Faculty Senate Minute, March 22, 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

Senators: Noah McLaughlin, Daniel Ferreira, Nicholas Ellwanger, Lei Li, Jennifer Dickey, Diana Gregory, Giovanni Loreto, Chris Sharpe, Daniel Rogers, Joanne Lee, David Buckman, Abhra Roy, Cristen Dutcher, Stephen Collins, Austin Brown, Bill Griffiths, Jim Davis, Paul McDaniel, Michael Van Dyke, Jeff Yunek, Laurie Tis, Ann Mills, Darina Lepadatu, Doug Moodie, Walter Thain, Ken Hoganson, Irene McClatchey, Sanjuana Rodriquez, Mary Beth Maguire, Heather Pincock, Randy Stuart, Lin Li, Ying Wang, Humayun Zafar, Sara Giordano, Andrea Knowlton, Mohammad Jonaidi, Snehal Shirke, M. Todd Harper, Hassan Purnaghshband, Jeff Wagner, Jim Wright, Sathish Gurupatham, Jillian Ford, Peter St. Piere, James Gambrell

Guests: Andrew Payne, Undra Baldwin, Sheb True, Rita Bailey, Theirry Leger, Eric Arneson, Denise Tucker, Ivan Pulinkala, Zach Kerns, Melissa Driver, Sylvia Carey-Butler, Amy Buddie, Monica Swahn, Alex McGee, Ugena Whitlock, Ryan McLemore, Karen McDonnell, Nwakaego Nkumeh, Kevin Gwaltney, Aaron Howell, Jeff Delaney, Anissa Vega, Marla Bell, Margot Lisa Hedenstrom

