.

Senator Horst: Yeah. Former Senator Leichty made a request, I made a request, and then recently Professor Schimmel made a request about fall breaks. All of these, to my knowledge, haven’t been dealt with. Just conversations. Is this the program we want to go forward with? That’s the question to the committee really. With the spring breaks and potentially the fall break.

Senator Cline: They also have 26, the Academic Calendar. So, maybe we could suggest that they combine 12, 24, and 26 and deal with that. Have just a conversation about the breaks. I know that your body had a conversation about that. Am I correct about that? The Student Government Association had a discussion about breaks.

Senator Spranger: Yeah. We did. Not like a formal one. Dr. Davenport also realized that there was an issue regarding student mental wellbeing.

Senator Horst: And I think the Student Affairs office was tracking mental health and where they fell within the semester to see if there’s a correlation.

Senator Spranger: I just know that J.D. said he was looking into it because…

Senator Miller: Moral was very low.

Senator Spranger: The week before fall break is always rough for everyone.

Senator Cline: Thanksgiving?

Senator Spranger: Yeah.

Senator Horst: Okay. Anything else on here? (Pause) You know, I’m just going to say this Television Program policy has been on here for eight or so years. It’s just a policy. I don’t know how we’re supposed to work on it without Communications.

Senator Cline: Possibly through Legal? I don’t even know what’s in that policy.

Senator Horst: It was last revised in 1975. They tried working with Steve Hunt, Chair of Com. Okay. We’ll just leave it on there.

Okay. Moving to Faculty Affairs. Anything there? Of course, we’ll strike off some of these after presidential approval. But did you perceive of anything that you thought needed priority, Dimitrios?

Senator Nikolaou: The two big ones they are out of our committee, the Sabbatical and the Ombudsperson.

Senator Horst: Yes. University Professor, if this concept of a working group for the Faculty Caucus goes through for the bylaws, that would be a great policy for a group like that to work on.

Senator Nikolaou: Yeah. And then Craig McLauchlan told us that there are going to be a couple from, like, the bottom ones that are more research/grant related. That they will have to revise. But he has to wait for his staff to make all the revisions because similar to financial aid, they need to make the revisions and then we have to review them.

Senator Horst: Maybe the Protection of Minors policy?

Senator Nikolaou: Yeah. And is the Academic Freedom, like should we put it higher up or…?

Senator Horst: They’ll probably, hopefully, be a faculty working group, and one of the policies to be reviewed is 3.3.8. And it might be good at that point to send Academic Freedom maybe to that group to look into. The Protection of Minor, that has to go through Rules first. Am I correct?

Senator Stewart: Yeah. Roberta Trites gave a presentation to Rules about that and wanted to make sure it was on our IP list for next year.

Senator Horst: Right. We’ll get to that one. Anything else we want to prioritize on this list of policies? Okay.

Okay. Planning and Finance. They got through some things but not all of them. Of course, there’s going to be the Strategic Plan happening next year.

President Kinzy: Yes. The Provost and I will be having a meeting soon, and it will kick off in the fall. And we have some draft timelines, and we’re looking at what might be somewhat different, assessing that. So, yes.

Senator Horst: Okay. So, this standing committee will be a great place to work with them to get Academic Senate input from. And it’s a well-balanced committee, with the A/P and civil service senate rep. Anything else about Planning and Finance?

Okay. Then we’ll go to Rules. Besides all of the bylaws work, you’ve got the Whistleblower policy from Legal?

Senator Stewart: I think that’s right, we did get that. Yeah. And then the Protection of Minors. I’ll report that, as far as I can tell, the College of Business bylaws are just dead in the water, right. They’ve been stuck at Rules now since I started three years ago, and a revision from the College of Business has not come back to Rules. It’s not that Rules isn’t doing anything, it’s that the College of Business is not getting us anything.

Provost Tarhule: I shared your concerns with the dean. He did say that—had talked to me about the college not being engaged, so I conveyed that to the dean, and he said, well, I think when we had that discussion was when you guys were going to vote in the Caucus and he said he was, as he said, re-energizing the college’s engagement. So, hopefully something is coming back to you. I will check with him again to see how far he has come. I think I meet with him in two days. So, I’ll re-check with him.

