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10-12-2022

Senate Meeting, October 12, 2022

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2022
Approved

Call to Order

Academic Senate chairperson Martha Callison Horst called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Academic Senate secretary Dimitrios Nikolaou called the roll and declared a quorum.

Public Comment: All speakers must sign in with the Senate Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

None.

Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of September 14, 2022.

Motion by Senator Blair, seconded by Senator Duffy, to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Horst: I want to welcome Senator Helms who will be representing the A/P Council, replacing Senator Noel-Elkins, who we are very sad will be leaving us. The Senate represents virtually every constituency on campus, including students, administrators, Civil service staff, and A/P Council, including faculty associates, faculty non-tenure track, and tenure track. I'm very glad for Senator Helms willingness to serve. I look forward to working with you.

In addition to items from Academic Affairs and Faculty Affairs, we have an important item coming from the Rules Committee this evening. I've mentioned several times that several external committees on the Senate are having trouble making quorum, and that, coupled with the lack of pool of volunteers for both the faculty and students, has made it tricky for some of our external committees to make quorum this year. I'm thankful to the Rules Committee for prioritizing that item and forwarding it to us so quickly.

Faculty, we will be finalizing the pool of tenure-line candidates for the two search committees for the Associate Vice Presidents that the Provost requested. I'm hoping people can nominate from the floor because right now we only have two candidates for the searches total. We should be forwarding to the Provost 20 names. I'm hopeful people have some names. We received zero volunteers for the non-tenure track positions.

Moving on to a more serious topic, I want to offer my sympathy to the family and colleagues of Assistant Vice President Adam Peck. We've had far too many Redbirds in the recent past lose their life in a tragic and sudden way. I'm very sad for this loss. I extend my heartfelt condolences to all his colleagues and students that work with him closely in Student Affairs. It's very sad.

I want to remind the faculty that in addition to the Faculty Caucus meeting this evening, we have a special Faculty Caucus meeting coming up next week. It's from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Circus Room. The Provost has graciously offered to supply some sandwiches. So, thank you, Provost Tarhule. The hope is that we will get through the ASPT, in tonight's meeting and then that two-hour meeting, we'll get through our initial screening of the ASPT materials and then we'll turn it over to the URC.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Walsh: I hope you're having a great Homecoming Week so far. I was saying the other day to some other members of SGA how the energy that has been on the Quad has just been amazing. The Redbird spirit is alive and I'm very excited to take the win against South Dakota this weekend.

Next, I'd like to speak on the amazing Governor's Debate that took place this past Thursday. Many students that I spoke with agreed that this was an informative event that allowed for everyone to have a better understanding of our candidates. Thank you to everyone involved, from AARP, Center for Civic Engagement, the President's cabinet, and everyone else as well.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to address a terrible event that occurred a few weeks ago. On September 28th members of Kappa Sigma fraternity spray-painted homophobic slurs on two other Greek houses properties. This was a direct attack on the LGBTQIA+ community that should not be tolerated. I encourage the Inner Fraternity Council as well as the University to take the appropriate measures regarding punishment and education to prevent these events from occurring again. Ensuring the safety of our students is of high priority, and as Student Body President, I am to ensure that this is the case to the best of my ability. Thank you.

Senator Horst: I echo your sentiment as well.

Administrators' Remarks:

- ***President Terri Goss Kinzy***

President Kinzy: I want to start by thanking everyone for their thoughts and support for the family and colleagues of Assistant Vice President Adam Peck. I really want to shout to the rooftops how much I've been impressed by the team in Student Affairs at this incredibly difficult time. They have done an extraordinary job of supporting each other and continuing their work for this university. I want to particularly thank Senator Johnson for his leadership, dedication, and incredible grace at this difficult time.

I also want to remind everyone that we currently have an inclusion survey going on on campus. You've still got a few weeks to participate.

With the event that was so eloquently presented by Student Government President Walsh/Senator Walsh, it is very important that we hear all voices on campus, and it's very important that our campus know that (as you heard) the investigations are going on to this event.

Another thing that's going on in the life of our University, is that our Illinois State University Strategic Plan is coming to an end next year. Tomorrow the Provost and I will charge the steering committee that was announced at the State of the University Address to lead the planning process for next year. Towards that end, we need a better sense of our revenues, expenses, and commitments at the university. This will help us decide sustainable future priorities and areas investment. To say the least, it's a very complex understanding. As such, we've engaged Grant Thornton, an outstanding financial service firm with expertise in higher education, to help us do what's called a scoping study on a preliminary basis, an analysis to review our current budget process, and offer some suggestions moving forward about what a more comprehensive analysis might look like. If we decide at the end of the study based on those results that a new budget process is value added, we will make that clear. And we will make that part of our strategic planning process as well. This will be very transparently laid out, especially as to the process by which we might accomplish that as a part of our strategic planning dialogue this coming year. You can expect more to come on this topic once it's been started, but people in the university community may be contacted for information about the data that we need to see if we have to do such an analysis.

