**Faculty Caucus Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 20, 2022**

**Approved**

***Call to Order***

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

***Public Comment-*** None.

***Approval of Faculty Caucus meeting minutes of 3/23/22 and 04/06/22***

Motion by Senator Pancrazio, seconded by Senator Stewart, to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Elections:***

***College of Engineering Deans Search Committee***

By electronic ballot, the following individuals were elected as the pool of volunteers to be provided to the Provost to serve on the College of Engineering Deans Search Committee:

Marjorie Jones, CHE, CAS

Michael Torry, KNR, CAST

George Rutherford, PHY, CAS

Amin Bahmanian, MAT, CAS

Ryan Brown, TCH, COE

Matt Aldeman, TEC, CAST

Erika Sparby, ENG, CAS

Fusun Akman, MAT, CAS

Tim Trombley, FIL, COB

John Sedbrook, BIO, CAS

***Panel of Ten***

By electronic ballot, the following individuals were elected to the Panel of Ten for a one-year term:

Klaus Schmidt, TEC, CAST

Eric Peterson, GEO, CAS

Kim Schafer Astroth, MCN

Sarah French, MIL

Sarah Smelser, ART, WKCFA

Chris Horvath, PHI, CAS

Guang Jin, HSC, CAST

Rishi Saripalle, ITK, CAST

John Sedbrook, BIO, CAS

Richard Nagorski, CHE, CAS

***Academic Freedom, Ethics and Grievance Committee***

By slate, the Faculty Caucus elected the following individuals to serve three-year terms on the Academic Freedom Ethics and Grievance Committee:

Amy Robillard, CAS

Ronnie Jia, CAST

Uttam Manna, CAS

Do-Yong Park, COE

Fusun Akman, CAS

Alycia Hund, CAS

Marjorie Jones, CAS

Mohamed Nur-Awaleh, COE

***External Committees of the Academic Senate – Election by Slate***

The Rules Committee made the annual assignments to fill the vacancies on the External Committees of the Senate as well as the Team Excellence Award Committee. Those assignments were unanimously approved.

***Athletics Council***

Replacing:

Christopher Hamaker, CHE, 2016-2022 (2nd term)

Phyllis McCluskey-Titus, EAF, 2016-2022 (2nd term)

Doug Hatch, TCH – retiring, term would expire in 2023

New:

Xing Wang (CAS//MAT) – (2022-2025)

Chad Kahl (MIL) – (2022-2025)

Lara Handsfield (TCH) – finishing Doug Hatch’s term – (2022-2023)

***Council On General Education***

Replacing:

Taeok Park, CSD, (replaced Georgia Tsouvala) CAS, History, 2019-2022

New:

Gregory Braswell (CAS/PSY) – (2022-2025)

***Honors Council***

Replacing:

Meredith Downes, COB, 2019-2022

Michael Gizzi, CAST, 2019-2022

Elizabeth White, COE, 2019-2022

New:

Kyle Miller (COE) – (2022-2025)

Yun-Ching Chung (COE) – (2022-2025)

Hulda Black (COB) – (2022-2025)

***Library Committee***

***Replacing:***

Gary Hunter (replacing Karen Stipp), CAS, 2019-2022

Marie Labonville, WKCFA, 2019-2022- Chair

Kathy Webster, CAST, 2019-2022 (2nd Term)

Guang Jin (Michael Barrowclough, CAST, 2019-2022

Mary Volle Cranston, MCN, 2019-2022

VACANT (Aparna Idate, CAS) 2021-2024

New:

Mohammad Nur-Awaleh (COE) – (2022-2025)

Guang Jin (CAST) – (2022-2025)

Robin Trost (MCN) – (2022-2025)

Tobias Pret (COB) – (2022-2024)

CAS Humanities - VACANT

***Reinstatement Committee***

Replacing:

April Anderson-Zorn, MIL, 2019-2022

Andrea Crimmins, WKCFA, 2019-2022

New :

April Anderson-Zorn (MIL) – 2nd term – (2022-2025)

