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Academic Senate

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Senate Meeting, January 24, 2024

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Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Approved

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Academic Senate Secretary Mainieri 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.

Stephen Lazaroff: I'm Stephen Lazaroff. I'm a fourth year PhD student in English department. Last Wednesday evening, members of the ISU Grad Workers Union dropped two banners during the ISU and Drake University men's basketball game to kick off the final campaign to win a fair contract for over 400 graduate teaching assistants. One of the banners, "ISU pays poverty wages," has been seen at rallies and events since September 2023, when it debuted at ISU Fest. Unfortunately, the first contract did not put an end in poverty wages, so the banner is still relevant.

In addition to ISU pays poverty wages, the Union dropped another banner with the phrase "pay grad workers fairly." Together, the banners reference ISU graduate worker stipends, which sit more than \$20,000 below the cost of living for Bloomington, normal for one adult with no children, per MIT. In addition, student fees function as a tax that the university collects for GTA's coming to work immediately, taking 25% off the top plus other state and federal taxes. Nowhere else in the economy does work function this way, where workers are charged again by the employer for coming to work for them. For workers already who are living more than 20,000 to 60% below the cost of living for Bloomington Normal taking 25% of the income is pretty devastating.

This loss of income is a major part of why 70% of grad workers report depression and anxiety directly flowing from the poverty wages and widespread economic insecurity caused by working and studying at ISU. For months, director of Labor Relations Mike Kruger has set the table that their offer is competitive.

That's a quote, since it's in the 60th percentile. I'm glad you're sitting down. Does ISU accept students in the 60th percentile in math in English? Is that our goal? 60% is a D failing grade, necessitating the repetition of a course. Not something to be proud of. We offer a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. Why does ISU champion wages that so clearly fall short of what's needed? ISU made hundreds of millions of dollars off the pandemic off of human suffering. They have the money to end poverty on campus, but they choose not to every single day. Think about that please. Goodnight.

Ahmad Hakim: Good evening everyone. My name is Ahmad Hakim. I am a PhD student. I'm a third year PhD student at the English department, I am an international student at ISU. I come from Egypt. We write to ask for a meeting on Thursday; a delegation from ISU Graduate

Workers Union delivered a letter from the Graduate Workers Union bargaining team written to President Tarhule. The letter asked the President for a meeting to discuss the union's ongoing contract negotiations with his team, to quote from the letter. We write to ask for a meeting as you are the ultimate decision maker at ISU. We have been bargaining with your negotiation team for eight months and are very far on wages. These outstanding economic issues are central to our membership. They tell us that 70% are depressed and anxious because of ISU poor wages. While we still have non-economic issues to work out with Director of Labor Relations Kruger and his team, we appeal to you as the highest decision maker and face of the university. Meet with us and listen to our concerns. We would like to renew our commitment to help bring more state appropriations for ISU. Peer institution Northern Illinois receives \$20 billion more from the state, while it appears no one from ISU goes to Springfield and ask for more money. That increase in state funding could end poverty at ISU and close the food pantry. Our members are enabled to feed themselves and their families. Many live in constant fear of eviction. The stakes for us aren't mere numbers on a page debits or credits in a ledger. We negotiate for the lives of over 400 human beings who deserve to live in dignity and without fear so we can focus on the teaching and research. Thank you.

Remarks by State Representative Chung

Representative Chung came to the Academic Senate meeting to introduce herself to the senators.

Senator Horst: I have a quick question. We've been talking a lot about artificial intelligence on this body and its impact on higher ed. Has there been any sort of discussions going on in Springfield on this topic?

Representative Chung: We have. There was a subject matter hearing. It was up in Chicago this fall. I couldn't attend it, but we are well aware of the sort of implications that AI has right now. I do know that we're keeping an eye on it and bringing lots of stakeholders and experts in the field. Because, you know, we're, we're legislators, we might not know everything about this, but you know this is something that we have been discussing. And I'm sure that will become an issue in the near future, even more so.

Senator Horst: Recently, Springfield did the Personal Plus Time benefit for all employees; do you have any insight as to how that applies to higher education?

Representative Chung: I have to say that this has been an issue that I've heard from a lot. I was not on in the legislature when we've voted on this. So, in speaking with people around the district, they do have a lot of questions. I think that it's something that we might want to revisit. When I say that people are still having concerns about how this is to be implemented and enforced and just sort of regulated. It's something that I am going to keep a definite eye on, because it went into effect a couple weeks ago. So, we're still trying to see how it's all going to work out.