Lastly, it's very exciting to share that an Academic Senate Meeting is part of the festivities for Homecoming. Numerous events are happening celebrating red and I'd like to thank the team at the Illinois State University Alumni Association, Chris Harding and her team, for sharing Homecoming swag with all of you so you can be part of the excitement. They deserve our thanks for all they do to make our Homecoming special to our students, alums, faculty, staff, and the entire community.

- ***Provost Aondover Tarhule***

Provost Tarhule: I, too, would like to add my voice and the voice of Academic Affairs to extend condolences and sympathies to folks in Student Affairs, and the family of Adam Peck. The loss was indeed extremely tragic. We feel for the family. And we stand with you while you go through these very difficult times.

I've got a couple of announcements. We've talked several times in this group about the PIE Grant (Provost Innovation and Enhancement Grant). I'm very delighted to report the first round of grants we funded about 25 proposals and spent about \$300,000. So, we invested around \$300,000 to support the initiatives and programs that you all submitted. Many of these were related to student success, academic programs, and other proposals that deal with enrollment, retention rates, technology, and so on. It was very exciting as we looked at these proposals -- especially the proposals that were collaborated between two units. So, there's one proposal that was between the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts and the College of Business, and their goal is to create an ISU home base for multidisciplinary instruction. Another proposal was a partnership between Milner Library and Special Education to provide book resources that will help prepare Special Ed teacher candidates to meet culturally responsive teaching and leadership standards. One more example was the initiative between the Graduate School, OIE (Office for International Engagement), and the College of Education to provide writing resources for international and non-traditional students, as well as adult learners. Those are just illustrative examples of the kinds of

partnerships that we are funding. Those were very exciting. There were also other collaborations between proposing units and the staff in my office. We were very excited to fund these proposals and we know that they're going to make our university and these units much stronger. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the team that reviewed those proposals, staff in my office, but also Senator Horst, Alicia Wodika (who is faculty member in Health Sciences), and Scott Jordan (chairperson of the Psychology Department). I'm very grateful for your work and for your sacrifice. I'd also like to thank Dan Stephens and Sandy Cavi, they're the ones that really provided the money that allowed us to do this. So, thank you.

My second update, you all heard about the research initiative that the President announced at the State of the University address. Connect, Elevate, and Advance Research and Creative Scholarship—by the way if anyone can come up with a better name, I really would be grateful. So, the program will present an additional investment that will augment the internet funding that we provide to support research and creative scholarship. Craig McLauchlan who is the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies has been going out to meet the different groups to explain this program and to seek your feedback and include so we can finalize before the other (inaudible) So if you would like to learn more, please reach out to him. The idea is to gather feedback, send it back to the University Research Council who will finalize the proposal requirements and logistics, and then we would like to send out the proposals in December or early next year so that the program can start funding those people who have excellent ideas.

Senator Horst: I would like to acknowledge Dan Elkins who is a great leader of the PIE teams. It was a very collaborative process and a great example of all the departments coming up with ideas and then a shared system of faculty and administrators reviewing them and making decisions that benefit the university as a whole. It was a great process.

- ***Vice President for Student Affairs Levester Johnson***

Senator Johnson: I want to thank the entire community for the outpouring of support for Dr. Peck's family as well as the Division of Student Affairs. We have felt your support, and it has really helped us the last couple of weeks manage losing such a good friend and colleague. So, that's much appreciated. And if you will bear with me, and for the record, some information regarding Dr. Peck so that his memory will live on for these meetings—because he always showed up for these meetings. I don't require Assistant Vice Presidents to show up, but he was always here and always supportive of the work being done by this group. We've posted a link on our website in memory of Dr. Peck, which also provides details on his service, which is actually this coming Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Fairview, Illinois. All are welcome to attend.

