

Eastern Illinois University

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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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2-7-2023

### February 7, 2023

Faculty Senate

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## Agenda & Minutes

Faculty Senate 2022-2023

February 7, 2023

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

Guests: Jay Gatrell, Kim Pope, Marita Gronvoll, Tim Taylor, Michael Gillespie, Marisol Gamboa

- I. Approval of Minutes from January 24
  - a. Motion Senator Stowell, Second Scher. All voted in favor of approval except for Senator Neal, who abstained.
- II. Senate Reports
  - a. Executive (Bruns/Stowell/Mulvey)
    - i. EIU Think Tank will be meeting this week on Friday, which is the first meeting of the semester. More information will be shared at the next meeting.
    - ii. Shared Governance Chairs will be meeting next week as well, so nothing new to report.
    - iii. President Glassman had attempted to secure a speaker related to faculty burnout for the return of the Presidential lecture series this spring. The coveted speakers were unavailable, so President Glassman reached out to the executive committee for additional ideas. The topic of academic integrity and AI on campuses was proposed and President Glassman is pursuing speakers at this time.
  - b. Elections & Nominations (Stowell)
    - i. At the time of the meeting, nominations were continuing to be gathered with the deadline for nomination tomorrow (2/8). Senator Stowell would send an email about voting soon after this.
    - ii. Senator Stowell discussed a proposal to change the by-laws that may make it easier to get faculty involved in university committees including wording changes related to answering committee questions, getting multiple signatures, as well as wording related to appointed versus elected positions. A draft was passed out to Senators and will plan to be discussed and acted upon at the next meeting.
  - c. Student & Staff Relations (Neal/Davis)
    - i. Jasmine Yusef was welcomed to the meeting as the spring 2023 student senate representative. She will provide updates and information regarding student perspectives for the remainder of the year.
    - ii. No report for Staff Relations
  - d. Faculty Forum (Sterling)

- i. The committee has decided to address academic integrity and will be scheduled soon. Brittany Floyd from the Office of Student Standards is confirmed for the panel and additional panelists have been contacted for availability. More details will be shared soon.
  - e. Awards (Scher)
    - i. Nominations for the Distinguished Faculty Award are due February 17<sup>th</sup> and reminders have been sent to faculty. Senator Scher is working to form the awards committee to review DFA nominations.
  - f. Ad-hoc Academic Honesty and Student Standards (Thibault-Geen)
    - i. No report
  - g. Resolution for congratulating new president (Scher)
    - i. Motion Scher, Second Stowell to accept a resolution as drafted to congratulate Provost Gatrell on his hiring as the new EIU President. The motion passed unanimously. The resolution states: On behalf of the faculty, the EIU Faculty Senate offers our congratulations to Provost Dr. Jay Gatrell on his selection as the 13th president of Eastern Illinois University. We look forward to a continued effective and congenial relationship with Dr. Gatrell as he leads the university in the years ahead.
- III. Provost's Report
  - a. The latest enrollment report is available and fall-spring retention remained stable. Same day deposits are up for fall 2023 compared to last year. This is the second year in using the Common App and the enthusiasm seems to have died down nationally, which hopefully means better understanding of how many students are truly interested in EIU. Overall, enrollment reports are positive across the board.
  - b. Strategic Planning refinement continues with subgroups meeting occurring this month. Town Halls are planned to be held right after spring break to obtain additional feedback about specific objectives.
  - c. Dean evaluations will occur this semester so faculty should be looking for information about opportunities to provide feedback through their email.
  - d. There have been some questions about the process for hiring the next Provost. After spring break, there will likely be a call for nominations for an internal interim candidate with a national search and hopes to have permanent Provost by July 2024.
  - e. There is some discussion regarding replacing/reinstating a CASL/Interim Assistant VP for Assessment in the near future to aid with preparation for reaccreditation. More information will be forthcoming at a later date.
- IV. Discussion: Writing-In-Major proposal (Sterling/Taylor)
  - a. Members of the Gen Ed committee shared two proposals: writing in the major and requiring students to take 2 writing intensive courses. The committee looked at how gen ed programs are constructed at other institutions and what requirements they have regarding writing. At this time the proposals and reports are just recommendations on which the committee is seeking feedback. Committee members discussed some information related to writing in the

major, what entails a writing intensive course, as well as what definitions related to writing mean (writing active, intensive, centered, etc.) at EIU and other institutions.

- b. Several minutes of discussion followed about what data was used to determine that EIU students have difficulty with writing and how current assessment, such as the EWP, was gathered and used. Several Senators also discussed resources and assessment constraints and ramifications for curricular changes related to changing writing requirements. Additional feedback is welcome to the Gen Ed committee.
- V. Guest Speaker: Chief Public Safety Officer Marisol Gamboa
- a. Chief Gamboa shared a presentation and started her discussion by stating that her department is focused on being available and accessible to the EIU community. For example, EIU officers have jump packs available for employees and staff, they can respond to emergencies as needed (24/7 public safety services) and are working to build more community partnerships.
  - b. Regarding recent changes since Chief Gamboa was hired, Chief Gamboa noted that there were 6-8 openings in the department in January 2022 and there are now 2 openings. The Panther Shuttle is part of the Campus Police department, and they are offering a limited schedule at this time due to staffing shortages (i.e., difficulty getting drivers with a commercial driver's license). The department is exploring ways to remediate this issue. Current initiatives within the department include exploring a community survey, possibilities of obtaining a comfort dog, and developing a police and community advisory board.
  - c. Questions from Senators were regarding details of obtaining a comfort dog, length of time of training, etc. An additional discussion was held regarding the parking advising and appeals committee, which has people appointed through 2024. Safety week in March will be spearheaded by Student Senate with co-sponsorship by the campus police department. Chief Gamboa also answered questions about how EIU's department works with the Charleston and Coles County police departments.
  - d. The Senate thanked Chief Gamboa for her time to provide information and answer questions.
- VI. Due to time constraints, a motion to adjourn and move the rest of the agenda to the next meeting was made by Senator Neal and seconded by Senator Okrasinski. The motion passed with 1 no vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.