Senator Valentin: It was actually brought up in the public comments about advocacy for ISU and the state budget, and I was curious if you could talk about what that advocacy looks like.

Representative Chung: I think right now my understanding is that so there was a task force that was put together to look at equitable funding in public universities here in Illinois. And I believe the task force will be releasing their findings next month. So we'll get a sort of sense about where ISU stands with the other institutions and what we can do to sort of get to an adequacy equitable sort of level. We all know around here that Illinois State gets the least amount of money per student as compared to I think any other state university. So we're going to try and see; I'm very curious to see as soon as that report comes out -- I have people who are supposed to e-mail to me immediately. We can take a look at it and see how that will impact Illinois State.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Horst: Good evening, everyone.

I want to thank Representative Sharon Chung for coming to the Illinois State University Academic Senate this evening to speak with us and receive our questions and comments. I am glad that we could make this happen. Her current chief of staff, Alex Campbell, is a former off-campus senator. It is really nice to welcome Senator Campbell back to campus and to have this opportunity with a state-level politician.

As you may have noticed, we don't have as many administrators here tonight. The Board of Trustees is holding an event this evening, and members of the administration thought it important to attend that event. Our new Interim Vice President for Finance and Planning, Dan Petree, was eager to attend his first senate meeting, but felt that it was equally important to meet the Board members. If any senators have any comments or questions that they would like me to pass along to any administrators not in attendance tonight, I would be happy to do so.

As many of you know, the faculty union called the "United Faculty of ISU" has been officially recognized by the IELRB or Illinois State Educational Labor Board. The Faculty Caucus Executive Committee will start preliminary discussions regarding assessing the future work of the Senate, Caucus and Faculty Affairs Committee, given this news. Both Senator Monk and I are eager to hear the administration's thoughts on what this news means for the Academic Senate and for shared governance, in general, at Illinois State University. He and I plan on requesting a response from the administration at our next meeting on February 7th.

At our last meeting, a proposal from the Academic Affairs Committee to revise the Code was put forward as a motion to the full Senate. The body subsequently voted unanimously to table the motion, with a caveat that a task force should look into this topic. Subsequently, the administration has announced the formation of a broad taskforce that will investigate AI. The Executive Committee was in agreement that the call for the Senate to form a taskforce to investigate AI given the administration's announcement was now moot. If any senators would like to put together a proposal for a senate-only taskforce, however, they are welcome to. Since the body did not send the proposed Code language revisions back to the committee, the proposal now belongs to the body. It will be up to members of the body to submit any proposed amendments. If a group of senators wishes to submit any proposed amendments to the proposal, or if senators wish to request that the item be placed on the agenda again, they are free to do so. The Executive Committee will then consider putting the item back on the agenda with a preliminary motion to "untable." Otherwise, the proposal will remain in limbo, for the moment.

This evening, we have a proposed amendment to the Illinois State University Constitution coming to us from the Rules Committee. Per the Constitution, the Senate has the ability to propose such amendments. There is a very specific timeline for this process. This evening, we will hear the proposal from this “group of senators.” We must circulate the proposal in Academic Senate minutes to the campus and then vote on the proposal at the meeting after these minutes have been distributed. I want to thank the Rules Committee in advance for all of their hard work on this proposal.

Committee chairs, I wanted to remind you that we have five internal committee meetings left for the rest of the semester. So, please plan accordingly. Anything that you would like the 2023-2024 Academic Senate to potentially vote on really should be forwarded to the Executive Committee by March 7 or March 28, at the very latest.

The Senate office sent out a request for volunteers for our external committees. Faculty, please ask your colleagues to consider volunteering for a committee next year. The pool of volunteers is getting smaller and smaller; some colleges only have 2-3 faculty volunteers. So, let’s try to increase the number of potential committee members in this pool this year and not just rely on the deans to find potential committee members.

Faculty, we have a Faculty Caucus meeting this evening. Susan Hildebrandt, Special Assistant to the Provost, will be here to discuss the results of the COACHE Survey Taskforce. I hope that we can have a robust discussion on some of these findings.