Dr. Peck was an educator for more than 25 years. His body of work is enormous. To name a few contributions he wrote and edited several books. Authored more than 50 scholarly publications. Edited several journals and presented more than 100 national and international webinars. He inspired thousands of students along the way. He served on many national and state boards. He was frequently a keynote speaker at conferences and presented on at least 48 campuses around the US and internationally. His family recently

moved here to Bloomington, Illinois where Adam started his new position as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at Illinois State University. He's always an ally and advocate. He worked on many diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives including helping to establish the Rainbow Floor within Watterson Towers. He also raised safety and awareness issues throughout campus through the establishment of the Night Walk program, which we just finished. Adam loved making music, especially serving as a band leader at the infamous Jackson Christmas Eve Party. His comedic timing, dad jokes, juggling, and gregarious sense of humor was the highlight of everything that he did. Adam's special charisma captivated everyone from colleagues to friends and family. He had a rare gift of making everyone feel important. And he managed to touch the lives of countless people, even in the short timeframe that he was here at ISU. Adam was an incredibly generous person and will continue to provide that help to other as he was an organ donator. In talking with his wife, sounds like he actually saved two lives through organ donation. Again, the link is at our website for more details. I invite you all to go and check that out.

I want to address the incident that took place several weeks ago regarding vandalism to the Tri Sigma sorority and Alpha Sigma front yard sign. That was a horrific incident and event. We are saddened by the trauma experience by our campus community and specifically the students that were targeted and felt some deep hurt and pain from the experience. We did make attempts and did publicize the information and get information out regarding the incident via interviews from Student Affairs and Dean of Students office staff members too, the Vidette, as well as WGLT. We publicized on social media some of the deliberative round tables and listening sessions that we had with students who were hurt by this event. The case is still pending at this point. Not only is it with the Fraternal Council, but it is being adjudicated through our Student Conduct and Community Responsibility area. Given that the case is pending, myself and folks who are involved in that adjudication cannot speak to the matter involving the case. So, I know that there was a series of questions that were posed by a senator here, I'll read through those because I want to make sure that I address what we can address at this point.

"Why hasn't the university released a statement or some other form of notification to the campus community regarding what happened?" Again, I believe that we did do that. We can always do more. But we definitely did that through social media, vidette, as well as interviews with WGLT in order to get word out about the incident, as well as providing support for the campus community through the support session.

"Is the University conducting an investigation into what transpired resulting in vandalism of slurs for LGBTQ+ people?" Yes. We have been investigating this. It's an ongoing investigation but again, there are charges that are out, and they are being adjudicated at this point.

"If an investigation has been conducted what exactly occurred?" I think through the information that's been released from reporting agencies, there was vandalism to two sorority houses.

“Is the University considering revoking RSO status for Kappa Sigma Fraternity?”
Again, that is being adjudicated at this point through our conduct system, so I can’t speak to, and it’s not a decision I’ve made on that at this point.

Hopefully that addressed the four questions that were raised. Again, I believe the act itself is deplorable and will not be tolerated for our campus community. But with that said, I can’t really go into the details as to what the decision making will be going into a final decision.

Senator Holmes: My first question regarding a statement or other form of notification would primarily hopefully be about an investigation. From my understanding most students on campus are aware that this occurred, most students are not aware that the university is involved in conducting an investigation as to what occurred. The general understanding of the student body is that the IFC is going to be in charge of investigating this incident, and the president of IFC is a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity is not a very good look and that should be clarified if that is not happening.

Senator Johnson: Again, as I mentioned earlier—and thank you for your question seeking clarification—we follow all of our adjudication incumbents are processes here at the institution and that process for student groups involving sorority/fraternity are twofold. One does involve the IFC would have an opportunity for investigating with whatever information they have and then offering up a decision as to what they believe needs to happen. But that does not relieve the institution, we have our own process through our Student Conduct and Community Responsibility Office where we adjudicate that through the administrators within that office. That information again was shared through interviews with WGLT as well as the Vidette.

- ***Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***

Senator Stephens: I’d like to take my time this evening to share my appreciation to the greatest faculty, staff, and students in a couple of areas that’s helped us worked through some important initiatives over the past several weeks since the fall term started. First, I’d like to thank all the team members across campus, with a special attention to the Budget Office, Payroll, HR, and IT. Along with team members from the academic divisions, deans and chairs/directors who work very hard to meet all the deadlines required to ensure that the 3.5% merit increase approved by President Kinzy back in early September could be processed in time for the October payroll cycle. There was a lot of work done behind the scenes to get this accurate and placed into our payroll system in time. Again, thank you for everyone who championed this effort. And a special thank you goes to President Kinzy for supporting this much needed merit increase.

The second group I’d like to offer a special thanks is for all the staff who helped pull together the various tasks to support the nation-wide gubernatorial debate that was held on ISU’s campus last Thursday night. Key staff members within Tech Solutions, Student Affairs, IT, and the Bone Student Center Production Crew had the monumental task of ensuring secure Wi-Fi connection and other critical audio/visual services that were set up to ensure this live debate was a success. Kudos to them and everyone that participated in

this event. I certainly can't speak to who won the debate that night, but I can say with confidence that ISU was a winner as the host.