1. Approval of Minutes from February 8th, 2021 meeting. Minutes approved.
2. Policy Revisions (<https://policy.kennesaw.edu>) Kevin Gwaltney.
   1. Kevin Gwaltney explained that most of the following policy were already in practice. The vote was more or less to get them into the policy portal in alignment with other policies.
      1. Travel Policy – Ryan McLemore and Sandy Cagliani
         1. Ryan McLemore and Sandy Cagliani noted that the proposed policy more accurately mirrors the accounting policy and the statewide policy.
         2. Senator Jeff Yunek, Music, seconded the motion.
         3. Motion passed unanimously. All ayes.
      2. Access to the University Facilities Policy – Michael Fellows
         1. This policy would help broaden access for students who want to get into University buildings.
         2. Senator Jeff Yunek, Music, motioned. Senator Steve Collins, School of Government and International Affairs, seconded.
         3. Motion passed unanimously. All ayes.
      3. Advertising Policy – Alex McGee and Alice Wheelwright
         1. Alex McGee and Alice Wheelwright noted that the proposed policy is one that has been used in practice for the past seven to ten years. The new policy will now impact external entitities.
         2. Senator Jeff Yunek, Music, seconded the motion.
         3. Senator Heather Pincock, Conflict Management, asked if this applied to RSOs.
         4. Alice Wheelwright noted that RSOs were considered internal.
         5. Discussion ensued if this was clear in the language. Alex McGee stated that he would consult legal.
         6. Senator William Griffiths, Mathematics, motioned to table until legal could be consulted.
         7. Motion tabled.
      4. Alcohol and Other Drug Policy – Teresa Johnson and Zach Kerns
         1. Zach Kerns noted that most of the changes are minor clerical changes to the existing AOD policy. However, one noteworthy change is from the use of “abuse” to “misuse.” Misuse is the more favored term now.
         2. Senator Bill Griffith, Mathematics, motioned to approve. Senator Jeff Yunek, Music, seconded.
         3. Motion approved unanimously.
3. Graduation with Honors – Darina Lepadatu
   1. Senator Darina Lepadatu, Sociology, explained that the current policy for graduating with honors requires 60 hours residency. This would change the residency requirement to 30 hours. She explained that this arose when two of her 4.0 students were unable to graduate with honors because they were under the 60 hour minimum.
   2. Motion was seconded Senator Stephen Collins.
   3. Senator Randy Stuart, Marketing and Professional Sales, felt that the residency requirement change was too much, effectively requiring a student only to be a resident of KSU for only one of his or her four years. She also noted that Coles requires 33 hours of residency, which this policy would not meet.
   4. Motion passed 32 Ayes, 8 Nays
4. Academic Freedom – James Gambrell and Sara Giordano
   1. Senator James Gambrell, Inclusive Education, and Sara Giordano, ISD, noted that this motion is designed to help protect administrators, faculty, and students with the change of the word “may” in the existing policy to “must.”
   2. Senator Steve Collins, School of Government and International Affairs, seconded.
   3. Motion approved unanimously.
5. GRA Motion – Heather Pincock
   1. Senator Heather Pincock, Conflict Management, stated that the motion was drafted a response to the strategic refunding for graduate students and programs by the Graduate College, and while it does not address that particular issue, it does point out problems with the current process. The resolution requests that the Graduate College develop bylaws (while recognizing that the Graduate College is a little different from other colleges) and that the Graduate Council is recognized as a shared governance body, helping to facilitate two-way communication between the Graduate Dean and the Graduate Council. Senator Pincock noted noted that since she submitted this resolution, the Interim Dean and Associate Deans of the Graduate College have reached out to the Graduate Council.
   2. Senator Steve Collins seconded.
   3. Sheb True, Interim Vice-Provost and Interim Dean of the Graduate School, noted that communication started in Janauary 2020 when he became Interim Dean. He noted that 7 million is strategically invest from the University, 4 million of which is used for graduate stipends and about 3 million is institution waivers. Those stipend monies come from the Graduate College as well as the Academic Colleges. In the past, one hand often did not know what the other was doing. The key thing with the recent allocation policy is in getting the deans involved was so that they could strategically work with their faculty to make decisions. All the money was reallocated to the Deans so that the process of working with faculty would be better facilitated. The phasing out of existing GRA programs is really a phasing down to encourage the colleges to look for second year money in other forms so that the Graduate College could help fund new programs that are increasingly coming online. (Because these new programs are start ups, the Grad College needs to invest a little more money in them to help ensure their success.) This type of funding across new and existing programs is consistent with other Peer 2 institutions. One more thing: Unused stipend money from the Graduate College for GTAs at the PhD level will be allocated to MA programs. However, this does not mean that the academic college cannot be used for GRAs and GTAs at the MA level. It is just that the graduate college is trying to support our R2 path, as well as provide support for newer programs. Finally, Interim Dean True reiterated his desire to work with the Deans of the Academic Colleges and the Directors of the Graduate Programs in a way for the Graduate College to effectively evolving.
   4. President Zafar asked Interim Graduate Dean True about the first half of the motion, the institution of bylaws. Recognizing that the Graduate College is different from other academic colleges, how do our peer institutions handle bylaws?