Finally, I wish to express my condolences to all faculty, staff, and students who knew Alex Nowak. Alex recently passed away. Alex was a senior undergraduate student majoring in psychology and minoring in athletic coaching. I am so sorry for the loss of this member of the Redbird Community.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Monk: Good evening, it’s wonderful to see everyone again. I hope you all had a restful Winter break and enjoyed the extra days off.

I’d like to echo Chairperson Horst’s call on the administration for a response on the future of shared governance given the recent registration of the faculty union and I call upon all stakeholders to keep student success a top priority for the University.

The Student Caucus has concluded our review of policy 2.1.17 Residency Status. We would like to thank Alice Maginnis from General Counsel for her insight during our discussion. General counsel has also concluded their review of 5.1.13 Anti-Hazing Policy, so both policies will be on the agenda for the executive committee meeting on Monday.

I would like to commend the administration for putting together a task force to explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence on ISU. AI will revolutionize the world as we know it and ISU must be at the forefront of the innovations the technology will usher in. SGA is excited to

participate in the discussions and I hope this can serve as the model of the voice that students have at ISU through the tradition of shared governance.

The Mental Health Days coalition is excited to announce SB2606, the bill filed to provide mental health days for university students, has officially been assigned to the Higher Education committee in the Senate. Alongside this milestone, we have also launched our statewide lobbying campaign as the General Assembly has returned for the spring session. Over break, we added College of DuPage, Benedictine University, and Lake Land College to the coalition, as well as expanded our media coverage with stories in WGLT, Capitol Fax, BestColleges, and Inside Higher Ed. ISU Director of Public Policy Brad Franke is hard at work coordinating meetings with the 31 legislators assigned to ISU's lobbying team, consisting of 16 members of the Association. I will be sure to keep you all updated as this very exciting process unfolds.

I am thrilled to announce SGA will be hosting the State of the Student Body Address, taking place on Tuesday, February 6th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the Brown Ballroom. The event will feature speeches from myself, President of the Assembly Megan Fulton, Dean of Students Dr. Andy Morgan, and representatives from the organizations with ex-officios in SGA, on top of activities and squishmellow giveaways. I'd like to thank Senator Roy and the Membership and Outreach committee for their work in reviving the State of the Student Body and coordinating it for the first time in years.

Finally, I'd also like to issue a huge congratulations to the Men's basketball team for their gritty win over Belmont last night at CEFCU. I had a wonderful time cheering on our Redbirds with Vice President Johnson, Provost Yazedjian, and Interim President Tarhule. With that, I will happily accept any questions.

Senator Pancrazio: Senator Monk, I had a question about the initiative that you're describing about the mental health days. I read the WGLT article, I also saw a the reference in the Inside Higher Education, and it looks like what your group is asking for are and I quote it, "a handful of days designated for mental health" and then the reason for that, (and I think it was also in the WGLT article) that quote "students have the pedal to the metal" for all 16 weeks. Are you also looking at some of the information that's coming from the Wellness Office? And specifically, I'm looking at the top stressors that are reported by students: the number 5 is procrastination. It's reported here that 66.4% of the students surveyed are stressed out about procrastination, and what that means is that 66.4% of the students are aware that they're procrastinating, and they are doing that.

And what that also suggests is that there's more procrastination. So, my concern is not necessarily about 5 days, because if anyone has taught a general education class, you know that you have student ghosts. I know that everyone in the SGA has probably seen that small segment of students that disappear and miss maybe 60% of the classes. So, my question is not really about 5 days, but how narrow are you casting the net? Is there any discussion about normalizing stress and anxiety as one of the challenges of life of something that we should embrace that brings us the satisfaction of achievement? The reason I'm bringing this up is that it is definitely going to impinge on academic time if it's passed, and we're going to have more politicians in Springfield telling us how to teach -- people who have never been in classroom. At some point in time, are

you going to avail yourself to the other facilities that we have on campus? For example, the Visor Center, which gives presentations on how to overcome procrastination. I see this as not just a life skill, but a job skill. If we are busy and we are also procrastinating, I think we have some discussions about goal setting and priorities; and I say this as a faculty member as the only tenure-line faculty member that has been involved in success one-on-one and works a lot with the students that are taking national assessments in my department. There's nothing more satisfying for me as a faculty member to see success. And what I am concerned about is the major tendency towards avoidance and the major tendency not to embrace challenges.