Maggie Marlin-Hess (WKCFA) – (2022-2025)

***University Appeals Board***

Replacing:

Meredith Downes, COB (replacement for Justin Vickers, WKCFA,) 2019-2022

New:

Rachel Grimsby (WKCFA) – (2022-2025)

***University Curriculum Committee***

Replacing:

CAS: Jennifer Howell, 2019-2022

COB: Heather Jia, 2019-2022

COB: Joseph Johnson

COE: Kristina Falbe, TCH (replaced May Jadallah), 2019-2022

WKCFA: Kristen Carlson, 2019-2022

New :

Susan Chen (CAS/ECO) – (2022-2025)

Yi Ren (COB) – (2022-2025)

Thomas Howe (COB) – (2022-2024)

Kristin Jackson (COE) – (2022-2025)

Bert Stabler (WKCFA) – (2022-2025)

***Executive Session: Ombudsperson Endorsement***

The Faculty Caucus did not go into Executive Session. By electronic ballot,nominees for Ombudsperson Council endorsed and not endorsed by a majority of members of the Faculty Caucus will be forwarded to the Provost’s Office.

***Council for Teacher Education confirmation***

The Faculty Caucus confirmed the following faculty members, nominated by their dean, to serve on the Council for Teacher Education for three-year terms:

Adena Meyers, CAS, 2022-2025

Matthew Winsor, CAS, 2022-2025

***Information/Action Items:***

[***ASPT Review***](https://academicsenate.illinoisstate.edu/documents/) ***(University Review Committee chairperson Chad Buckley and Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Administration Roberta Trites)***

* ***04.08.22.05 ASPT REVIEW\_ Section VIII\_URC revisions to reflect approved changes to Section IX***

Senator Horst: We have article VIII. This item was discussed on October 20, December 8, and then finally on February 9. I’m going to walk through part A. It just has a slightly reworded language, but it basically reflects the conversations with the Faculty Caucus.

Part B now conforms with what we passed with article IX, with the additions of some language. We’ll turn to the URC in a moment. For instance, the two or more peer evaluators are added, the Senator Bonnell edit is there, the “in participating units” language that Senator Cline suggested is there, the strike out in part E was from a draft that we reviewed in December, so that stands what we did before. And now there is new language that was added in part E. And I’ll turn it over to Professors Buckley and Trites to discuss the rationale behind that new language.

Dr. Buckley: That was added based on concerns by Caucus at the last meeting about the possibility of decisions by DFSC/SFSCs to require or possibly not require external reviews being done capriciously. So, this was added to protect faculty and help with that transition.

Senator Horst: That new language, “ All faculty members hired without tenure will be subject to the external review policies in place at the time of hire. Should a Department/School elect to require external review letters, it must specify the starting date for that requirement. CFSCs shall review and approve all DFSC/SFSC policies attending to the use of external peer review letters or the removal of such requirements from DFSC/SFSC policies (see IV.B.1).” Are there any questions about that new language? (Pause) I raised Senator Valentin’s observation with President Kinzy who also thought this was needed. I see no questions.

Motion by Senator Cline, seconded by Senator Smudde, to move to Action Item. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Horst: I will make an observation that in the fall it would be appropriate to have parallel language of what we approved to be in article IX, but we can consider that later. Is there any debate about article VIII?

ASPT article VIII was unanimously approved as revised.

* ***04.08.22.06 ASPT REVIEW\_ Section XVII\_URC revisions to reflect feedback from Faculty Caucus***

Senator Horst: Okay. Article XVII was discussed in December. The Caucus Exec forwarded their observations. This is now the first time we’ve seen this document back from the URC. They changed some wording in B.2. For instance, they struck out “disciplinary action” in the C.2 sentence, “Faculty members must state clearly in the written request that they are officially requesting a formal meeting. This written request shall include an explanation as to why the faculty member believes that there has been a misinterpretation, misjudgment, or procedural error relating to a promotion, tenure, performance evaluation, or cumulative post-tenure review,” they struck “or disciplinary action.” Are you standing by that edit?

