

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS, FACULTY SENATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Regularly scheduled meeting

South Brookings, Room 100

June 26, 2024

Attending: Dennis Barbour, Gwen Randolph, Jennifer Arch, Maria Quintos Baggstrom, Tonya Edmond, Tammy English, Armando Gomes, Patty Heyda, Kathleen Clark, Kristina Kleutghen, Michelle Miller-Thomas, Cynthia Rogers, Allison Ogden

Ex Officio: Andrew Martin, Beverly Wendland

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm.

Topic	Lead	Notes on Report/Item	Questions (Q), Answers (A), Decisions (D)
Approval of Minutes	Gwen Randolph, Secretary	Minutes for the May 16 regular meeting were adopted	
Chancellor's Report	Andrew Martin, Chancellor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Announced cooperative agreement between WashU and BJC to unify efforts in healthcare; January 1, 2025 is target date to reach full alignment.• WashU has closed on the acquisition of Fontbonne U, which will operate through next summer. How WashU will utilize the acquired space is under discussion• Ongoing talks with the City of Clayton related to WashU's intent to enter into a long-term lease of the western half of the Concordia Seminary campus• University administration is planning for fall semester in preparation for new and returning students.• Thanked FSC for their engagement	
Chair's Report	Dennis Barbour, FSC Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pointed out that scheduling meetings is challenging; hybrid option will be retained. Some executive session-only meetings will be scheduled due to challenges of scheduling Chancellor/Provost. Vice Provost for Graduate Education and International Affairs Vijay Ramani will interface with FSC ExecCom on behalf of the Provost's office as needed.• Ongoing efforts to improve functionality and turnaround time at Sponsored Projects and Accounting (SPA); temporary setbacks include	

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		<p>retirements but new hires coming in with hopes to generate a more streamlined office and process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sabbatical policy report is forthcoming. Position of Kim Johnson (FSC termed ended) as lead on the report has been transferred to Kristina Kleutghen • Reminded FSC of WashU-wide resolutions that went before faculty, with one failing and the other passing. Shared a newly received letter from the Board of Trustees (Exhibit 1) that will impact discussion • Announced anticipated platform development in collaboration with WashU IT to generate a structured (possibly moderated) forum for faculty discussion on Canvas, likely coming in the fall 	
<p>Provost's Report</p>	<p>Beverly Wendland, Provost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPA actively working to improve; efforts led by Rick Stanton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Medical Finance and Administration • Followed up on concerns raised after Danforth campus bomb threat and evacuation that took place Feb. 2024. A security review was made, and several proposed changes are underway, in addition to improved WUPD safety training. Intruder locks in classrooms may be installed, emergency phones may be added especially where cell service is poor, considering shatterproof glass to replace some existing glass. • Freezing rain incident and delayed campus closure in the spring is being reviewed. Already have identified and begun to implement improved standard operating guidelines. 	<p>Q: is this relevant to all classrooms on the Danforth campus or just the classrooms used by the English department that requested the review? A: pertains to all of Danforth campus</p> <p>Q: review of medical school classroom security too? A: not at this time, but open to it if request made</p>
<p>Resolution FSC-202425-001A00: Establish the position of Clerk of the Faculty Senate</p>		<p>Motion to Establish position of Clerk put forward by Tonya Edmond, seconded, discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution proposed to formalize the role currently held by Cecilia Hanan-Reyes by giving the role the title of Clerk; better in line with Robert's Rules; otherwise, her duties will not increase. Amendment submitted by 	<p>D: Resolution passed unanimously</p>

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		Kristina Kleutghen to clarify nonvoting role. See Exhibit 2.	
Establishment of Special Faculty Committees		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main agenda item planned was to discuss the process of standing up planned committees, including especially the committee voted upon by the faculty, through passing Resolution FS-202324-002A01 (Exhibit 3) • Communication from the Board of Trustees discouraging the creation of the committee was received, resulting in need to discuss and decide how to respond and move forward 	D: After lengthy discussion on how to react to Trustees' letter, consensus was to uphold the outcome of the faculty vote, the committee described in Resolution FS-202324-002A01 will go forward. Due to lengthy discussion on this response, formation of and charge of the committee itself will be discussed at a future meeting.
Executive Session	Dennis Barbour, Chair	Moved into Executive session at 4:54 pm; departure of Chancellor and Provost	
Adjournment		The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.	