The last group that I'd like to recognize tonight is our campus grounds crew. They worked diligently over the past several months to get our campus very attractive with flowers and plants in time to celebrate the May graduation as well as the key events held on our campus over the summer. Most importantly getting everything ready for our new and returning students and families who joined us this fall. The campus is very beautiful. Over the next several weeks you'll begin to see them working to transform certain flower beds in order to get the area properly prepared for next spring's planting season. For some whose personal green thumb skills could kill even a plastic plant, I'm grateful for their expertise and efforts to keep our campus beautiful year-round.

Action Item:

Tabled:

From Academic Affairs Committee:

04.07.22.17 Policy 4.1.2 Course Proposals For Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

_Current Copy

10.05.22.09 Policy 4.1.2 Course Proposals For Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

Mark Up

10.05.22.08 Policy 4.1.2 Course Proposals For Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

Clean Copy

Motion by Senator Nikolaou, seconded by Senator Mainieri, to un-table. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Cline: I'll remind everyone that this revision came to the Academic Affairs last year, and was passed by the Academic Affairs Committee last year. The reason for this change was 4.1.2 Course Proposals for Undergraduate and Graduate Courses addressed undergraduate courses but not graduate courses. So, that was our primary concern of the rewrite that was past April. It sat over the summer and when it became an information item in August it had no debate or concerns.

In the intervening time, the Office of General Counsel reviewed it and made a few technical writing changes making it more concise. Our committee then accepted those changes, and it came to the floor, where there were questions about why those changes were made and how they were made. So, we tabled it given that there weren't any members from the Office of General Counsel here to address those.

In our last meeting when it was un-tabled and put back on the floor, after having explained why the Office of General Counsel made the changes that they did, it was discovered that there was a clerical error, and the wrong version of the text was put into your packet. So, once again, we bring forward the text that we wish to have approved.

What I would point out to you is that the vast majority of the text that you see here is the text that has been revised by the Office of General Counsel. I have reintroduced the first sentence of the original policy revision because the Office of General Counsel said the only

reason it was removed was really a matter of redundancy. So, adding it back in wouldn't cause any harm or concern, but there seemed to be concern about its removal. The committee took the word "Ordinarily" out and have added simply, "All proposals for creation, revision, or deletion of curriculum originate at the program or department/school level." Everything else is the same.

Motion by Senator Cline, on behalf of Academic Affairs Committee, to approve policy 4.1.2 Course Proposals For Undergraduate and Graduate Courses.

Senator Horst: I would like to comment that the first initial proposal was just to add the word "graduate." Then it's grown since then.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Information/Action Item:

From Faculty Affairs Committee:

04.07.22.14 Policy 3.2.12 Ombudsperson Policy Current Copy

09.29.22.02 Policy 3.2.12 Ombudsperson Policy Mark Up

09.29.22.01 Policy 3.2.12 Ombudsperson Policy Clean Copy

Senator Horst: This item came from last years' Faculty Affairs Committee and then it was revised by this years' Faculty Affairs Committee. The Executive Committee requested that we put this up as an information item first, in case there are any questions, and then we'll take a motion to move to action item.

Senator Smudde: The Faculty Affairs Committee reviewed the policy and had a couple of comments that we sent into the Executive Committee. What you see are revisions that have been collected since last year. We only offered a couple of changes. The first one that we wanted was on page three in the mark up, there is a bit of text that refers to release time for faculty members. We, in the committee, thought that we should just simplify it and not refer to release time for just faculty members because as we were discussing about staff and the things that they do, we can make it more simple and pragmatic. So, we revised it to say, "Members of the Council shall consult with their unit supervisors for appropriate modifications to perform duties under the Ombudsperson Council" so that the supervisors and those who are serving on the committee can work things out for what kind of time compensation or rescheduled time they might have.

We also thought it would be simpler on page six in 1.2.b to greatly simplify a suggested reference to the Whistleblower policy. "The Ombudsperson shall be protected from retaliation by any person who may be the subject of a complaint or inquiry pursuant to Policy 1.15 Whistleblower Policy." We didn't need to go into any further articulation. That was the substance we sent over to the Executive Committee for its review. The mark up copy, as I said, is a compilation of changes we've had over time.

Senator Horst: Thank you, Senator Smudde. Can you go over the change you made at the beginning of the policy as well?