   5. Interim Dean True noted he was not sure how other peer institutions handle this issue. Since assuming the role of Interim Dean, he has worked to communicate with the Deans and colleges, but understands that this is evolving. He is more than happy to work with the Deans and the Graduate Council to begin a dialogue about developing bylaws.
   6. Motion Approved.
6. Distance Learning Advisory Committee (DLAC) Revised Membership – Margot Hedenstrom, Doug Moodie, and Melissa Driver.
   1. Margot Hedenstrom discussed the need to combine existing committees to form one committee that would tackle distance learning and digital learning. The proposal would reduce the number of members and change the membership structure.
   2. Senator Doug Moodie, Management, added that each college will be given an elected representative and one appointed representative, such as a distance learning coordinator.
   3. Senators Steve Collins, School of Government and International Affairs, and Heather Pincock, Conflict Management, expressed concern with each college having the same vote. They noted that this tends to weight decisions to smaller colleges who are given equal representation with larger colleges.
   4. Senator Moodie noted that when representation is based on college size, the committees become unwieldy.
   5. Senator Pincock asked if other standing committees had dual reporting, say, between the Senate and Academic Affairs.
   6. President Zafar noted that the Academic Freedom committee reports to the Senate and Academic Affairs. Separately, he noted that there were no staggered terms.
   7. Senator Griffiths motioned to table the motion for some clarity on representation as well as well as language for staggered terms.
   8. Motion tabled for clarity.
7. Virtual Faculty Senate Meetings – Darina Lepadatu
   1. Senator Lepadatu, Sociology, noted that since the Senate meetings have been virtual, there has been greater attendance among both senators and non-senators. This proposal would make future meetings virtual.
   2. Senator Doug Moodie, Management, seconded the motion.
   3. Senator Randy Stuart, Marketing and Professional Sales, asked how much participation has increased among senators.
   4. President Zafar responded that in the past as much as 40% of the faculty were proxy during face to face meetings. He noted that attendance has actually improved dramatically.
   5. Senator Bill Griffiths, Mathematics, stated that though he was prepared to vote virtually in the fall, he felt uncomfortable making this a permanent change, which seemed to be suggested in the language. Others senators wondered if the Senate might not alternate between F2F and virtual meetings, or whether Senators might not have an option.
   6. Senator Griffiths offered an amendment that the motion would only be for the Fall 2021 semester. Senator Heather Pincock seconded.
   7. Senator James Wright, Instructional Technology, expressed concern that the current senate was making decisions for future senates.
   8. Senators Zafar and Moodie responded that there is a precedence now and that other committees, namely UPCC and GPCC, are moving in this direction.
   9. Senator Jeff Yunek called the question.
   10. Admendment approved 23-19
   11. Motion approved 23-19
8. Provost’s Report – Kat Schwaig
   1. Provost Schwaig began with the question of travel and travel funds. She noted that travel funds were used to help fill some of the budget cuts that resulted from the pandemic, some of which are permanent. Academic Affairs hopes to reinstate what they can and recognizes that this is a top of the line issue.
   2. She also noted movement on the RISE center for confronting social justice and equity. A search firm has been hired and a committee selected to hire a lead research. The desire is to have someone in place for next fall.
   3. In terms of a fall return to campus, she will be hosting a number of open forums over the next 5-6 weeks to discuss Fall 2021.
   4. Senator Randy Stuart, Marketing and Professional Sales, asked whether the policy for f2f classes during inclement weather might be changed since students have adjusted to D2L. For example, could students be directed to D2L for classes. (She noted that the last time that KSU delayed classes because of a severe weather warning, several morning classes were cancelled. Now that students have adjusted to online learning through the pandemic, is there a way that classes that would ordinarily be cancelled during inclement weather be handled differently.)
   5. Provost Schwaig stated that she would like to think about this issue a little more before giving a response.
   6. Senator Heather Pincock asked whether the member of the RISE Search Committee will be announced.
   7. Provost Schwaig responded that they would.
   8. Senator Sara Giordano asked whether the Provost knew anything about the potential nomination of Sonny Perdue will be made USG Chancellor.
   9. Provost Schwaig noted that she only knew what was reported in the papers.
9. President’s Report – Pamela Whitten
   1. President Whitten thanked the critical implementation teams for their current work on operationalizing the recommendations made by the President’s Taskforce on Diversity.
   2. The President also noted that she had a productive meeting with the members of the CORED Taskforce to discuss ways of moving forward with issues of diversity and inclusion.
   3. The President thanked those across campus who responded strongly to the recent violence against Asian-Americans.
   4. She also noted that there have been recent ribbon-cuttings for two new pantries. She noted the number of members of the campus community who relied on the pantries to make ends meet.
   5. The President stated that the University is planning a full return to campus. To that end, the President’s Taskforce on Reopening the University, which is now the Post-Pandemic taskforce, will begin to meet to discuss Fall 2021.
   6. She asked that faculty remain vigilant with masks and social distancing and that they get the vaccine.
   7. She continues to be grateful and inspired by the work of our faculty during the difficult time of the pandemic.