Dr. Buckley: Yes. We would like to stand by that edit. In B.1, it states that, “A formal meeting with a DFSC/SFSC or CFSC is a preliminary step in all appeals, except disciplinary appeals.” We feel that it is the intention there, after discussing it, Professor Trites and I, is that that would not be an option in disciplinary cases.

Senator Horst: I do convey some confusion regarding this language because there’s formal meetings, formal appeals, formal hearings, and it is a little hard to parse. But I recognize your interpretation of that language. So, they are standing by the striking of “disciplinary action.” It also notes that there is parallel language in XVII.L.1. Are there any other questions regarding the edit in B.2.?

Moving to D.1., they accepted our edits. They did do a slight wording change. “The faculty member who believes that relevant factors or materials have been ignored or misinterpreted shall be entitled to offer, in writing, arguments that supplement the materials and/or add,” and they added “new materials” as opposed to “additional” which is what the Caucus proposed. All the rest of the edits were proposed by the Caucus. Are there any questions about D.1.?

Senator Blum: So, this language as interpreted is only about formal meetings, correct?

Dr. Buckley: Correct. Formal meetings and all appeals before CFSC.

Senator Blum: Okay. Thank you.

Senator Horst: Any further questions about D.1.? (Pause) Okay. They accepted our other edits in E.3. They, again, thought that that language should be struck. If I’m interpreting it correctly, they feel like the informal meeting language addresses this scenario where somebody would want to meet with the dean. Is that our interpretation?

Dr. Buckley: Correct. At the very beginning of XVII, informal meetings are encouraged. We felt that was sufficient.

Senator Horst: Okay. Informal meetings would be a one-on-one. Is there any question about their proposal to strike this out?

Senator Blum: One of the things that I think, and it actually kind of connects a little bit to my previous questions, because there’s very similar language regarding misinterpretation. And actually, this also specifies an opportunity to meet with the chair and the dean. While I agree with the URC, there is essentially an overlap. I often try to think of this as like an assistant professor, who doesn’t have the DFSC or Senate experience. And I do actually think that there is a value in saying that some of these things should be available. So, like a chair meeting or a dean meeting, I don’t think we should take that off the table. Yes, it does say in A that there is an informal process, but it doesn’t really say that you can have that meeting. Nor does it really say that… it mentions things, for example, that new materials could be presented. I think in particular, new materials, for example, would be something that could probably take care of in the informal process. While I’m sympathetic to the gist of it, I think some of the details are actually beneficial to faculty just for clarity. So, there’s my thoughts.

Dr. Trites: I concur that at every stage new information should be allowed to be added. So, we’re on the same page there. And I believe that even without this paragraph, new information could always and should always be allowed. I’m concerned that there be a misunderstanding that an informal meeting with the dean could lead to an overturning of the whole process. It’s that, I think, was where we were concerned about the redundancy. So, I do want to go back and fine-tooth comb it to make sure—you’re absolutely right, Senator Blum—we absolutely have to allow those conversations to take place and new material to be added. Absolutely. It’s not the URC’s intention, in my observation, to preclude that. Rather, its to prevent the misperception that an informal meeting with the dean alone. I take a look at this language, “…will be considered at the discretion of the chair, director, or dean,” the chair, director, or dean should have no discretion if you have new material to add. You don’t, frankly, want to give the chair, director, or dean (no offense to chairs, directors, or deans) but the discretion of the chair, director, or dean should have nothing to do with that informal process. It’s always allowed.

Senator Horst: But too, there’s also this requirement to have a formal meeting at certain stages, and there’s this danger that this could be interpreted as being the informal meeting, a substitute somehow.

Dr. Trites: Right. And that’s what we’re trying to prevent. Exactly.

Senator Horst: Is there any further questions about the URC’s, again, desire to strike 3? (Pause) Okay. The other edit that I brought to the URC’s attention today was in K.4. This is under Initiation of a Non-Reappointment Recommendation Appeal. There’s this consistent edit to replace “academic freedom or ethics violation” with the language “includes matters under the jurisdiction of the AFEGC,” and this is an edit that occurred at several points in the ASPT document. So, did you guys agree to that edit?