Senator Smudde: Oh. Yes. I'm sorry. The very first sentence says, "This is the policy for an Ombudsperson Council for faculty and staff issues." We thought it prudent to say, well, what if the University were to hire a full-time person to be an Ombudsperson, there would be no reason to have this policy. In effect, this policy would be suspended, not necessarily eliminated or deleted, but just suspended and that was the essence of the biconditional phrase, "...if and only if there is not a full-time person and/or staff fulfilling this Council's role, in which case this policy is superfluous."

Senator Pancrazio: Did the committee have any discussion about the use of Ombudsperson?

Senator Smudde: No.

Senator Pancrazio: About nine or ten different universities have move to the word Ombuds. The other thing is that the first sentence is kind of awkward. We are creating a policy and it doesn't necessarily mean that you have to have a policy that states that it's a policy in the first line. I have my doubts that we would have to say this policy is here in case... and if we hire someone else then this policy is null. I would recommend striking that.

Senator Smudde: Okay. Thank you.

Senator Horst: Okay. But just to clarify the first part of the first sentence focuses on the Ombudsperson is for faculty and staff issues. So, for instance, they do not consider student issues, student/staff issues, or student/faculty issues.

Senator Pancrazio: I was referring to a policy that states that it's a policy. I mean it's kind of obvious.

Senator Smudde: The biconditional phrase at the end, you're saying to strike that, not the first part.

Senator Horst: So, "The Ombudsperson Council is for faculty and staff issues?"

Senator Smudde: That would stay.

Senator Horst: Is that a friendly amendment?

Senator Smudde: Yeah. We can take that out.

Senator Horst: Okay. So, "The Ombudsperson Council..."

Senator Pancrazio: "The Ombuds Council."

Senator Horst: Are you accepting the Ombuds change?

Senator Smudde: I don't know. We'd have to talk about it because I suspect that Ombudsperson came from the change from Ombudsmen. I don't have any particular feelings one way or another. I'm just thinking even textually, if Ombuds really does the work that it should be or is it just dropping the idea that a human is involved with this.

Senator Mainieri: One of the items that came up on the floor the last time was a request to look at the ratio of faculty to staff on the council. The ratio right now 2:1 automatically builds in that faculty majority as well as having only one staff member available for potential folks from staff who are wanting to seek the Ombuds Council support. So, I'm wondering if the committee had discussed that item from the floor?

Senator Smudde: We only had a bit of discussion. We did not have any data about workload and whether or not the workload had any impact on how many people would need to be on the committee. We're having a hard enough time trying to get people on this body, let alone on an Ombudsperson Council. So, we as a committee felt that until we get the kind of information that we need to make a sound decision we are going to keep the number the way it is.

Senator Horst: So, Senator Smudde, is that a request for future Ombuds Council reports to include data as to the breakout of faculty and staff cases? Is that a request that we can make going forward?

Senator Smudde: I think we can make that kind of request, but it would have to also include time. So, they would have to be doing in effect time logs, which will add additional work to what they are already doing.

Senator Horst: Okay. Further questions?

Provost Tarhule: Senator Smudde, one might infer from the very first sentence in this policy that your committee considered the idea of having one Ombudsperson as a staff, rather than a committee. To what extent did you discuss that and is that a recommendation you think you would like to make to the administration?

Senator Smudde: Thank you so much for asking because, yes, we did talk about that. To my recollection, there is some evidence from other universities of different types. That they have someone in university administration, staff, or somewhere that is an Ombudsperson. We did not investigate what their roles and responsibilities would be, or anything like that. But we thought it might be prudent, which is why we put that sentence in there, just in case ISU ever got to that point. It is a kind of a recommendation that we would like to have, even though we are going to remove that statement. I think it would be worth considering whether or not there should be a full time Ombudsperson and/or staff along with it in the university.

Senator Horst: If such a decision were made, I would recommend that instead of saying the policy is null and void in the policy, that the Senate should be part of that discussion. And

the Senate should be the one to strike this policy when that is in place. I'm personally not in favor of having a sort of poisoned pill within a policy.

Senator Smudde: No, I agree.

Motion by Senator Nichols, seconded by Senator Garrahy, to move to action. The motion was approved, with one no.

Senator Smudde: The Overview statement, which is there now, "This is the policy for an Ombudsperson Council for faculty and staff issues," we in the committee thought we would like to add, "if and only if there is not a full-time person and/or staff fulfilling this Council's role, in which case this policy is superfluous." On the floor I understood it as a recommendation that that last part, the biconditional phrase, be deleted and that's what I agreed to, and I think I would take that as a friendly amendment. The first part of the sentence can stay.

Senator Horst: Okay. So, you didn't accept, "The Ombudsperson Council is for faculty and staff issues?"

Senator Smudde: Correct, because as you said, it seemed important to delineate specifically what the Ombudsperson Council's purview is.