Senator Monk: I appreciate it. Of course, we want to be able to prepare students for the real world throughout their education. However, when we're discussing the topic of mental health, I think it's a little misguided to blame procrastination for mental health. Because when we're discussing mental health, it is the same as physical health. I am diagnosed with depression, meaning I have a low amount of serotonin in my brain. So I am prescribed medication to be able to address that. These mental health days are going to be intended for students who are having severe mental health crises and need to seek out resources the same day. Whether that be a depressive episode, whether that be a panic attack, mental health is the same as physical health. The state has already passed a law that allows for five mental health days for K- 12 students. We're simply are looking to expand that out towards university students.

Another thing with the mental health days what we're hopeful we'll be able to accomplish is students becoming more responsible with their mental health as well. Now we understand that there is going to be opportunity for abuse, but one of the provisions in the K-12 law stipulates that if you take more than two mental health days in a row, you're required to meet with the counselor. We're hopeful that we'll be able to have a similar provision in the university students as well. So we're going to be able to catch mental health crises much more responsively. And students are going to be able to learn that, hey, mental health is something that you're going to have to learn to manage; and by having those days off that you're going to be able to attend to those mental health, seek out available resources. It is going to help guide students to be able to become more, more responsible for it. So again, our students are going to take the day just to take the day you will, but the vast majority of the students are going to be taking the mental days because they are dealing with a serious crisis and need to attend to their mental health before they can get to anything else.

Senator Sheridan: Just I'm a licensed clinical social worker in the state of Illinois and I just wanted to point out that the current literature on procrastination is that it's a symptom of mental illness, anxiety and depression in particular. It's not an executive functioning some type of maladaptive cognitive, behavioral or so if you're having students in your class that are procrastinating, I would suggest that the pathway to assisting them is to refer them to a mental health provider versus thinking that it's just maybe an attitudinal or a like I said executive functioning kind of an issue.

Administrators' Remarks

- ***Interim President Aondover Tarhule***
- ***Acting Provost Ani Yazedjian***

Acting Provost Yazedjian: Great. Welcome back everybody to the spring semester. I'll start with a pretty neat student story. Math student Joseph Wittrock was named the 2023 Research Assistant of the Year at the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center Construction Engineering research lab. He was an intern in Champagne and his work led him to present at the National Academy of Sciences. So, the reason this is a really neat thing is because he got connected with CERL at the Student Research Symposium. He was presenting about a project where he did machine learning to train a digital spider. And so he got connected with CERL, ended up with this great internship and ended up presenting at the National Academy of Sciences. It is a great example of relationship that we have with another organization in the area that led to a wonderful opportunity for students. So go Jason,

I also want to respond to the to the Senate Chair's request and just say that the Illinois Educational and Labor Relations Board certified as you all know, the tenured and tenure track bargaining unit on January 8th.

The Union subsequently sent the University a demand to bargain for the first contract. Included in that demand to bargain the first contract, the Union also demanded that the University not make any unilateral changes to the wages, hours or working conditions of tenured or tenure track faculty, and made an ongoing demand to negotiate with the University over any proposed changes in the wages, hours or terms and conditions of employment of employees in the bargaining unit. After consultation with Labor Relations and the Office of General Counsel, is my understanding that significant changes, then, in terms and conditions and employment may, at this point, trigger a legal duty for the University to bargain with the Union. In light of the Union's demands, then, any policy changes the Senate may be contemplating will need to be reviewed by administration to assess whether they would trigger a duty to bargain with the Union prior to implementation by the University. Any such negotiations would be handled by the University's representatives, so perhaps not as concrete as you might like me to say, except that, you know, we would need to review in advance any prior changes that might be made that would affect the terms and conditions of employment for tenured and tenure track faculty.

And then on a final note, I would like to say that at the end of the semester, someone from the Senate delivered something to the Provost Office. The student worker did not catch your name. So, if you delivered something to the Provost office, let me know so that I can thank you for it.

Senator Horst: The administration now has the power to dictate what the Senate looks at is what I interpreted you as saying; and so would that consultation be effectively in the Executive Committee meeting? Is it an adequate review body to make that determination?