Respectfully submitted by Gwendalyn Randolph

Exhibit 1

Andrew M. Bursky
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

June 25, 2024

Faculty Senate Council, Washington University in St. Louis
c/o Dennis Barbour, Chair
One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130

(Transmitted via email)

Dear Faculty Senate Council,

I am aware that the Faculty Senate recently passed a resolution to create a faculty-led committee to investigate the administration's response to the April protests on the Danforth Campus. I appreciate the desire to learn more about these events; however, the university's Board of Trustees has responsibility for this type of investigation, not the Faculty Senate or any other university entity. The Board will not relinquish this important responsibility, nor will it authorize the administration to participate in any internal inquiry related to this matter other than the Board's investigation.

What happened this spring was serious and consequential. The Board is treating it accordingly. We have already initiated a review of the matter, under the jurisdiction and oversight of the Board, which we expect to conclude by the end of this calendar year. We will share the findings of this review as appropriate once complete.

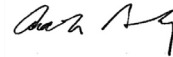
Proper governance of an institution like Washington University demands that the Board oversees any inquiry of this nature to ensure that we have fulfilled our fiduciary obligations to safeguard the privacy of our students, faculty and other employees while complying fully with all relevant legal obligations. It is imperative to ensure that any investigation is conducted with the involvement of qualified individuals who can review evidence without bias or preconceived notions and overseen by individuals with an institutional obligation to ensure that protected and confidential information is handled with the utmost care, including how and whether it is shared with the press. This is critical in order to preserve the integrity of the inquiry and the privacy of the individuals involved.

A parallel investigation conducted by the Faculty Senate or any other university entity would be counter-productive and inconsistent with our shared objective of seeking clarity, understanding and, hopefully, healing and reconciliation within our community. However, in the spirit of collaboration and collegiality, we invite you to participate in a constructive manner by asking your committee to submit questions of concern to the Board. We are willing to review and incorporate this input into the official review currently underway.

We will continue to proceed as we determine is necessary and appropriate to fulfill our duty to provide sound and responsible governance of the university.

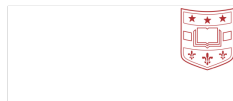
Thank you for your engagement on these important issues.

Sincerely,



Andrew M. Bursky
Chair, Board of Trustees

AMB/nel



Washington University in St. Louis
MSC 1081-0105-220
One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

Exhibit 2

Resolution FSC-202425-001A01: Establish the position of Clerk of the Faculty Senate

Whereas, the efficient organization and management of the Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate Council meetings are crucial to the governance of the university;

Whereas, the Provost's office has historically provided a staff member to assist with organizing meetings, distributing correspondence, maintaining the Faculty Senate website, supervising administration of votes and elections, and assisting with meeting documentation;

Whereas, formalizing this role will ensure continuity, clarity of responsibility, and professional administration of Faculty Senate activities;

Whereas, the responsibilities of the Clerk of the Faculty Senate are distinct from those duties reserved for the Secretary of the Faculty Senate, and no duties of the Secretary shall be assumed to fall under the purview of the Clerk, and further, the Clerk will have no voting privileges in the Faculty Senate or Faculty Senate Council;

Be it resolved, that the position of "Clerk of the Faculty Senate" be formally established to continue providing these essential services;

Be it further resolved, that the Provost's office is requested to ensure the provision for and support of the Clerk of the Faculty Senate, to maintain the high standards of administration required for the effective functioning of the Faculty Senate.

Exhibit 3

Washington University in St. Louis

Faculty Senate Resolution FS-202324-002A01: Investigate Protests

The Senate Co-Sponsors are
(listed alphabetically by first name)

1. Anca Parvulescu, Endowed Professor of English
2. Andrew Butler, Associate Professor of Education and Psychological & Brain Sciences, Arts & Sciences
3. Anika Todd, Lecturer, Sam Fox
4. Anika Walke, Associate Professor of History and JIMES
5. Ariela Schachter, Associate Professor of Sociology
6. Carol Camp Yeakey, Endowed Professor, Arts & Sciences
7. Caroline Kita, Associate Professor of German, Comparative Literature & Thought
8. Chris Dingwall, Assistant Professor, Sam Fox School
9. Christine Johnson, Associate Professor of History
10. Chrisitna Ramos, Assistant Professor of History
11. Clarissa Hayward, Professor of Political Science
12. Claudia Swan, Endowed Professor, Art History & Archeology
13. Diane Lewis, Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies
14. Diana Montano, Associate Professor of History
15. Geo_ Ward, Professor of African and African American Studies
16. Greg Magarian, Endowed Professor, School of Law
17. Hayrettin Yucesoy, Associate Professor of JIMES

