



## Official Minutes Faculty Senate Meeting October 30, 2023

**Call to order:** Senate President Brandon Dupont called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Approval of October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023 minutes was delayed due to an outdated copy of the minutes remaining active on the website. Minutes of October 16<sup>th</sup> were approved as written. Minutes of the October 10<sup>th</sup> ACC meeting were accepted as written.

### Reports and Announcements

**Brandon Dupont, Faculty Senate President reported that:**

- A candidate has been selected for the Faculty Senate Specialist position. The hiring process is expected to be finalized this week.

**Peter Pihos, UFWW President reported that:**

- Conversations with the Administration regarding the College in the High School Program and participating faculty are ongoing.

**Gabe Wong, Associated Students Senate President reported that:**

- The AS Senate is engaging in work to review the AS charter.
- A statement of support for students impacted by the events of Gaza and Israel is being organized by the AS Senate.

### Committee Reports

**Academic Coordinating Commission:** The ACC received the first set of modality policies from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CSHSS). The ACC will now begin to review permanent modality change requests from CSHSS. The ACC will not be reviewing for compliance with college modality policies, but rather trust the colleges to adhere to their policies before seeking ACC approval. A proposal is being developed to require all colleges and departments to review previously approved alternative modalities for compliance with their modality policy. The Senate can also expect to review a proposal for updates to the PEJ Task Force Charge. These updates will include a revised deadline and some minor changes from the original charge.

**Approval of Senate Standing Committees and Ad-Hoc Committee:** The Senate is required to approve the rosters of all standing committees. Membership is determined by the Faculty Governance Council in each college with the exception of the ad-hoc committee. The rosters of the Ad-Hoc Committee, Academic Coordinating Commission, Senate Library Committee, Academic Technology Committee, and Outreach and Continuing Education Committee were all approved by general consent. Several of the committees have vacant seats. The Senate may need to approve updated rosters at a later date once these seats are filled. Rosters for active standing committees can be found on the [Senate Website](#).

## **Presentations and Discussions**

**Discussion of Possible UPRC Revisions:** Allison Giffen, UPRC Chair, reported she has drafted a motion to dissolve the UPRC and replace it with two positions: a Budget Liaison and Deputy Budget Liaison. These positions would attend University Budget Committee meetings, report relevant information to the Senate, and engage in campus wide communication in part via a new page on the Faculty Senate website. The Budget Liaison/Deputy Liaison would also have conversations with the Vice President and Provost to raise faculty concerns and suggestions. The goal of the revision is to increase faculty involvement in a way that is most effective.

Further discussion regarding the motion for the dissolution of the UPRC will take place at the next Senate meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>. The Senate plans to vote on the proposal at that time. Giffen encouraged Senators to contact her with suggestions and feedback prior to the next Senate meeting.

**Budget Overview:** Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, provided an overview of the University budget process and answered several questions. In response to concerns about administrative bloat, Johnson referred Senators to [HB 2574](#) from the 2019-2020 legislative session. Senators expressed the need for a longitudinal view of the budget that includes specifics about resource allocation. Senators also expressed interest in gaining access to reporting tools to better understand the budget. Senators were encouraged to review the [Operating Budget](#) to find this information. Senators expressed interest in how federal covid relief funds were appropriated in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs, stated that in those years the operating revenue dipped, but expenses remained the same. Federal funding related to covid relief was used to backfill revenue for these years as the expenditures were not adjusted for the decrease in revenue. Johnson and Lopes agreed to return to a future Senate meeting to continue the conversation around the University's budget.

**Senators adjourned at 5:30 p.m.**