Senator Horst: Okay. We are striking, "if and only if," that part?

Senator Smudde: All the way through superfluous.

Senator Horst: Okay. But we are keeping, "This is the policy for an Ombudsperson Council for faculty and staff issues?"

Senator Smudde: Yes.

Senator Horst: I would like to state that the Senate office is quite overworked. On page two you say, "Candidates not eligible for the open seat(s) in any particular year will be presented to the Faculty Caucus during the next vote for which they are eligible." I'm suggesting that for us to keep track of candidates that were not eligible and then to make sure that they are on the next Caucus is a lot of record keeping that we would have to do. I would propose an amendment, "Candidates not eligible for the open seat(s) in any particular year many choose to put their name forward in a subsequent year for which they are eligible." So, that makes it the candidate's responsibility.

Senator Smudde: That's acceptable as a friendly amendment.

Senator Horst: Okay. Thank you. Any further debate? What about the Ombuds?

Senator Pancrazio: I'll bring it up in another five years. (Laughter)

Senator Nikolaou: I just went to the Ombuds Association, and they actually use all three. Ombudsperson, Ombudsman, and Ombuds. So, they list all three terms as acceptable.

Senator Smudde: That's very good. Thank you.

Senator Horst: Another thing that I would like to point out is the sentence, "Members of the Council shall consult with their unit supervisors for appropriate modifications to perform duties under the Ombudsperson Council." I suggest putting in the word "workload" there so it's clear what the modifications are referring to.

Senator Smudde: Yeah. We in committee discussed that and we like that idea. We can accept that as a friendly amendment.

Senator Horst: Are there any other friendly amendments that you discussed in the committee and accepted?

Senator Smudde: Yes. There were two others. One is two paragraphs above, "After considering the results of these votes..." so on and so on, "will choose a member for the Ombudsperson..." The phrase "a member" would need to be included.

Senator Horst: Because it's referring to the staff and there's one member.

Senator Smudde: Yes. And then the next sentence, "When," and then this would be included, "a vacancy occurs, the Provost," etc.etc.

Senator Horst: Thank you very much.

The policy was unanimously approved, as amended.

Information Item:

From Rules Committee:

10.07.22.01 Academic Senate Bylaw Changes Memo

09.29.22.04 Academic Senate Bylaws Excerpts_ Section VI.6.6_Current Copy

09.29.22.05 Academic Senate Bylaw Excerpts_ Section VI. 6.6_Mark Up

09.29.22.03 Academic Senate Bylaw Excerpts_ Section VI. 6.6_Clean Copy

Senator Blum: Things have changed since what was in your packets. What I'm going to do is focus on the Academic Senate Bylaw changes memo. There were a number of Legal issues that came up between now and when it was actually sent to you. Those have been voted on and changed tonight.

Let me talk about the changes first. There were four issues that came forward. Rules voted to redefine quorum for committees and the Senate. Currently, quorum is a majority of the total. As Chairperson Horst mentioned, the URCs and Board of Trustees had issues, as well as a number of committees that had issues making quorum. So, the change around there was to move it to seated members. For example, if there are ten people on a committee, three of them were not seated, the quorum would be a majority of the seated versus a

majority of the total members. What that allows for, particularly in the smaller committees, is for them to be able to meet and conduct business.

Another issue that was coming up was last year when we passed language around accommodations, OEEOA is for faculty. We didn't put language around SAAS, which is appropriate for students. So, that language had to be added.

There was an issue in some of the committees around sort of not understanding that the Open Meetings Act doesn't allow someone who is not physically present to count towards quorum, however they are eligible to vote. So, we clarified language around that.

Then there's also language that we voted on last year that didn't go through Rules. So, all this language, "Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act (Act), only those members physically present at the meeting location will be included in the count for a quorum. Members who are permitted to attend by means of video or audio conference resulting from an official accommodation received from the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (OEEOA) as specified in the Reasonable Accommodation Procedures for Employees or Applicants policy (see policy 1.3.1) do not count toward the quorum pursuant to the Act." That's language that we voted on last year that has a sunset clause. If we pass this next time the sunset will be over. The reasoning behind that was that it was legal language and Exec last year wanted to move this forward quickly. It was moved directly to the floor. It didn't go through Rules. Are there any questions about the change, the reasoning for them, or suggestions?

Senator Pancrazio: Could you define seated members?

Senator Blum: Yeah. So, seated member is an elected member of the committee or senate. So, if you were appointed to an external committee, then you've actually been seated, so you are a seated member of the committee.