Acting Provost Yazedjian: I don't think that's what I said, and if that's how I came across, I apologize. That was not what I was trying to communicate at all, except to say that we have a legal duty in what we need to do with the Union as a University. So, we would just need to have a conversation; because in the same way as we would have a conversation about what this change might entail, we would similarly want to have a conversation with the Union,

right? Any more specific questions about that? I'm going to turn that over to Janice Bonneville. But really, we're just asking for a conversation in advance.

Senator Horst: So again, the conversation that happens with the President and the Provost in the Executive Committee, is that satisfactory or would we need to also have Legal at the table?

Janice Bonneville: I'm not sure that my answer is going to give you any more confidence or any more comfort in the response terms and conditions of employment is a very broad concept. That everything that we do that changes policy is going to be something that we're going to get to demand and negotiate on. But the issue is simply the policy change needs to be reviewed so a determination can be made if it is impacting terms and condition of employment, and we are compelled to notify the Union of that change in advance because we have an open demand that says if you're making changes, determines conditions of employment; it's a continuing demand unless and until the contract is negotiated and finalized that it be discussed. The Union, they have the right to demand a bargain. So, it could happen in Exec depending on what the issue is, Martha. Excuse me, Senator Horst. It could happen in Exec, potentially, but it may be something that needs to be tabled for a discussion to be had to determine how it impacts the potential Union contract.

Senator Horst: And that would be everything? So for instance The Final Examination policy is clearly not something that is in that area, correct?

Janice Bonneville: Well, it depends on if your review of the Final Examination policy somehow impacts the way the faculty does their job.

Senator Horst: All right. So again, I'm hoping that somebody can help us figure out how to do this. It sounds like the Executive Committee agenda items need at least two weeks of review before they actually go in front of the Executive Committee, so that appropriate consultation with the Union representatives can happen.

Janice Bonneville: Yes, that would be correct and that that review is going to be done in concert between our office and the General Counsel.

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

Vice President for Student Affairs Johnson: I'd like to also welcome everyone back to campus and hope things are going well and start this spring semester. I don't necessarily have a report, but just a word of thanks to our students and student groups and organizations. We had an outstanding turnout over the last two days for our traditional Winter Fest. For involving students within our groups and organizations, I believe we had close to 1500 students who came through. So, thanks to you, all the students and the student groups for coming out, participating and providing opportunities for our students to engage.

- ***Interim Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Petree***

Senator Horst: And again, Interim Vice President for Finance and Planning Petree is unable to join us. Are there any questions anybody would like to forward to him?

I think I might ask him to brief us on the decision-making process for the closure that recently happened with the ice, but I will save that for next time.

Consent Agenda: (All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items.)

- ***School of Kinesiology and Recreation: [Sport Coaching and Leadership Certificate \(online\)](#)***
- ***School of Kinesiology and Recreation: [Sport Management Sequence \(online\)](#)***
- ***Health Sciences: [Health & Wellness Coaching](#)***

Senator Pancrazio, motion, second by Senator Mainieri. Agenda items passed unanimously.

Action Items:

From Tom Lucey: Faculty Affairs Committee
11.09.23.01 Policy 3.3.2 Faculty Hiring Current Copy
11.09.23.02 Policy 3.3.2 Faculty Hiring Mark Up
11.9.2023 Policy 3.3.2 Faculty Hiring Clean Copy

Tom Lucey: Policy 3.3.2 concerning faculty appointment was discussed at our last meeting. Since that discussion, we've received some suggestions for amendment from legal counsel which we're discussing committee tonight and approved changing the language in the first paragraph to remove the words "organized in public." The first sentence would read, "The term faculty refers to any ranked or unranked appointment for the purpose of instruction, research, and service." So we're removing the words "organized" and "public" from that sentence.

Also on the last paragraph, we are changing the word "ARE" in the second sentence to the word "can be" so that sentence would read: "Sample faculty appointment letters for non-tenure and tenure track positions can be found on the Provost Office website." In addition, we offer a friendly amendment in the paragraph beginning with "sample faculty appointment letters" to insert the word track after non tenure and remove the second track, not mean to get people off track here, but to remove the second track after the word tenure track. So the sentence would read: "Sample faculty appointment letters for non-tenure track and tenure track positions can be found on the Provost Office website." I'd like to make a motion that we approve this these policy changes.