Senator Horst: I think that three years ago, there was a conversation about Rules and members of the College of Business College Council, and there’s been no movement since then.

Provost Tarhule: Yeah. They are not very engaged. I asked him about it, and that’s true. He had some interesting thoughts that maybe I need to share with you as well. But he knows they are not engaged. He’s going to try to get them to engage more.

Senator Horst: So, we have the bylaws, the Withdrawal policy and the Protection of Minors, and the College of Ed bylaws.

Senator Stewart: Yeah. Rules just sent them a huge set of comments, like ten pages long, and so my hope is that the College of Education will come back with revised bylaws in the fall.

Senator Otto: We will. I was at College Council today and I let Robyn and Kristina (the chair and vice chair) know that that was coming from a couple of meetings ago back to them. So, they got the packet, and they know that we’ll have to dig right into that in the fall. I don’t think that will be a problem at all.

Senator Nikolaou: So, do we have the Academic Senate bylaws as priority or not.

Senator Stewart: Yeah.

Senator Horst: Yeah. The Academic Senate bylaws, the College of Ed bylaws, the Whistleblower policy, and Protection of Minors policy as sidelines.

Senator Stewart: I will note that there is this lingering issue 5, review the Constitution regarding the review and approval of bylaws by school. I don’t know. Maybe Rules should form a subcommittee to just try to get rid of that.

Senator Horst: It’s pretty easy. It’s pretty straight forward that the use of the term school seems to refer to entities like the Graduate School and not things like the school of Music. You would not want to have to do the School of Music, the School of Communication, the School of Art.

Senator Stewart: Right.

Senator Horst: So, when the Constitution is talking about the word schools, it’s a bold use of the word schools for this university.

Senator Stewart: So, you may already know the answer to that one.

Senator Horst: I do. I do know the answer, but I’m not on the Rules Committee. So, they just need to propose a deletion of it.

Senator Stewart: Okay.

Senator Horst: But the Rules Committee does not have to review school bylaws, but they do need to review the Graduate School bylaws. So, they do have to do a little bit of digging as to what entities, is there anything else besides the Graduate School. I don’t think so, but they need to consider that. Or maybe just specify that the use of the word school here does not apply to an entity on parallel with the department or something like that.

Okay. I will look at these in further detail over the summer. The other document you received from Cera, just for your information, was the 28 policies that have not even been assigned to the internal committees. So, these will be assigned next year through our process. Again, I’m going to do some analysis just to see where we are. But we continue to be rather behind.

I’m just going to say one of the reasons might be we did all those emergency financial aid policies.

Senator Cline: Almost everything we did this year was emergency.

Senator Horst: Right. So, we just have a lot of policies that we’re supposed to go through on a five-year cycle, then we have a whole pile of policies. Last year we had 38 assigned policies pending and 43 policies to be assigned. So, we had 81 pending policies. Now, we have 28 pending policies to be reviewed, and then I don’t know how many we have here. But the pile is still rather large.

Senator Cline: So, for instance, on that list, Martha, 7.7.6 is another one of those that’s assigned to Academic Affairs Committee, Registration Blocks, that’s another financial aid policy. So, I think we need to have a discussion about what’s our policy and what’s…

Senator Horst: Okay. If there’s something you’d like Exec to consider removing from the list, like Registration Blocks, Cera, let’s just put that on the list.

Senator Cline: Yeah. 7.7 is all financial aid, so I’m not sure that that’s necessarily ours.

Senator Horst: The best use of our time. Yeah. In retrospect, I sent that note to Bridget Curl and then I realized we had a Reinstatement Committee. So, that policy that we looked at, it did make sense because we do have this standing committee that does reinstatement.

Senator Cline: That makes sense. It’s just the financial aid things, I’m not sure what business we have when it’s all regulated.

Senator Horst: Right. So, 7.4.2, 7.4.5, 7.4.6?

Senator Cline: No. 7.7. Any 7.7s.

Senator Horst: Oh, just 7.7.6.

Senator Cline: Yeah.

