

**Executive Committee Minutes**  
**Faculty Senate**  
**April 18, 2022**

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met remotely on Monday, April 18, 2022 at approximately 4pm via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** R. Bishop-Ross, R. Crosby, M. Johnson, L. Jones, L. Kay, J. Marion, S. McGuffin, G. Spira, and S. Zeigler

**ABSENT:** V. Grabeel

*\* Denotes prior notification of absence*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Senator Bishop-Ross moved approval of the March 21, 2022 minutes as written, seconded by Senator Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORT FROM THE PROVOST: Sara Zeigler**

The last candidate for the College of Health Sciences dean position, Michael Ballard, will be conducting his on-campus interview on Thursday this week. Please watch for the announcement about the faculty forum which faculty are encouraged to attend. A survey link will be sent out to allow for feedback on him. The surveys for each of the candidates will remain open for comment until the interviews are completed.

The other search that is ongoing is for a dean in the College of Education and Applied Human Sciences which will be formed over the coming weeks. After conducting the listening sessions with both the College constituencies and the constituencies in other colleges that manage teaching programs, as well as some external bodies, the search committee will be formed. Associate Provost Mulholland and Assistant Superintendent Puckett will co-chair the search committee. Gill Hunter will serve as Interim Dean for the coming year.

With regard to other activities in Academic Affairs, the visits to all departments are almost completed—only three more visits to go. Those visits have been very helpful. The faculty have provided some really good insights. As expected, common themes include compensation compression and inversion, as well as concerns about how the pandemic situation has affected our incoming students and how prepared they will be. Another matter that has come up in several meetings has been class attendance. Faculty can go back to their pre-2020 attendance policies and require documentation for illness.

Thanks to Senator McGuffin's work along with other part time faculty, progress has been made on better defining the hours that a part-time faculty member can work. Our formula did not quite capture the way credit worked for lecture/lab courses, and so that has been adjusted and HR has been informed of the new formula which will allow some part time faculty to teach a greater number of hours than they have in the past--if they wish to do so.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- *Faculty Senate Resolution on Cancelling Student Debt*

Chair Crosby reminded that this will be on the May Senate agenda. After discussion, the Executive Committee was in agreement that the motion to approve should be voted on as an up or down vote. As the originator of the resolution is Debt Collective and they are asking for faculty senate approval from across the nation, the focus of our voting should be on a yes or no vote to approve the resolution, rather than focusing on changing the wording of the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Discussion Items
  - *Rules Committee Proposed Additional Revisions to Part 7 in the Faculty Handbook*

Senator Kay introduced two additional changes in Part 7 of the Faculty Handbook. The Executive Committee was in agreement to add those for action on the May agenda.

- *2022-23 Faculty Senate Schedule*

The schedule for the next academic year was presented for information and will be included in the May organizational packets for information.

- *List of Senators and Committee Vacancies*

The list of senators and committee vacancies was shared for information and will be presented in the May organizational packets. Please review the list and inform the chair and secretary of any discrepancies.

- Guest Speakers for the Regular May Senate Meeting

Tanlee Wasson and Jenna Smith were approved as guest speakers.

**REPORTS:****Senate Standing Committee Liaison Reports & General Reports**

- *Academic Quality Committee – Senator Kay*

Our year-end report will include some suggestions for charges for next year.

- *Elections and University Nominations Committee – Senator Spira*

The committee is meeting this Thursday to discuss the part-time faculty election. Secretary King announced that Chair Crosby contacted former Senator Todd McCardle who chaired the committee for several years. He shared three documents that may help with the discussion on the part-time faculty election process. After the meeting today, the documents will be forwarded to

Senators Spira, Meiners, and McGuffin. The first step is to contact department chairs to ask for nominations. Next, the nominees are contacted to see if they're willing to participate in the election process. The last step is to contact Meagan Murray in Institutional Effectiveness who will assist with sending the ballot out to all part-time faculty.

The Executive Committee determined that Elections Committee Chair Eric Meiners would handle the senate chair election at the beginning of the organizational meeting. After the chair's election, Chair Crosby will take over to run the rest of the elections.

Next year the Internal Procedures for the Elections and University Nominations Committee may need to be closely reviewed and revised for clarification.

- *Faculty Welfare Committee – Senator Jones*

The preliminary report for the committee has been sent out for feedback. The final report will be available for the May Senate meeting with the hopes that there will be some movement related to the data shared.

- *Information Technology Committee – Senator McGuffin*

The committee is finalizing the streaming video-use survey, and the report should be presented at the May Senate meeting.

- *Rights and Responsibilities Committee – Senator Johnson*

Chair Crosby noted that Senator Nachtwey received a response from Dana Fohl, University Council, about his inquiry to meet and discuss the Faculty Grievance Policy revisions. She apologized for her delayed response and indicated that a new hire for policies should be on board soon. In the meantime, a drafting team can be formed to start reviewing the policy in question.

- *Ad Hoc Committee on OERs – Senator Marion*

Chair Kelly Smith will be submitting a year-end report for the May meeting. Senator Marion asked the secretary to see if Chair Smith plans to present the report the meeting or if she wants him to present.

- *University General Education Committee – Senator Kay*

The last meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. Items on the agenda include approval of some changes to Astronomy 135, discussion of the process for credit for prior learning and international coursework, a report from Rusty Carpenter on the Engage program, and a discussion of general education assessment with Erin Presley.

- *Senate Chair Report – Richard Crosby*

The president's installation ceremony will be next week. Hopefully, many of you will participate in the actual ceremony and the academic regalia.

- *Faculty Regent Report – Jason Marion*

The next Board of Regents meeting is in June.

The legislature session has ended. The entire budget document is available for review at: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/22rs/hb1.html>.

There's been a number of rumors floating around that our institution has been identified as a good candidate for Conference USA Football, and if that does ever come on the docket for the Board several members would be really anxious to do that. If that is approved at some point, it would mean an additional cost for the university.

The recruitment summit still left faculty with more questions about the technical details on how to best recruit new students. There's no better advocate for our programs than our own faculty in those programs and many of our smaller departments are struggling with how to best tell their story.

The president is trying to hold the line on expenses this year, so he can afford a raise for everybody. Unfortunately, the extent of that raise is not going to be as good as what the state government was able to provide for their people.

#### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Senator Jones brought up the recent changes to how the tuition waiver is applied since all who receive the tuition waiver must complete the FAFSA application. In the past the tuition waiver was accepted first and then any grants or scholarship monies awarded was sent to the individual. Beginning this spring, the process changed so that any grants or scholarship monies received are applied to tuition first which may completely cancel out the tuition waiver.

Regent Marion indicated that he, Chair Crosby, and Vice Chair Kay have discussed the matter twice with the Provost who is reviewing the situation and working on a solution.

Senator Jones noted that one individual who did the FAFSA was awarded loans which they did not accept because of the tuition waiver. Later, their student ended up not passing their classes and withdrew after the fact. Then, they received a bill from the University to repay the tuition.

Regent Marion stated that he would contact the Provost again through email asking for an update on the situation to find out what needs to be done to expedite this.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Senator McGuffin moved to adjourn at approximately 5:30pm, seconded by Senator Jones.