

Minutes

Faculty Council 6 March 2025

256 BSC at 3:30pm

Voting Participants: Brian Downes, Jennifer Korte, Silvana Siddali, Flannery Burke, Stephanie Tennill, Elena Bray Speth, Melinda McPherson, Rachel Greenwald Smith, Emily Hite, Elizabeth Block, Bukky Gbadegesin, Tony Buchanan, Ruth Warner, Kim Powlishta, Grant Kaplan, Andre Zampaulo, Sarah Bauer, Anneke Bart, Jonathan Jacobs, Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez, Scott Ragland, Ben England

Non-Voting Participants: Gary Barker, Pauline Lee, Maryse Jayasuriya, Brian Yothers, Laurie Russell, Dan Kozlowski, Stacey Harris, Katrina Moore, Mark Ruff, Dan Nickolai, Robert Hughes, Lucy Cashion, Cathleen Fleck, Jen Popiel, Wynne Moskop

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Greetings
 - a. The dean is ill and unable to join us.
2. Update from Katrina Moore
 - a. Stand Up for Science is Friday, March 7. 1402 S grand. 12pm. It is an open statement to stand in solidarity with science and research funding.
 - b. There will be a teach-in later this month: March 20 at 6pm in the CGC. Teach-in for, by, and with students. They want faculty and staff to attend as well to show support and respond to questions.
 - c. There are discussions for a faculty town hall later this semester, but dates are in low supply. It will be an open discussion for faculty to ask questions. It will not be on zoom, and there will be an expectation of privacy.
 - d. In terms of our DEI efforts, we continue to stay the course.
 - e. Announcement: protest at STL old courthouse. Tuesday, March 18 from 3-5pm. In protest of anti-LGBTQ policies from the federal government.
 - f. Related update: please consider attending the AAUP meetings. Next one is Tuesday, April 1 at 2:30pm on Zoom. We are focused on academic freedom and statements on supporting the Jesuit mission of the university. Will provide a series of recommendations to the outgoing and incoming SLU presidents.
3. [Revisions to the Faculty Manual](#) (sabbatical and leave policy) (Andre Zampaulo)
 - a. There are some proposed amendments to the faculty manual. There are no significant changes, but there are some wording changes that attempt to clarify these policies. Send thoughts to Andre; the vote will be March 18 when this document is proposed for approval.

4. Graduate Education Administration Review (GEAR) Task Force (Maryse Jayasuriya)
 - a. Report from an outside evaluation (council of graduate schools) in 2023 indicated there should be a centralized graduate school. The GEAR task force intends to offer recommendations to the provost based on the following: talking to deans of graduate schools at peer institutions to gather data on how they engage with and manage graduate students.
 - b. We have talked to deans and academic support staff here at SLU. We want to conduct listening sessions and surveys with graduate programs, directors, chairs, and students. Final recommendations will be offered in the fall. The task force is lead by April Trees. The dean is also on this task force.
5. CAS Committee Reports:
 - a. Faculty Advisory Committee
 1. Send topics to Cathleen Fleck if you want the committee to explore those topics. The committee continues to chat with the dean on what they are working on as of now.
 - b. Graduate Curriculum Committee
 1. Proposed changes are [here](#). This comes as a seconded motion. Motion is on the floor.
 2. Motion passes.
 - c. Nominations Committee
 1. No report
 - d. Rank, Tenure, and Sabbatical Committee
 1. No report
 - e. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
 1. Proposed changes are [here](#). This comes as a seconded motion. Motion is on the floor.
 2. Motion passes.
 - f. DEI Committee
 1. Katrina Moore shared some news at the start of the meeting. See above.
6. University Committee Reports:
 - a. Faculty Senate
 1. See faculty manual announcements above. Nothing additional.

b. UUCC

1. Please keep an eye on emails and announcements from the UUCC.

c. UCART

1. No report

d. GAAC

1. No report

e. UAAC

1. Met this morning. We discussed several policies programs, but did not vote on anything.

f. Academic Program Review Council

1. No report

g. Library Advisory Committee

1. No report

7. New Business

a. The FC executive committee has initiated a conversation about a portion of these meetings that will involve the absence of the deans.

b. Brief report on the town hall meeting at 11:00am earlier: around 90 participants. There are various concerns around executive orders, indirect costs rate changes, and the “dear colleague” letter from the department of education a few weeks ago.

1. The letter has no legal weight as of now. The main part of the discussion was what the university should do to forcefully combat these initiatives. AJCU is working on a group statement.

Adjourn at 4:04pm.