

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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11-15-2022

**November 15, 2022**

Faculty Senate

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## Agenda

Faculty Senate 2022-2023

November 15, 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, Caleb Kowalewski (Student Senate)

Guests: Provost Jay Gatrell, Holly Farley, Michael Gillespie, Stacey Knight-Davis, Darren Hendrickson, Marita Gronnvoll (CAA), Anne Flaherty (Student Affairs), Eric S. Davidson (Health and Counseling Services), Jessica Milburn (Counseling Clinic), Christina Coffey (Textbook Rental Services), D.J. Fox (MLK Union/Textbook Rental Services)

- I. Approval of Minutes from November 1
  - a. Motion by Senator Inverso, Second Senator Neal to approve minutes. Minor correction was noted. Passed unanimously except abstention by Senator Okrasinski.
- II. Senate Reports
  - a. Executive (Bruns/Stowell/Mulvey)
    - i. EIU Think Tank (Bruns) – Senator Bruns will convene the Think Tank committee this Friday at 3:00 p.m. to discuss potential topics and plan for a meeting schedule.
    - ii. Shared Governance Chairs – Senator Bruns gave a brief report from the meeting.
      1. COTE discussed Culturally Responsive Teaching
      2. Staff Senate discussed continuing issues of morale amongst staff, staffing continues to be a challenge with both recruiting and maintaining staff
  - b. Elections & Nominations (Stowell)
    - i. No report
  - c. Student & Staff Relations (Neal/Davis)
    - i. Caleb Kowalewski gave an update on Student Senate. They are struggling with meeting quorum. Four new RSOs will hopefully be approved at a meeting tomorrow. Speaker nominations for student government is tomorrow and elections will be held later this month. College Pads came to student senate to discuss off campus housing.
    - ii. Staff relations – No report
  - d. Faculty Forum (Sterling)
    - i. Forum on Faculty Burnout is this Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in the Arcola/Tuscola Room at the MLK Union.
    - ii. Discussion Panel: Dr. Michael Gillespie, Director of the FDIC, is designing and implementing programs and supports for the holistic faculty experience, from teaching, research and service, as well as their mental

and social health in the classroom and on campus - including specific opportunities to discuss and address faculty burnout; Dr. Jill Bowers and Dr. Kelly Best will provide discussion points on “University Personnel Burnout Through the Pandemic” based on preliminary data analysis of a study conducted by Best, Bowers, and Dr. Nichole Hugo; Dr. Jeannie Ludlow will share insights from her experience as a former chair of EIU-UPI regarding mission creep and the impact of same on faculty feelings of burnout and job stress.

- e. Awards (Scher)
  - i. On behalf of Faculty Senate and our Awards committee, we are pleased to announce that Dr. Diane Burns (Geology/Geography) has been selected as the 2022 Luis Clay Mendez Distinguished Service Award recipient.
- f. Ad-hoc Academic Honesty and Student Standards (Thibault-Geen)
  - i. The committee has been formed and Anne Thibault-Geen (Faculty Senate), Juanita Cross (Academic Advising), Brittany Floyd (Student Standards), Nidhi Patel will be meeting December 2<sup>nd</sup> for the first time.

### III. Provost’s Report

- a. Strategic Planning Committee continues to meet and faculty are encouraged to submit suggestions or questions to members. There will be additional outreach through surveys after the holiday break.
- b. The climate survey data has been shared with President’s Council and will continue to be shared across campus by members of the HLC as part of the Quality Initiative. Continued dialogue is expected.
- c. Proposals for changes in University Foundations courses is going to CAA. The changes include decreasing the number of hours of the course and meeting for the first half of the semester. The UF courses would also be required for conditional admits and students who have a high school g.p.a. less than 3.0 (in addition to those already required to take the course).
- d. A proposal is also being presented to CAA for a new degree framework to considered Bachelor’s in applied arts and sciences. This proposal addresses providing a framework for possible development of new degrees in the future. If a department wants to make a new degree program, they would still have to present this through CAA.
- e. Searches continue for the Assistant VP of Academic Affairs with on campus visits in early December and the Booth Library Dean search closing shortly.
- f. Senior DEI search is still underway with advertisements in national sources. There is no close date and the committee will be reviewing candidates this semester to determine continued plans for the search and interview process.

### IV. Guest: Chair of CAA Marita Gronnvoll

- a. Dr. Gronnvoll discussed difficulties with CAA meeting quorum and unfilled seats for CAA following elections. This semester, it was week 9 before all positions are filled. She clarified that there are ten positions on CAA, 5 of which are currently filled by CLAS. In terms of the current process, when there is an open seat, Dr.

Gronnvoll and the Faculty Senate Elections and Nominations Chair are reaching out to Deans to help find faculty to fill the positions, which can take several weeks. CAA is discussing a proposal that would require a representative from the college be seated on CAA before any items for that college could be acted on. The intent with the proposal is to have deans and chairs more aware of the need to fill the position for their college. Dr. Gronnvoll then asked for feedback and discussion regarding this issue.

- b. Suggestions and discussions included utilizing the college level curriculum committee to designate a member to serve as the college representative on CAA. Concerns were noted with having people on college curriculum committee and CAA due to service workload and challenges to getting faculty to already volunteer for positions.
  - c. A discussion about quorum was also held, attempting to clarify whether the concern is the number of people or the variety of people making decisions related to curriculum and how that affects students.
  - d. Questions were also raised about figuring out WHY people are not volunteering for CAA and whether the level of time commitment (weekly) was something to consider. It was noted that CAA meets weekly because items have to be added to the agenda the week before they are acted upon. Decreasing the number of meetings per month could potentially slow down the approval process for curricular revisions and updates.
- V. Guest Speakers: VPSA Anne Flaherty, Exec. Director of Health & Counseling Services Eric Davidson, Jessica Milburn from the Counseling Clinic, Christina Coffey from Textbook Rental Services, and D.J. Fox from the MLK Union/Textbook Rental Services.
- a. Dr. Davidson started the presentation and discussed the Mental Health Continuum Philosophy used in for mental health services on campus and emphasized the collaborative approach his offices are using to get student needs met. The offices working together include Student Support Team, Student Accountability and Support, Counseling Center, Medical Clinic, UPD, etc.
  - b. Faculty may want to direct students to the anonymous online mental health screening form (ULifeline) on the counseling clinic website as well as other screeners available to help students gauge their need for assistance.
  - c. Jessica Milburn described the stepped care model at EIU, where everyone is guaranteed access to the department but not everyone has the same access. This model of care allows for meeting the student where they are at and coming up with a specific plan of care for each student from a variety of services across campus. This has increased guaranteed access to help for every student.
  - d. D.J. Fox and Christina Coffey discussed results and plans from the Textbook Task Force pilot of online course materials, including student survey information about the use of online textbooks at EIU. As more publishers are moving to E books and open resource formats, the cost of E books has risen significantly. There are also challenges to subscription services and fees. Recommendations include considering renaming of TRS (no current action at this time), encourage

use of OER available on campus (and continue to advertise these resources to faculty), update language in IGP to move from core to “general education” and have all sections of 1000 level courses and gen ed courses use the same textbook. The current rental life cycle for printed textbooks is the longer of 2 years or three semesters and that will remain the same at this time. They also discussed the possible necessity and benefits of increasing the textbook rental fee for students and the cost of mailing textbooks to online students currently. Data will continue to be collected and considerations discussed.

Due to time constraints, no additional agenda items were discussed. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.