

# Faculty Senate Minutes

David Craig

2020-10-23

## Approval of minutes

Minutes approved with changes (scholarship discussion) Motion by Leitch, seconded by Ramos-Salazar. Minutes were approved with changes.

## Discussion on survey on COVID issues:

Babb notes discussion and dissent important.

Erick Butler: committee had several meetings with discussions to think about themes: mainly health and safety, affect on faculty research, teaching, tenure and promotion, but safety now seems to be most important topic.

Initial idea: speak to faculty, need to collect archive, proposed survey to distribute to faculty. One example would be issue of short testing window from last meeting discussion. Were hoping to gather such information. Noted criticisms of survey from faculty after proposal. Wanting something instead of constant anecdotes, etc. Want a well-represented document from faculty senate.

Babb: committee has stated how it wants to act, need discussion from senate, permission to act or not.

*Senators' discussion follows, bullet points mark individual senator comments:*

- Need to gauge how serious faculty feel this is in terms of safety, is it too strict? feel unsafe?
- Open ended question: what do you want to know about COVID?
- Provost reacted negatively to survey but positively to information about testing issue. Ask if there is a place where you feel unsafe in your area/building: useful info for others.
- survey can have smart logic: if they feel unsafe, then ask where, add other line to specify area.
- feedback from faculty both concerned and unconcerned in her dept.
- perhaps question on work changes. Medlock noted need to concentrate on changes.

Babb: need to consider for committee what is our purview, what should focus be (mainly health and safety)?

Craig: could limit to health and safety issues (survey)?

Butler: committee has generally decided to concentrate only on health and safety initially.

- A senator noted approval for what survey has at present.
- Comments on survey logic
- Could say: places you feel unsafe, places to improve social distancing. “Adequate disciplinary action” doesn’t have clear meaning, etc.
- Question to distinguish faculty situation: face-to-face, hyflex, online, etc.

Babb: wanted opportunity as in summer to say whether faculty feeling unsafe. Faculty who have gone off campus in some sense have more control over personal safety.

Butler: timeline issue: survey was crafted earlier, good point to consider future class timing issues.

Babb: looking for input that leads to action or advice: what do we want to do with it? What are concrete (even small things)?

Babb: best course of action for committee: what does committee want to know to proceed?

Butler: have suggestions received on question logic, are questions OK with modifications noted today?

Babb: does senate want to review survey?

## **Discussion on motion**

(Motion by Farren with friendly agreement.)

### **Motion:**

To make the changes in the survey based on today’s and recent email suggestions and allow comments for revision by senators for 48 hours, then the committee will finalize it and send to the executive committee for approval and authorization of distribution.

Seconded by Curl.

Motion passed by vote.

## **Final president comments**

- Faculty development leave is unlikely (budgetary.)
- Piper professor nominations are by first of next month but timing is unclear in current situation.
- Will need to do post-tenure review.

Rollin moved to adjourn, Leitch seconded.

**Meeting adjourned.**