

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report – June 10, 2022

Good afternoon, colleagues.

We thank Provost Passerini for attending and addressing our questions.

I would like to thank all of those who ran for positions on the Executive Committee and all of you for participating in the additional voting for the Secretary position. I'd also like to congratulate the members of the EC on their elections, including Mary Ellen, as was recently announced.

On May 24th the members of the Executive Committee met with the provost and her staff (which was followed by a meeting of that group as well as the deans). We discussed a question that was raised at the May Senate meeting about the provost's proposal for a Faculty Guide change to require external letters and agreed that the 40-day response deadline does not apply to actual Faculty Guide changes, which always require a first and second reading and approval by the body. In addition, the provost agreed to meet with the Graduate Studies Committee, along with Erik Lillquist and Brian Shulman, to discuss the SHMS tuition changes.

On May 26th I forwarded the statement presented by the Graduate Studies Committee at the May meeting to Provost Passerini.

On May 31, after discussions with the rest of the Executive Committee, I wrote to Donna McMonagle, CFO, and Sona Patel, co-chairs of the Compensation Study Committee, to ask whether committee members would be expected to sign NDAs and whether they are amenable to the Senate providing feedback and guidance as the process unfolds. Ms. McMonagle clarified that committee members will not be expected to sign NDAs and will only be expected to "exercise reasonable discretion in the interest of individual privacy and the integrity of the committee process." She also noted that the charge to the committee refers to seeking comments from the Senate on the draft of the initial report. The committee charge will be distributed to the community at large after it has been shared with the Board of Regents this week. The Executive Committee will be scheduling a listening session with the Senate representatives on the Compensation Study Committee to help prepare them for the work ahead.

On June 8, I attended the meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Regents. In addition to the usual updates about Senate activities, I spoke about the results of the survey conducted by the Senate's Faculty Development Committee. I emphasized the stresses that have impacted faculty for the last two years, some of the major themes of the study, and some of the recommendations from the committee. We will be sharing the full report with the Board next week after the Senate has had a chance to review and discuss it at today's meeting.

For today's Senate meeting, committee chairs have been advised that they should not be reading their reports aloud so that we can focus on the action items on our agenda today. There will be time for Q&A.

Mary Ellen Roberts and I are working with committee chairs given the new committee structure in our by-laws. We understand this is a work in progress and there will be some adjustments needed. However, committees should elect a chair now. In the meantime, I again encourage Senators and alternates to join more than one committee. The work of the Senate is done primarily through its committees, and so the more involved we are as the elected representatives of our colleagues, the better. If you have any questions, reach out to Mary Ellen. She should have your committee list, with the name(s) of the chair(s), by Friday, June 17.

We have been asked to submit the names of faculty to represent the Senate on two committees:

- Assessment Committee, to be coordinated by Peter Shoemaker; there will be no summer meetings and the number of meetings during the academic year will depend on what the committee wants to take on.
- Title IX Committee, to be coordinated by Monica Burnett. It will include representatives from SGA and will be looking at the university's policies and procedures related to Title IX. The first meeting will be June 15 and they will meet monthly thereafter.

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees—or if you would like to nominate someone (please check with them first)—email Mary Ellen Roberts (copying Mary Balkun) by Wednesday, June 15.

On June 8th, Sona Patel, Mary Ellen Roberts and I met with Amy Newcombe and Erik Lillquist. We asked about the exclusion of suspended programs from the 2022-23 academic catalog. They explained that having them listed could be confusing to prospective students; however, they will also look into making sure older catalog are easily available (since students are held to the catalog for the year they were admitted).

We were also advised at that meeting that the Executive Cabinet had approved the updated Copyright Policy, which is now university wide (applying to students and staff as well as faculty). The Copyright Ownership Policy was not changed, but its application to students and staff was also approved, making it now a university-wide policy as well.

The salary calculation chart that (developed by the Compensation Committee several years ago to ensure that faculty salaries are at 81% of the median of our peer schools as determined by the 2015 salary study) has been updated and is available through the C&W Committee.

Outstanding Resolutions:

- Faculty Guide articles 6, 7, 10, 11, and 12
- Tenure Extension
- Office of Sustainability

There are 13 actionable items on today's agenda, including nine items of Old Business from the April meeting:

Old Business

a. Faculty Guide Interpretation

- b. Article 3.3b.4 Second Reading
- c. Faculty Guide Article 8 Revisions – First Reading
- d. Muslim-Christian Relations Minor
- e. Nursing Administration – MBS Joint Program
- f. Cost of Living Motion
- g. Compensation Study Committee Motion
- h. Rome Connection Motion
- i. CORE III Approval Motion
- j. Study Abroad Motion
- k. Ombuds Motion

New Business:

IPAD Resolution

Police Studies Program Changes

Thank you, as always, for your service to the Faculty Senate and the important role you play in shared governance at the university.

Best wishes for a restful summer!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Balkun, Chairperson