Senator Horst: Okay. Very good. Thank you. Okay I’ll look at those again over the summer and try to further hone in on what we should prioritize.

***From Faculty Affairs Committee approved external committee reports:***

***Athletics Council Report***

Senator Horst: Is there any desire for this body to forward this to the Senate? Satisfied with their review? Okay. Thank you very much.

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

***Proposed* Academic Senate Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2022**

**7:00 P.M.**

***Call to Order (Student Body President/Academic Senate Vice Chairperson)***

***Seating of New Senate (Student Body President/Academic Senate Vice Chairperson)***

***Roll Call (Student Body President/Academic Senate Vice Chairperson)***

***Election of Academic Senate Chairperson***

***Election of Academic Senate Secretary***

***Election of Executive Committee Faculty Members***

***Public Comment***

***Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of***

***Chairperson's Remarks***

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

***Administrators' Remarks***

* ***President Terri Goss Kinzy***
* ***Provost Aondover Tarhule***
* ***Vice President of Student Affairs Levester Johnson***
* ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***

***Advisory Items:***

***Academic Senate Calendar for 2022-2023***

***Academic Plan (Associate Provost Ani Yazedjian)***

***Action Item:***

***From Executive Committee:***

***02.18.22.14 Email from Bridget Curl RE\_ policy 2.1.11 SAP review***

***02.18.22.06 Policy 2.1.11 Satisfactory Academic Progress Required for Continued Financial Aid Eligibility Current Copy***

***04.15.22.01 Policy 2.1.11 Satisfactory Academic Progress Required for Continued Financial Aid Eligibility Mark Up***

***04.15.22.02 Policy 2.1.11 Satisfactory Academic Progress Required for Continued Financial Aid Eligibility\_Clean Copy***

***From Academic Affairs Committee:***

***03.09.22.01 Policy 2.1.21 Undergraduate Academic Standing, Probation, and Reinstatement Current Copy***

***04.15.22.03 Policy 2.1.21 Undergraduate Academic Standing, Probation, and Reinstatement Mark Up***

***04.12.22.01 Policy 2.1.21 Undergraduate Academic Standing, Probation, and Reinstatement Clean Copy***

***Information Item: None.***

***Communications***

***Adjournment***

Motion by Senator Small, seconded by Senator Cline, to approve the proposed agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

***From Janice Bonneville: 04.07.22.03 Policy 3.1.51 COVID-19 Paid Administrative Leave \_ NEW POLICY (Senate- Non-Senate?)***

Senator Horst: We have this new policy from HR. Is there anyone who thinks this should be a Senate policy?

Senator Cline: I’m not sure that I agree that it necessarily needs to be a Senate policy, but I do hope it can be widely discriminated.

Senator Horst: So, on the list of ones we’d like to be advised on?

Senator Cline: Advised might be good. I think there’s a lot here about the retroactive things. So, it would just be helpful that everybody…

President Kinzy: This is state required, right? I just want to make sure we don’t have any say. Okay.

Senator Cline: Maybe not advise, I’m not sure that it’s our policy that we should be in control of, but I would hope that we can make sure that it’s widely distributed, because there are lots of things in here that our constituents would be interested to know. Whether it’s coming from the state, no matter, they just want to know it.

President Kinzy: And it was put out immediately. They had this ready before we went out. Other universities were scrambling. Because there was a requirement that you could have gotten eligibility if you ran out that day and got the J&J vaccine. Otherwise, you had to have been vaccinated before. So, if you had COVID and you weren’t vaccinated, but you got vaccinated the day that order came out with J&J, you’d have been eligible to get paid retroactively. It did go out broadly from HR the minute it happened. We were way ahead of everyone else. That said, did everyone read their email?

Senator Cline: I was going to say, you’re assuming people did. I had someone fight with me yesterday that they didn’t get a raise this year. I’m like, but we did, and the President sent it to everybody.

Senator Horst: So, we have three categories. One is it’s a Senate policy. Two is it’s not a senate policy, but we’d like to know if it gets changed. I think you’re saying it’s that one.

Senator Cline: Yeah.