Senator Horst: I will note that because of COVID we do have more than a couple of faculty members and potentially students who are joining virtually. Those people don't count towards the quorum. So, if you have seven people on the committee and one person is joining virtually because of a health issue, then they don't count towards the quorum. So, it becomes more and more difficult to obtain quorum because of the way Open Meeting Act works. That's happening on some committees. They have a member that has to attend virtually, and that member cannot count towards quorum because of the Act. So, it becomes difficult for them to make quorum simply because of a composition of their membership.

Senator Nikolaou: So, last year I think, when we were talking about that on Exec, we also said that there are also implements of problem because if we only have two seated members of the committee, are we going to keep the committee with only two individuals? And then one person voting, or even if we have three. Two out of the three can make a decision for a policy. So, we were talking about whether there should be a minimum percent of the actual number of seats available that we should impose. Should we say for

example, we need to have seated at least 40% of the total seats for each committee and then based on these seated members we can have quorum?

Senator Blum: We actually addressed that in a previous iteration and Legal nixed it. They didn't say we couldn't have a minimum, but we would have to go through the appendices of the bylaws and insert a minimum for every single committee. So, if 40% of a committee is five, then we have to put five is the minimum in the appendices for that committee. And we have to do that for every single committee. We did actually have language that was a percentage formula and Legal didn't feel that was concrete enough, I believe.

Senator Horst: They thought it would potentially violate the Open Meetings Act.

Senator Blum: Yeah.

Senator Horst: I have a question. You have in Article 6.6.L, "Members who are permitted to attend by means of video or audio conference resulting from an official accommodation received from the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (OEOA)..." Did you consider adding Student Access and Accommodation Services (SAAS)," there?

Senator Blum: Yes. We added that tonight it's just not in the copy.

Senator Horst: I see. Okay. So that's a change we'll see another time.

Senator Blum: Yes, that will be forthcoming.

Senator Blair: So, excuse my ignorance on the Open Meetings Act and whether or not this would be at all possible, so I just thought if we are worried about meeting quorums when we have members who can't physically meet just because of some approved justifiable reason. Is there any way to say that if a member does have an approved justifiable reason for why they can't be there, then their presence wouldn't count for quorum at all- meaning it would allow for a lower quorum? Or would that not work legally?

Senator Blum: The Open Meetings Act doesn't allow for them to be counted in quorum, but it does allow them to vote. So, under any circumstance they are not going to be counted as quorum. The language where we are talking about seated members, I would say, makes it less of a problem because you have unseated members and a person that's being accommodated so they can't be there. They can add up to actually be a problem. Do you follow what I'm saying?

Senator Blair: Yes.

Senator Blum: So, we can't change what the Open Meeting Act says. They are allowed to participate in the committee.

Senator Horst: We could ask Legal. So, you're suggesting could we change the definition of quorum to not include members who are not able to physically attend? Right?

Senator Blair: That's basically what I was saying. Sort of along the lines of simply consider them temporarily unseated in a similar way. It was just an idea that might solve it. But again, I don't know what the logistics of how this works, so I just wanted to throw it out there.

Senator Horst: Okay. I don't think that would work.

Senator Blum: Yeah. They already don't count. Right. My concern about saying they're unseated or language similar to that is that we are already having a problem with people not seeing them as voting members. That's not clear in our bylaws and that's actually one of the changes that was here. So, I would be a little worried about that, that people might misconstrue. We want it to be perfectly clear. It's only about quorum. People who have this accommodation who are unable to attend a meeting in person are active participants in the entire process and voting members of the committee. Does that make sense to you?

Senator Blair: Yes.

Consent Agenda: None.

Internal Committee Reports:

- **Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Cline**

Senator Cline: The Academic Affairs Committee had a very successful evening. We reviewed a request having to do with policy 3.2.13 having to do with the search committee and resolved that. We passed through the committee policy 2.1.11 Satisfactory Academic Progress Required for Continued Financial Aid Eligibility. As well as policy 8.5.1 Library, which also passed. We'll begin the next meeting with policy 4.1.18 Transfer of Credit from Other Institutions.

Regarding policy 3.2.13, the committee decided up to two undergraduate students should be added to the Associate Vice President for Faculty Development, Diversity, and Learning search committee.

- **Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: Senator Nikolaou**

Senator Nikolaou: The Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee met this evening. We had the interim Director of Equal Opportunity and Access join us to discuss policy 1.3.1 Reasonable Accommodation Procedure. We have a couple of changes and will vote next time. Also, we looked at the accumulative evaluation schedule for the Deans and Chairs. We have a couple of questions for VP Gatto. We also looked at the Dean of the College of Education updated evaluation form and we had a couple of comments we are going to send.