Senator Horst: Thank you very much. And because this is coming from the committee, it doesn't need a second and I will just state for the record that the Office of General Counsel reviewed this policy and they made no statements to the contrary that we couldn't pass this policy. So I believe we can work on this policy. Is there any debate?

Seeing none, all in favor of approval of policy 3.3.2 as amended, please signify by saying aye, opposed. Very good. We have a new policy, 3.3.2.

Information Items:

From Rick Valentin: Planning and Finance Committee (Discussion before future endorsement)

12.07.23.01 Mission Statement (Clean Copy)

12.07.23.02 Mission Statement (Mark Up)

12.07.23.03 Mission Statement Draft - Task Force Approved 11-10-23 Clean Copy

Senator Valentin: I can read the draft mission statement from the Strategic Planning Task Force: “Illinois State University prepares diverse, engaged and informed members of society through collaborative teaching, scholarship and service.” The goal for this..., the authorship of this mission statement was to create a short, concise, single sentence statement which is in line with contemporary trends for pure universities, other universities. This revised mission statement reflects feedback received during the extensive review phase. With the campus community and beyond in the fall, which many of you were part of, the Strategic Planning Task Force did reflect on the feedback received and very thoughtfully made revisions to this mission statement. This language has been approved by the Strategic Planning Task Force and Presidential Cabinet, and reviewed and endorsed by the planning and Finance Committee.

Senator Mainieri: Can we just clarify what our role is as a body in relation to we're endorsing this language, not copy editing at this point, correct?

Senator Valentin: We are not endorsing right now. It's an Information Item with intent of voting to endorse.

Senator Horst: Just for the record, I don't recall the Strategic Planning Task Force voting on this proposed language, but I just have a question. The original mission statement talks about a small college atmosphere with large university opportunities, and that seems to be something that is a identifies ISU in particular. What in the new mission statement is specific to ISU? Is there anything besides the name? It seems like a statement of what higher eds' possibilities are.

Senator Valentin: Well, I would offer that this mission statement, it's meant to be generalized. More an overview. Sort of outward facing, compact statements. And those unique factors are expressed within the Strategic Plan in the areas of values and strategic directions.

From Craig Blum: Rules Committee

01.18.24.01 Memo Constitution Changes Rules

01.18.24.02 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY CONSTITUTION (Current Copy)

01.18.24.03 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY CONSTITUTION (Mark Up)

01.18.24.04 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY CONSTITUTION (Clean Copy)

01.18.24.05 Memo Bylaws Changes

01.18.24.06 Voting Procedures of the Academic Senate (Current Copy)

01.18.24.07 Voting Procedures of the Academic Senate (Mark Up)

01.18.24.08 Voting Procedures of the Academic Senate (Clean Copy)

01.18.24.09 Article IV chair of Senate Rules (Current Copy)

01.18.24.10 Article IV chair of Senate Rules (Mark Up)

01.18.24.11 Article IV chair of Senate Rules (Clean Copy)

Senator Schmeiser: The document that you're seeing first is the Illinois State University Constitution, Article 5. I just wanted to point out a couple of things for this one and then I'll discuss 2. Just two minor changes besides the obvious things like grammatical change. Number one, it was noted by the Rules Committee that current standards of pronoun usage as well as other grammatical changes may need to be considered in future amendments to the Constitution. A change of pronoun usage would require changes throughout the Constitution, not limited sections, and for this proposal we did not make those type of amendments. If those amendments are desired by the Academic Senate, they could be taken up by the future Chair of the Rules Committee. If it's the will of the Academic Senate, it's the minor change to note is membership. We changed the number of elected faculty to 29 to 30, up one, to accommodate the new College of Engineering.

And finally, I wanted to point your attention in this document two article 5, Section 1, paragraph 3. Originally it said instructor; instructor does not have rank. So we changed instructor to instructional or clinical assistant professor.

Senator Horst: I sent in just a note about the language, it says, and a representative of the Deans Council and the trustee student trustee. I would suggest striking the 1st "and."

Senator Schmeiser: Yes, we did that today.

Senator Horst: It makes sense to strike the "president of the student body" because that that person is listed as "vice chairperson slash student body president." The president of the student body is same as student body president.

Senator Schmeiser: The changes on the Campus Communication Committee on the bottom: we're proposing three students from the Student Government Association, two student members nominated and elected by the Student Government Association, and the Student Body President. And then followed by that, three Civil Service or Administrative Professional (A/P) members: one nominated and elected by the University Civil Service Council, one nominated and elected by the Administrative Professional Council, and one member from either group on a rotating basis.