APPENDIX

**Motion on Graduation with Honors**

**2020-2021 Undergraduate Catalog/ Graduation Polices and Procedures (current version)**

**“**Degree Program Hours

**Baccalaureate degrees consist of a minimum of 120 semester hours.** Exceptions to the maximum degree length requirements have been made with the approval of the Board of Regents. A baccalaureate degree program requires at least 21 semester hours of upper-division courses in the major field to be completed at KSU, and at least 39 semester hours of upper division work overall are required for the degree.

Residency Requirements

**Students must earn at least 25 percent of the credit hours required for a baccalaureate degree, which includes at least 21 hours of upper-division courses (Coles College of Business requires 33 hours), through instruction offered by Kennesaw State.**Credit hours earned through instruction offered by KSU does not include coursework transferred from other institutions, prior learning assessments, credit by examination (e.g., CLEP, AP, IB), or credits earned through a consortium that did not originate from KSU (i.e., cross registration).

Graduation with Honors

An institutional grade point average of at least 3.5 is required for students to graduate cum laude, 3.7 to graduate magna cum laude and 3.9 to graduate summa cum laude from a baccalaureate program. Graduation with honors requires that students earn at least 60 semester credit hours in residence at Kennesaw State University for the bachelor’s degree. Approved accelerated bachelor to masters courses will be included in the 60 earned semester hours required for honors.

To receive honors at graduation, “second degree” and Academic Renewal students must have at least **60 earned hours of credit at KSU** after the “second degree” or Academic Renewal status was granted. In addition, for honors, students who have repeated courses must have at least 60 earned hours of credit at KSU after the hours for the repeated courses have been excluded.”

**Proposed Change is to change the “Graduation with Honors” statement only.**

“Graduation with Honors”

An institutional grade point average of at least 3.5 is required for students to graduate cum laude, 3.7 to graduate magna cum laude and 3.9 to graduate summa cum laude from a baccalaureate program. Graduation with honors requires that students earn at least 30 semester credit hours in residence at Kennesaw State University for the bachelor’s degree. Double Owl courses will be included in the 30 earned semester hours required for honors.

To receive honors at graduation, “second degree” and Academic Renewal students must have at least 30 earned hours of credit at KSU after the “second degree” or Academic Renewal status was granted. In addition, for honors, students who have repeated courses must have at least 30 earned hours of credit at KSU after the hours for the repeated courses have been excluded.”

**MOTION ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

In an effort to protect the mission of the university and all stakeholders therein, this motion seeks to improve the language around academic freedom in KSU Faculty Handbook (2020-2021, 2.1).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following change to language be made in section 2.1 of the Kennesaw State Faculty Handbook regarding academic freedom (2020-2021, 2.1):

The principles of Academic Freedom and Instructional Responsibilities highlighted above require diligent processes in order to create the conditions in which faculty are free to pursue knowledge as they deem appropriate, and to protect the integrity of the faculty/student relationship. The practice of Academic Freedom ~~may~~ must include, but is not necessarily limited to, freedom from the following:

1. external and internal political pressure
2. undue interference in course content
3. retaliation or reprisal for expressing unpopular perspectives related to research, curriculum, pedagogy, and organizational procedures
4. undue interference in grading and assessment criteria

**MOTION ON VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

**Virtual Faculty Senate meetings in Fall 2021.**

          Given that Faculty Senate meetings are attended by more than 100 participants making social distancing difficult and that it is easier to conduct virtual votes, can you please answer the following question:

        Do you agree to have the Faculty Senate meetings in a virtual format in Fall 2021?

        1. Yes

        2. No

**MOTION ON CHANGES TO DLAC**



**TO: FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**FROM: DISTANCE LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DLAC) DATE: March 4, 2021**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR UNIVERSITY HANDBOOK REVISION**

Digital Learning Innovations (DLI) moved from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) to Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) in January 2021. With this move, DLAC shifted to serve as an advisory committee to CIA (on behalf of the Provost’s Office) in addition to the Faculty Senate.

Anissa Vega requested that DLAC engage with DLI’s Executive Committee (DLEC) to refine the mission and to reconsider a membership structure that combined both expertise and faculty representation such that recommendations made by the committee would be both research-informed and focused on the needs of faculty and students.

Under the current membership structure, DLAC has not made a formal recommendation since the closure of the Distance Learning Center. DLAC intends that by revising the membership, it will be better equipped to be a more active shared governance body in the future.