- **Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Smudde**

Senator Smudde: The Faculty Affairs Committee talked about some of the friendly amendments that we had submitted to us for 3.3.12. Then we discussed and accepted reports from AFEGC and the Athletics Council. We had some questions about each of those

and they were sufficiently answered, so we could accept those proposals with the answers along with it. We also discussed the number of policies on our radar, and we have particular ideas about policy 3.3.10 Termination Notification of Faculty. We'll be looking at that pretty soon. But a number of policies that we have we'll be seeking advice for any revisions for them.

- ***Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Valentin***

Senator Valentin: The committee reviewed suggested changes to policy 3.2.10 Emeriti Academic Employees Defined and our issues pending list. The committee decided on a priority brief to explore this year. It is on Campus Pedestrian and Vehicular Safety and Transportation priority.

- ***Rules Committee: Senator Blum***

Senator Blum: The Rules Committee passed more changes to the Bylaws we were just discussing. We also discussed the Graduate Council Bylaws.

Communications

Senator Mainieri: I know there may be some conflicts for the folks in this room with this event, but I have the honor of inviting you to attend or share with your students and colleagues the Esther Larson McGinnis Scholar Lecture that will be taking place next Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. October 19 in the Brown Ballroom here in the Bone Student Center. This year Dr. Jennifer L. Walton-Fisette will be presenting a lecture "Be the Change: Engaging in Pedagogies of Social Justice in Physical Education and Human Movement." I cordially invite you to share it with your student and your colleagues. I know many of us will be in here instead.

Senator Johnson: I would be remiss if I didn't make our faculty and staff aware that you are invited to dine at a discounted rate in the Watterson Dinning Commons and Marketplace at Lincoln every Friday in October. You too can have lunch for a whopping \$7.45 or dinner for just \$9.00.

Senator Horst: I would like to make a Communication on behalf of the School of Music. We have a residency now in the CPA with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, which is a professional orchestra, and part of the contract of that residency is that people with a student ID can claim a ticket at the box office. They urge you to do this before the event because they think there might be a lot of interest. But October 15 the Illinois Symphony Orchestra's performing Shostakovich and Strauss.

Adjournment or Hard Stop 8:30 p.m.

Motion by Senator Blair, seconded by Senator Cline to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

2022-23 ACADEMIC SENATE ROSTER
Wednesday October 12, 2022

	Senate
Name	Attendance
Blair, Cobi	1
Blanco Lobo, German	1
Blum, Craig	1
Bonnell, Angela	1
Carney, Lania	1
Cline, Lea	1
Duffy, Alexander	1
Ebikhumi, Ash (student trustee)*	1
Fulton, Megan	1
Garrahy, Deb	1
Graham, Rhiannon	1
Gudding, Gabriel	1
Hammond, Tom	1
Harpel, Tammy	1
Hofstetter, Paige	1
Hollywood, Mary	1
Holmes, Jimmy	1
Horst, Martha	1
Hurd, Amy*	1
Johnson, Levester*	1
Kinzy, Terri*	1
Lucey, Tom	1
Mainieri, Tracy	1
McHale, John	1
McLauchlan, Craig*	1
Midha, Vishal	1
Miller, Chloe - EXCUSED	0
Monk, Eduardo	1
Myers, Braxton - EXCUSED	0
Nichols, Wade	1
Nikolaou, Dimitrios	1
Noel-Elkins, Amelia	1
Novotny, Nancy	1
Palmer, Carl	1

Palmer, Stuart	1
Pancrazio, Jim	1
Peters, Steve	1
Rardin, Nate	1
Samhan, Bahae	1
Schmeiser, Benjamin	1
Smith, Zoe	1
Smudde, Pete	1
Stephens, Daniel*	1
Tarhule, Aondover*	1
Taylor, Morgan - EXCUSED	0
Torry, Mike - EXCUSED	0
Valentin, Rick	1
Walsh, Patrick	1
Webber, Julie	1
Wielgosz, Alexander	1
Wilburn-Johnson, Jayden - EXCUSED	0
Williams, Jake - EXCUSED	0
Wollard, Jason	0
Wollard, Justin - EXCUSED	0
Vacant - 1 CAS SCI Faculty	0
Vacant - 1 COB Faculty	0
Vacant - 1 COE Faculty	0
Vacant - 1 Faculty associate	0
Vacant - 1 Student senator	0
Vacant - 1 Student senator	0
Vacant - 1 Student senator	0
Dillaway, Heather (dean rep)*	1
Kidwaro, Fanson (chairperson rep)*	1
QUORUM (VOTING) (28) (*=NV)	39