Senator Kumi-Darfour: So with the change to the Campus Communications Committee and our communication with Senator Blum. it was supposed to reflect very generally staff counsel, with the looming merger of the AP and Civil Service Council. But here it still indicates Civil Service and AP.

Senator Horst: If the Staff Council proposal isn't in the Constitution, then we can't necessarily include constitutional language that talks about members of the Staff Council.

Senator Kumi-Darfour: So once you have that information, we will revisit then.

Senator Horst: I'm certain the Constitution will be revised multiple times in the next couple of years. perhaps we could say three staff?

Senator Kumi-Darfour: Members in our last communication, that is what we said. "Three staff" just to try to keep it very general; and then that way within our process of merging, then we can still get the adequate representation of having, for example, a Civil Service person, an A/P person, and then whoever else we may designate on behalf of the committees at that time.

Senator Helms: The strike out below two civil service two AP that is going down by one whereas the committee is going up by one. What was what was the logic of that?

Senator Horst: I think that the philosophy is it's going to be equal representation. The students currently only have one person on the committee, and then there's two from the AP and two from the Civil Service and three faculty members; the logic is that this group writes a campus letter to the Board. It's a collective activity with all of the representatives there. I think that the philosophy is to have equal membership and not necessarily have a majority by anybody.

Senator Hammond: I just had a question about if we switch to making it three staff and the changes that go forward, we might run into a situation where we have three Civil Service staff and none from the A/P. I don't know if that's something we need to consider, and maybe that was the reason for not saying something like three staff members. I thought you were switching to three staff; the way it's written now, it seems like we're specifying you have one of this, one of the other and then the other rotates from both either Civil Service or AP. If we switch to three staff, then theoretically it could all be from civil service.

Senator Horst: Theoretically, the Civil Service Council could elect an A/P member. The A/P could elect an A/P member, and then there'd be a rotating membership. Yes, theoretically.

Senator Kumi-Darfour: So to your point, we would actually try absolutely to avoid that. And so there will still be at least one representative from A/P, one representative from the Civil Service classification. And then let's say, for example, moving into this next academic year the Constitution would be approved by the Senate, then we will operate in a way of a rotating Council chair. Back to Senator Horst's point earlier, with it being a letter where we work collaboratively to the Board of Trustees, depending at that time who the leader is .. in practice it is within this committee. You may have the A/P chair or the Civil Service chair, but it is never to, you know, try to have one specific classification dominate. And so we really have talked through that and worked really hard to make sure that that is something that is not occurring.

01.18.24.10 Article IV chair of Senate Rules (Mark Up)

Senator Schmeiser: I just wanted to point your attention to one thing; we did make a change limiting the chair of the Academic Senate to faculty who are not chairs or directors. So the Rules Committee concluded that it was better to limit this role to a faculty member who has been elected to the Academic Senate who is not a chair or director, so that would be article four

“officers,” and that is highlighted for you. It says, “the chairperson shall be elected annually by and from the Academic Senate, the chairperson of the Senate shall be a faculty representative who is a member of the Academic Senate., and who is not a current department chair or school director, etcetera, etcetera.” but that's the main change and there is a I need to insert a space between not and a.

Senator Cline: I believe it came up in an Executive Committee, a question about the potentiality of an interim or acting chair. Is that envisioned in your revisions?

Senator Schmeiser: We can change the wording. It's my understanding that we would, we would not want an interim either.

Senator Cline: I think it might be best to make that clear that whether it be a permanent or interim or acting that the rule against a department chair school director applies also.

Senator Horst: So the chair couldn't be a current acting interim or permanent department chair or school director. I would second that just because, particularly in the new environment we're in, a chair would not be part of the bargaining unit. The faculty Chair of the Senate is, and so there will be a relationship that they would need to have with the Faculty Union representatives. It would be difficult for an acting interim or permanent chair to have a similar relationship, since they would have limitations on what they could say.