Dr. Buckley: We accept that as a friendly amendment.

Senator Horst: Okay. So, the language in K.4 would read, “If a faculty member believes that the basis for non- reappointment includes matters under the jurisdiction of the AFEGC, the faculty member may request a review by the Academic Freedom, Ethics and Grievance Committee.” And that’s just to make it consistent with the other similar edits throughout the document. So, that’s a new edit.

I’m going to just observe that there’s he/she and him/her in E.3, G.2, and K.5. I’m also going to observe that in L.7, and in my copy, it says “der” instead of “under,” but in my peach book it says under. So, I’m just letting you know that. And in the spirit of Senator Nikolaou, in L.1 the “See” is capitalized and not lowercase, and to be consistent you would want the lowercase “see.” That’s the way it’s in the rest of the document. I’m hoping that’s a friendly editorial change. So, there was no question about the new wording. We had a question from Senator Blum, but they presented that opinion before. So, if we go into Action Item, you could propose something.

Senator Blum: Actually, I was satisfied with their answer.

Senator Horst: Okay.

Motion by Senator Cline, seconded by Senator Nikolaou, to move to Action Item. The motion was unanimously approved.

Article XVII revisions were unanimously approved.

Provost Tarhule: I committed a major faux pas this evening. I’d like to see if I can redeem that a little bit. Roberta Trites is going to step down and retire at the end of May. So, this may very well be her last Senate meeting as well. As you know, Roberta stepped in under very short notice after Sam resigned and has done an amazing job. Obviously, I don’t need to tell you guys in here, her mastery of the ASPT process is the reason why I picked her to step in and why she agreed to step in on such short notice. All of the things that she has helped run through it’s just been amazing. So, I am full of gratitude and appreciation for the work that she has done and to let you know as she steps down, I’m very grateful for the service that you have rendered. And I hope that we find a perfect opportunity to express that. I’ve very sorry, the President and I exchanged notes about who was going to say what at the last minute, and that’s my excuse for why I got messed up. So, I’m sorry I didn’t announce that in the full Senate. But thank you very much for the work you have done.

(Applause)

Dr. Trites: Thank you for your kind words. It has been a true honor and joy to work with such an amazing group of people. I really appreciate the hard work we’ve done, and the important work that we’ve done to make these revisions this year. Thank you all, deeply.

***Adjournment***

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

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|  | Caucus |
| Name | Attendance |
| Avogo, Winfred | 1 |
| Blum, Craig | 1 |
| Bonnell, Angela | 1 |
| Cline, Lea | 1 |
| Garrahy, Deb | 1 |
| Harpel, Tammy | 1 |
| Holland, Dan (rep Marx, David) | 1 |
| Hollywood, Mary | 1 |
| Horst, Martha | 1 |
| Lahiri, Somnath  | 1 |
| Lucey, Tom | 1 |
| Meyers, Adena - EXCUSED | 0 |
| Midha, Vishal | 1 |
| Nahm, Kee-Yoon - EXCUSED | 0 |
| Nichols, Wade | 1 |
| Nikolaou, Dimitrios | 1 |
| Novotny, Nancy | 1 |
| Otto, Stacy -VIRTUAL | 1 |
| Pancrazio, Jim | 1 |
| Peters, Steve | 1 |
| Samhan, Bahae | 0 |
| Schmeiser, Benjamin | 1 |
| Seeman, Scott | 1 |
| Smudde, Pete | 1 |
| Stewart, Todd | 1 |
| Tarhule, Aondover\* | 1 |
| Torry, Mike | 1 |
| Valentin, Rick  | 1 |
| Vogel, Laura | 1 |
| Sawyer, Jean (chair rep)  | 1 |
| Vacant - 1 CAS SS Faculty | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 CAST Faculty | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 Faculty Associate | 0 |
| **QUORUM IS 17** | 25 |
| \*(Provost Tarhule - NV) |  |