Senator Horst: And three is it’s not a Senate policy ,and we don’t necessarily want to hear about it. Maybe some of those 7.7s. So, are people in favor of status B, it’s not a Senate policy but if it does change, we’d like to hear about it? Advisory. Nodding. Nodding. Okay.

***From Leanna Bordner: 04.20.22.01 Athletics Council Bylaws (Dist. to Rules Committee)***

Senate Horst: Okay. We have a document from Leanna Bordner. This is coming from the Athletics Council, and they’ve done some edits to their bylaws. We don’t have a standing Rules Committee, and furthermore it’s unusual for somebody outside the Senate to send something directly to a committee chair, although I understand you’ve had conversations with her; but I’d like this to go through the Executive Committee. Are there any comments on the Athletic Council bylaws change that will be proposed to the Rules Committee, I assume?

Senator Nikolaou: I just want to make sure that the Rules Committee pays attention to what they propose to delete under Executive Committee item one. Because their justification over there, I’m not buying it.

Senator Horst: Yes. I said, could they have a preapproved document, for instance the Director of Athletics Search? could there be an understanding with this Council as to how a search like that would occur and what sort of representation there is? It doesn’t need to be something that’s targeted to a specific search that happens right there; it could be just a general understanding that they develop with the council.

Senator Nikolaou: Well, item one is search procedures. It is about the procedures, it’s not about knowing the ins and outs of who are the candidates, which the justification falls more on.

Senator Horst: I also thought they might want to work with DIAC re: some of the revisions they’re doing to e. I also noted the deletion of “the Athletics Council shall serve as an advisory body to the Director of Athletics and the President, with primary advisory responsibility to the President.” I didn’t understand the deletion there.

President Kinzy: I think it might be an interpretation of the NCAA requirement of Athletics “reporting to the President.” It’s potentially a little overinterpreted.

Senator Horst: Okay.

President Kinzy: And, in fact, I think it diminishes their role with the Athletic Director, which is important. It’s like talking to him, right. So, I think it really does increase the value to the Athletic Director. If you’re asking if I feel belittled in this, I do not. I still have to sign off on Athletics.

Senator Nikolaou: And they may want to call them recording secretary instead of recorder. That’s how they call them in other committees.

Senator Horst: I was wondering if they were deleting an officer.

Senator Nikolaou: There are other committees where there are non-members, where we have non-voting, who are recording secretaries.

Senator Horst: Oh, I see.

Senator Nikolaou: So, for example, for the APC in principle, we would have someone from the Provost office if we needed to request one who would not be a member and they would be non-voting.

Senator Horst: All right. We will send that to the Rules Committee.

***Executive Session:***

* ***Review of the Report to the Board on the Performance of the President***
* ***Review Commentary on the Vice Presidents results***

The Illinois Open Meetings Act Section 5ILCS120 Section C.1 allows for closed meetings to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal for the specific of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.

Motion by Senator Cline, seconded by Senator Spranger, to go into executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

The committee discussed the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee’s annual report on the performance of the President and the commentary on the Vice Presidents.

Motion by Senator Nikolaou, seconded by Senator Garrahy, to return from executive session. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Horst: Okay. The AABC will forward that report to the Board. Are there any observations about the execution of the survey that we could share or send as an Issues Pending List item to the next AABC?

Senator Garrahy: The AABC did discuss that we think it’s time to revisit these questions, to make the questions specific to the audience that they’re intended. We need to redo the questions. We think they should be sent out separately versus everyone gets the same thing.

Senator Horst: Separately meaning a separate survey to faculty, a separate survey to staff?

Senator Garrahy: Correct. And I specifically asked the students on the committee, of which there are undergraduate and a graduate student, if they felt that the student questionnaire should be separated, and they felt that it was because of some of the continuing responses that were related to graduate students but not undergraduate students.

Senator Horst: So, you’re saying a graduate survey and a…

Senator Garrahy: That’s what they suggested. I originally said, “Should we have a student survey?” and then they said they thought that should be teased out.

Senator Horst: Okay. Certainly, the AABC could look at that and look at the numbers that you get for the grad students.