From Rick Valentin: Planning and Finance Committee

11.08.23.01 Policy 6.1.40 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Current Copy

11.08.23.02 Policy 6.1.40 Unmanned Aircraft System Mark Up

11.08.23.03 Policy 6.1.40 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Clean Copy

Senator Valentin: The bulk of the changes, adjustments and language and definitions are from recommendations by Risk Management from their review of the policy language; and then there's the removal of the procedure section within the policy text. That's because procedures often change within this area. So those have been removed from the policy and offloaded to a document hosted by Risk Management in the distributed documents. Some definitions, such as “Hobbyist”, “remote pilot” are unbolded not bolded. They should be bolded in that formatting. There's a duplicate definition of model aircraft which should be removed and then in Appendix one. Hobbyist location, flight location, the term student hobbyist has been changed in this document to just hobbyist; and so in Appendix one that Appendix one header and in the text within Appendix one should be “hobbyist.” The designated student hobbyist should be hobbyist flight location.

Senator Horst: It says, “All individuals operating a UAS.” (it used to say “on university property”) must take all reasonable measures and all of this kind of stuff. But now it says, “all individuals offering UA S on or off university property must take all reasonable measures to avoid violations or areas normally considered private.” Is that expanding the university policy to anybody's offering in a UAS on or off anywhere? Maybe all “university members.” As opposed to anybody in the United States who's operating the UAS, right?

Senator Valentin: Right.

From Dimitrios Nikolaou: Academic Affairs Committee

12.27.23.01 Policy 4.1.5 Final Examinations (Current Copy)

12.27.23.02 Policy 4.1.5 Final Examinations (Mark Up)

12.27.23.03 Policy 4.1.5 Final Examinations (Clean Copy)

Senator Pancrazio: In general, we did some clarification and updated the language. For example, added the “Mennonite College of Nursing”, added those types of changes that were in the previous policy. Move things around. There were a few typos that we addressed, essentially did not change the policy radically. I think just a lot of wording changes; and for that reason, it was passed without much discussion and our last meeting in November.

Internal Committee Reports:

- ***Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Nikolaou***

Senator Blair: We had a very productive meeting tonight. We reviewed five policies, those being the undergraduate admissions policy, The credit earned through transfer examination prior learning, Final course grade challenge, Student absences due to service as a voluntary emergency worker. Finally equitable treatment of students participating in university sponsored activities. We got through all of those policies and we look forward to seeing them come to the Senate.

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

Senator Mainieri: We started our meeting this evening with a joint session with Planning and Finance to hear the academic facilities priorities report. AABC continued our discussions on 3.2.13, and we laid out our plan for our final five meetings of the academic year.

- ***Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Lucey***

Senator Lucey: Faculty Affairs discussed the intellectual property policy, and we invited intellectual heavyweights Alice McGuinness, Jason Wagner and Dallas Long to participate in the conversation. The heavyweight sat at the front of the table and I decided not to redistribute the weight. The weight and the conversation took off swimmingly, in a way that O'Hare and national would be proud of. And that was the gist of our meeting.

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

Senator Valentin: The Planning and Finance Committee met along with the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee and reviewed and endorsed the Academic Facilities Priorities report.

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

Senator Schmeiser: productive meeting tonight in which we looked over each of the three information items for tonight. Make sure that we dotted our eyes and crossed our T's. The reason why we did not present the second one, which is the the bylaws of voting procedures of the academic Senate, is we did update one sentence, which is those who abstain do not count as casting a vote. So we clarified that to be in line with Robert's

Rules of Order. Originally the document referred to numbers, and it would say things like “Step 2” go to “after Step 2”, then go back to one, things like that. But numbers are not used, letters are. So we changed everything to be in line with letters. So we spent the bulk of the meeting working on improving the wording and to make sure that it is ultra-clear before we bring it to you again.

- ***University Policy Committee: Senator Sheridan***

Senator Sheridan: University Policy Committee reviewed policy 3.3.12A, the Appendix to the Code of Ethics. Faculty responsibilities to students and 3.3.12 C, Appendix 2, Code of Ethics, involvement in political activities. We benefited this evening from our guest chairperson Horst, who provided some insight into an issue with the faculty responsibilities to students. We need to consider the extent to which the personal plus time policy impacts that, so we're going to table that and then we are getting some additional feedback on the political activities one as well and hope to have both of those.

Communications

Senator Pancrazio: Senator Blair did a good job filling in for senator Nikolaou.

Adjournment

Motion by Senator McHale, seconded by Senator Hofstetter, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.