

Eastern Illinois University

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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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11-1-2022

### November 1, 2022

Faculty Senate

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## Agenda

Faculty Senate 2022-2023

November 1, 2022

Members Present: Teshome Abebe, Todd Bruns, Amy Davis, Matt Inverso, Stephen Kozlowski, Nichole Mulvey, Alicia Neal, Andy Parrish, Md Farhadur Reza, Grant Sterling, Jeff Stowell, Anne Thibault Geen, Larry White

Guests: Provost Jay Gatrell, Darren Hendrickson, Stacey Knight-Davis, Jennifer Stringfellow, CC Wharram, Andy Kabasele, Josh Norman

- I. Approval of Minutes from October 18
  - a. Motion for approval by Senator Sterling, Seconded by Senator Inverso, passed unanimously.
- II. Senate Reports
  - a. Executive (Bruns/Stowell/Mulvey) met with President Glassman, Provost Gatrell on 10/24/22
    - i. The group discussed ongoing student challenges coming out of the COVID era (missing courses, not meeting deadlines, decrease in overall reading and math scores in elementary school) and the challenges this presents for faculty.
    - ii. President Glassman plans to reinstate the Presidential Lecture Series in the spring and asked for faculty input on ideas or suggestions for topics.
    - iii. EIU Think Tank (Bruns)
      1. President Glassman has appointed his three members to the Think Tank, which includes Ryan Burge (Political Science), Chigozirim Sodeke (Teaching Learning Foundations), Michael Gillespie (FDIC/Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology). Faculty Senate appointees are Teshome Abebe (Economics), Michael Dobbs (Business) and Sace Elder (History). Now that the group members are all appointed, they will have a convening meeting November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m.
    - iv. Shared Governance Chairs (Bruns)
      1. No report at this time, will be meeting November 14.
    - v. Meeting of university of faculty senates (Bruns)
      1. Senator Bruns met with faculty senators across the state and many shared the sentiment for difficulty filling service positions at their universities. Ideas for increasing service at university-level included a survey at beginning of year about what may be interested in and a brief faculty senate newsletter including short bullet points about accomplishments to keep faculty informed of the senate's work. Other institutions discussed post-full professor

service dropping off a cliff – were interested in EIU’s method of maintaining engagement with PAIs.

- b. Elections & Nominations (Stowell)
    - i. No report
  - c. Student & Staff Relations (Neal/Davis)
    - i. Student Senate: Caleb Kowalewski was present to give updates on the many recent and upcoming activities of the Student Senate. They recently had Pizza with the President and a voter registration drive and education events. A new senator is being admitted soon and senate speaker nominations and elections will be in November. The Student Government Constitution Committee will be meeting soon to begin the review process that occurs every 5 years. Student Government polos are being made for Student Senators. The Academic Committee is hosting a “Make Your Mark” Collage stop on November 7<sup>th</sup> in the MLK Ballroom. The External Relations Committee looking into a car rental services (Zip Car) for students and on how to engage with the local farmer’s market. The Internal Affairs Committee hosted a game night on Oct. 27th to connect students with Student Government and increase team bonding. The Student Affairs Committee helped organize a “Halloween Spirit Week” and are making plans for a December 1st event. The University Enhancement Committee is participating in park mobile app meetings and safety/accessibility walk talks with administrators.
    - ii. Staff Senate: No report
  - d. Faculty Forum (Sterling)
    - i. Committee will meet today to shift topic plans to “Faculty Burnout”, as this was suggested as a timelier topic based on feedback that Senator Bruns had received during his department tour meetings.
  - e. Awards (Scher)
    - i. Nominations for the Luis Clay Mendez Distinguished Service Award have been compiled and the committee will be meeting soon to discuss.
  - f. Ad-hoc Academic Honesty and Student Standards (Thibault-Geen)
    - i. No report. Senator Thibault-Geen will be attending CAA this week to discuss concerns.
- III. Provost’s Report
- i. CAA is introducing bylaw this week that would require representation from a college before they would act on an item at their meeting (specific college and/or representative at large). This is being proposed as a way to meet quorum and increase participation. Laurel Teller is serving as the CHHS rep for a 1-year term.
  - ii. Strategic Planning Town Hall meetings were held in the last month with 30-40 people attending each day. Presentation and large goals have been shared with Faculty Senate and the EIU community. Now the committee will be meeting to make the next survey to determine priorities.

Stakeholders will assist in identifying a limited number of priorities and activities to further planning.

- iii. CUPB meeting was held this week and the budget is stable. Administration and the committee has been able to work through some structural deficits in EIU's salary pool reserve. Plans include working to continue to increase scholarship spending, and to be intentional about planning and investment in DEI hubs that increase access to culture, tutoring, and other services at EIU.
- iv. New degree types are being investigated as universities are seeing a significant push in legislation to allow junior colleges to offer bachelor's degrees in Illinois (i.e., Bachelor's of Applied Science, BAS; especially in business, education, nursing areas). Non-traditional students, degree completion students, etc. are searching for alternate credentials. There is ongoing discussion at the university level on how credit can be given for prior and/or applied learning.
- v. University Foundations is looking at a redesign course proposal with a new, intentional curriculum that meets real-time needs of students.
- vi. Provost Gatrell discussed a book, *The Great Upheaval* by Levine and Van Pelt, that covers the current face of higher education and how universities have to respond to changes in the needs of students. Senators who have also read the book recommended this be read by the Strategic Planning Committee members.

- IV. Guest Speakers: Associate VP of Enrollment Management Josh Norman and Assistant Dean of International Education Andy Kabasele
  - a. Assistant Dean Kabasele gave an update on the Office of International Students and Scholars. Current International Student Enrollment is 766, which has increased from 215 in 2019. The U.S. Consulate in many countries help us recruit international students to EIU. There is a new, redesigned orientation program for international students to help new students transition to college and become acclimated to EIU, including sessions on how to remain legally in U.S., which is an ongoing concern. Assistant Dean Kabasele shared that the current graduation rate for international graduate students is 96%. EIU does host a smaller number of undergraduate students, but many undergraduates are having to wait a very long time (years) due to difficulty obtaining VISAs.
    - i. The Office of International Students and Scholars has a Friendship Program where community members can host international students for various events and experiences. Faculty are encouraged to contact Dean Kabasele or Ben Rienbolt if you would like to host an international student.
  - b. VP Josh Norman shared updates on enrollment data through a friendly game of Kahoot. While our enrollment numbers are stable, there continues to be concerns related to Illinois students migrating to universities outside the state (and many not returning to Illinois for work). The student market is changing, with our biggest competitor this year being students deciding not to enroll in any

college. Other information covered enrollment trends, changes in student demographics, and marketing needs.

- i. VP Norman also shared feedback from the college choice survey. When students were asked what factors led you to choose EIU (or not), the need for updated residence halls was an area of concern. This has also been expressed in person during visit.
- ii. Faculty are encouraged to attend the upcoming November open house on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:00 a.m. in Doudna, which has a planned prospective student (and family) attendance

V. Due to time constraints, a motion to table the remaining business was made by Senator Scher and seconded by Senator Mulvey, passing unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.