18. Heather Berg, Assistant Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, A&S
19. Housni Bennis, Senior Lecturer/JIMES
20. Ila Sheren, Associate Professor of Art History & Archaeology
21. Jean Francois Trani, Associate Professor, Brown School
22. Je_ Zacks, Endowed Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences, A&S
23. Jessica Rosenfeld, Associate Professor of English
24. Jianqing Chen, Assistant Professor in East Asian Languages and Cultures and Film and Media Studies
25. Jonathan Fenderson, Associate Professor of African and African American Studies
26. Jonathan Judaken, Endowed Professor of History and JIMES
27. John Klein, Professor of Art History
28. John Shareshian, Professor and Chair of Mathematics
29. Julia Walker, Professor of English and Drama
30. K. Eliza Williamson, Lecturer, Latin American Studies Program and Department of Romance Languages & Literatures
31. Kimberly Norwood, Endowed Professor, Law School
32. Leila Sadat, Endowed Professor, School of Law
33. Liz Childs, Endowed Professor, Art History and Archaeology
34. Lori Watt, Associate Professor of History & Global Studies
35. Lisa Bulawsky, Professor, Sam Fox School
36. Mable Morana, Endowed Professor
37. Marlon M Bailey, Professor of AFAS and WGSS
38. Michelle Purdy, Associate Professor of Education and African & African American Studies

39. Miguel Valerio, Assistant Prof of RLL
40. Nancy Reynolds, Associate Professor of History & JIMES
41. Neal Patwari, Professor, McKelvey School of Engineering
42. Paige McGinley, Associate Professor of Performing Arts
43. Pannill Camp, Associate Professor of Drama
44. Patrick Burke, Professor of Music
45. Peter Wiedenbeck, Professor, School of Law
46. Ram Dixit, Professor and Chair, Biology
47. Rebecca Copenhaver, Professor of Philosophy, Professor of PhilosophyNeuroscience-Psychology
48. Rebecca Lester, Professor of Anthropology (only FS-202324-002)
49. Rebecca Wanzo, Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
50. Renato Feres, Professor of Mathematics, A&S
51. Ron Mallon, Professor of Philosophy, Arts and Sciences
52. Samuel Shearer, Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies
53. Seth Graebner, Associate Professor of French and of Global Studies
54. Shanti Parikh, Professor of African & African American Studies and Anthropology
55. Stephanie Kirk, Professor of Hispanic Studies
56. Stephanie Shady, Lecturer of Political Science
57. Susan Stiritz, Professor of Practice, Brown School
58. Tabea Linhard, Professor of Spanish and Global Studies
59. Tili Boon Cuille, Professor of French and Comparative Literature

60. Trish Kohl, Professor, Brown School
61. Trevor Sangrey, Senior Lecturer of WGSS, Arts & Sciences
62. Vetta Sanders Thompson, Endowed Professor, Brown School of Social Work
63. William J. Maxwell, Endowed Professor, English and African & African American Studies
64. Wolfram Schmidgen, Professor of English

Be it resolved, that the Faculty Senate Council in consultation with the Chancellor and Faculty Senate shall create an independent faculty-led committee chaired or co-chaired by one or more members of the tenured faculty for fact-finding and recommendations. The Committee will report to the Faculty Senate. It will be composed of faculty members, staff, administration, and at least two student representatives; it will include representatives of all schools, named in consultation with their respective faculty councils.

The Committee will:

1. Compile evidence and testimonials regarding the April 2024 protests and the administration's response to them. The Committee's purview will include, but not be limited to:
 - a. the events of the protests themselves;
 - b. the information available to University leaders before and during the protests;
 - c. the decision-making process that led to the University's response; and
 - d. the history of, and reasoning behind, the University's present "Demonstrations and Disruptions" policy, and potential improvements to that policy to better suit the educational mission of the University.
2. Research best practices with respect to such events and make recommendations about how the University's response could be improved in future.
3. The committee should present:
 - a. its proposed process to the FSC 30 days after being formed,
 - b. its preliminary findings and next steps 90 days after the above to the FSC and Faculty Senate, and
 - c. its findings and recommendations report no later than 30 days after the above to the Faculty Senate Council, which will make the report available to all faculty, staff, and students.