Senator Garrahy: All the numbers were abysmal and this year. I requested that we put in the totality of the population. So, 20 graduate students out of how many, 2,000. We did that for each of the constituents in the survey.

Senator Horst: Does everyone agree with the question whether or not to have a separate faculty question, staff questions, and student questions? Maybe even separate grad student and regular student… at least a survey.

Senator Cline: I think that could be very valuable, partially because there are leadership constituencies in those areas; so you can ask the graduate student union to help discriminate. So, maybe if they feel there has been a specific survey for your population, maybe they can help encourage. Same with the student body government; they can help with the undergrads, and the union for the different staffs, that might be helpful.

Senator Spranger: I was just thinking that, too. Because if I get an email about a survey and they say in the headline this is a specific survey for a group you’re a part of, I feel more inclined to answer them when I know it goes to everyone. I’m not really sure why I feel that way, but I definitely do.

Senator Otto: Research backs that up, by the way. Because if you know you’re getting a survey that’s tailored to your constituency, the rate is going to go up for that.

Senator Nikolaou: Lea, when you mentioned where you said for example, let’s say to the A/P Council to the A/P. Because we wouldn’t be able to do that.

Senator Cline: No, I mean that the University put them out, the Student Government Association could pick up, we could say, “We’re sending out this survey, there’s a separate one for undergraduate students; maybe you could help us to get the word out from their body.” It wouldn’t come from their body, but we could use those constituencies to help.

Senator Nikolaou: Okay. Because, for example, the SGA wouldn’t be able to send the survey themselves.

Senator Cline: I just mean that if there’s some sort of special body, then they would be more likely to assist, if they knew it was for their membership.

Senator Horst: So, there’s the distribution of the survey and then the actual questions on the survey itself. The other problem with the “I don’t knows.” I think they’ve addressed that, but that needs to be teased out. Any other observations about the survey to pass on to the next AABC to tackle? They can come up with the questions or what kind of demographics they want to distribute it to on their own. We need to know about that though by December, because the survey needs to go out in January.

Senator Otto: the more that we put on to change this particular survey, like breaking it up by constituency, the much more complicated it gets as a task for the committee. So, it seems like to have a set of things and then pilot it and see how it goes.

Senator Horst: That’s a good idea. So, maybe just work on the student survey next year and get that finished. I do remember when we designed the VP surveys, it was about ten years ago. So, those also could be revisited and see if those could be fine-tuned.

Senator Nikolaou: For the accommodation to add the “I don’t know” applied to the VP surveys as well.

Senator Horst: And that was just done?

Senator Nikolaou: That was not done because for the VPs; there is not an option of “I don’t know.”

Senator Horst: But the “I don’t know” can’t be part of the data.

Senator Otto: Can I make a suggestion about the “I don’t know?” Some survey’s say no basis for judgement or something like that on them. That can be a much more… that’s actually a productive category in the sense that it is data in itself to know that a large part of your constituency has no basis to know some aspect that they should be aware of. So, it’s a qualitative measure. It’s reading between the lines of the quantitative data. That could be useful.

Senator Horst: it’s useful to know, but it was actually counted as a number 6. That was a mistake. Okay. Any other observations to pass on to AABC? Okay. Seeing none.

***Adjournment***Motion by Senator Spranger, seconded by Senator Villalobos, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Attendance**

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| **SENATE**  **REPRESENTATIVES** | **Attendance** | **MOTION:** | **MOTION:** | **MOTION:** |
| Name |  |  |  |  |
| Cline, Lea | Present |  |  |  |
| Garrahy, Deb | Present |  |  |  |
| Horst, Martha | Excused |  |  |  |
| Kinzy, Terri\* | Present | NV | NV | NV |
| Miller, Chloe | Present |  |  |  |
| Nikolaou, Dimitrios | Present |  |  |  |
| Otto, Stacy | Virtual |  |  |  |
| Small, Maddy | Present |  |  |  |
| Spranger, Avery | Present |  |  |  |
| Stewart, Todd | Present |  |  |  |
| Tarhule, Aondover\* | Present | NV | NV | NV |
| Villalobos, Rodrigo | Present |  |  |  |