Margot Hedenstrom (DLAC Chair), Melissa Driver, Doug Moodie, and Anissa Vega would like to present this proposal at the FSEC March 15, 2021 meeting.

**PROPOSAL TO FACULTY SENATE UNIVERSITY HANDBOOK LANGUAGE REVISION**

**FOR THE**

**DISTANCE LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DLAC)**

**(Voted and approved by DLAC at February 23, 2021 Spring Meeting)**

Digital Learning Advisory Committee - assigned to the Faculty Senate and advisory to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee.

*Purpose:* This committee will recommend and advise on policy related to digital learning. The results of this work will be sent to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee.

*Membership:*

1. Voting Member
   * One elected teaching faculty representative from each degree-granting college
   * One appointed faculty representative with demonstrated expertise in digital learning from each degree-granting college (i.e. a Distance Learning Coordinator)
2. Non-Voting Advisory Member
   * One representative from each of the following groups:
3. Chairs and Directors Assembly
4. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
5. Digital Learning Innovations
6. Library
7. Registrar
8. University Information Technology Services

*Meetings:* Once per month during the academic year

*Term:* Elected members serve a 3-year term

**UNIVERSITY HANDBOOK LANGUAGE REVISION**

**(Voted and approved by DLAC at February 23, 2021 Spring Meeting)**

~~Distance~~ Digital Learning Advisory Committee - assigned to the Faculty Senate and advisory to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee. ~~Executive Director for the Center for Excellencein Teaching and Learning.~~

*Purpose:* This committee will recommend and advise on policy related to digital learning. ~~evaluate proposals and existing processes to improve distance and technology enhanced~~ ~~learning~~. The results of this work will be sent to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee.~~Executive Director of the Center for~~ ~~Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)~~.

*Membership:*

1. Voting Member
   * One elected teaching faculty representative from each degree-granting college
   * One appointed faculty representative with demonstrated expertise in digital learning from each degree-granting college (i.e. a Distance Learning Coordinator)
2. Non-Voting Advisory Member
   * One representative from each of the following groups:
3. Chairs and Directors Assembly
4. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
5. Digital Learning Innovations
6. Library
7. Registrar
8. University Information Technology Services
9. ~~Representative from CETL Distance Learning Innovations (non-voting).~~ *Meetings:* ~~At least once per semester~~ Once per month during the academic year *Term:* ~~2~~ Elected members serve a 3-year term

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**Digital Learning Advisory Committee Draft Membership Roster**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **College** | **Name of Committee Members** | | **Elected Three-Year Term**  **Expires (Spring)** | |
| 1 | Bagwell College of Education |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Bagwell College of Education |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 3 | College of Architecture and  Construction Management |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | College of Architecture and  Construction Management |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 5 | College of Computing and Software  Engineering |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | College of Computing and Software  Engineering |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 7 | Radow College of Humanities and  Social Sciences |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Radow College of Humanities and  Social Sciences |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 9 | Coles College of Business |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Coles College of Business |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 11 | College of the Arts |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | College of the Arts |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 13 | College of Science and Mathematics |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | College of Science and Mathematics |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 15 | Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering  Technology |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering  Technology |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 17 | Wellstar College of Health and  Human Services |  |  |  |  |
| 18 | Wellstar College of Health and  Human Services |  |  | **\*\*** | |
| 19 | Digital Learning Innovations |  |  | Non-Voting | Advisory\* |
| 20 | Curriculum, Instruction, and  Assessment (CIA) |  |  | Non-Voting | Advisory\* |
| 21 | Chairs and Directors Assembly  (CDA) |  |  | Non-Voting | Advisory\* |
| 22 | Library Services |  |  | Non-Voting | Advisory\* |
| 23 | Registrar’s Office |  |  | Non-Voting | Advisory\* |
| 24 | University Information Technology  Services |  |  | Non-Voting | Advisory\* |
| **\*\***Appointed faculty representative | | | | | |
| NOTE: Appointed faculty reps should be confirmed; Elected faculty reps. on initial staggered terms. | | | | | |