

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM via Zoom, DeLoris Hesse presiding.

Members Present: Yohannes Abate, Michael Bachmann, Benjamin Britton, Peter Brosius, Clifton Buck, Tom Cerbu, Brian Condie, Maduranga Dassanyake, Inge DiBella, Vince Du, Allison Farley Raffle, Timothy Gupton, Cindy Hahamovitch, DeLoris Hesse, Steve Holland, Richard Hubbard, Caner Kazanci, Emily Koh, Kristin Kundert, Sidney Kushner, Vera Lee-Schoenfeld, Alisa Luxenberg, Kendall Marchman, Emily Mouilso, Vasant Muralidharan, Chris Peterson, Jordan Pickett, Chris Pizzino, Khaled Rasheed, Nancee Reeves, Jennifer Rice, Cassia Roth, Bala Sarasvati, Leslie Gordon Simmons, Anne Summers, Cynthia Suveg, Michael Usher, Alberto Villate-Isaza, Hang Yin.

Proxies: Yuri Balashov for Rohan Sikri. T.N. Sriram for Gauri Datta.

Members not present: Tianming Liu, Soroya McFarlane.

Guests: Jared Asser, Bryant Barnes, Jennifer Birch, Chris Cuomo, Emily Garcia, Kathleen Hurlock, Gabi Lichtenstein, Michael Marshall, Terrell Orr, Justin Simpson, Thiab Taha, and Alejandra Villegas

Approval of the minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting: Unanimously approved with no corrections.

President DeLoris Hesse's Remarks:

Nominations are needed for the secretary and president elect positions for the next year's senate. Anybody interested in these roles should contact DeLoris Hesse.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks:

Update on vaccine distribution: UHC is required to follow the state guidelines for phased distribution for vaccine distribution. As of March 15, the current phase includes people aged 55 and older, and people with certain health conditions aged 16 and older. UHC quickly vaccinating hundreds of eligible individuals daily. UHC is not our only option for vaccination.

Franklin works initiative: There's been a college wide town-hall meeting held with over 200 participants in the webinar, which is recorded and available at <https://www.franklin.uga.edu/franklin-works>.

The plan is to review the model for business services at the Franklin College with the goal of addressing many staff vacancies that we have across the college with a team-oriented approach that will enhance services and support for departments while providing more and better opportunities for professional development and advancement for our staff. We're still in the early stage of communicating goals for the project and soliciting feedback from staff and faculty.

The program manager for the project is Dr. Beth Woods who is also the executive director for IT. For questions, please review the information available on the website. It is possible to provide feedback using the online feedback form, or by contacting Beth Woods.

Peter Brosius asked about the impetus of this initiative and stated the concerns on shifting administrative burden to the faculty. Dean Dorsey stated that that is not the intention of the project, but rather to enhance services to benefit the faculty and staff in the Franklin College. Impetus is several-fold: The implementation of the One Source system has been a challenge for the staff. \$7 million budget cut for Franklin College necessitates to be able to work efficiently with a smaller administrative staff, for which a team-based approach is one possible solution. Another impetus is to address the inequities in staffing levels across the college.

Recognizing that this is a college wide effort, Kristin Kundert asked if different departments might be handled differently, in that staff may serve as a support personnel as well. Dorsey acknowledged the differences between the departments, and that the staff serves as the glue that holds the department together. Dean Dorsey stated that he did not want to disrupt that, yet at the same time, the aforementioned issues need to be addressed as well.

Anne Summers asked if the webinar could be transcribed, and if the college would be more engaged in managing faculty grants, which could potentially overlap with OVPR's responsibilities. Dean Dorsey stated that a connection exists between Sponsored Projects Administration (SPA) and various apartment level in college level grants administrators. Currently there are grant administrators that serve the college as well as some of the larger science departments. The college level grant administrators serve an important role especially for small departments.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee: No report.
- Curriculum Committee: Steve Holland reported that in the past month, the committee approved three new courses, seven course changes, ten bulletin changes, one multicultural course proposal, five Double Dawg proposals and two experiential learning proposals.
- Committee on Academic Standards: Chris Petersen reported that the committee considered three petitions from students, all of which have been approved.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No report.
- Committee on Planning and Evaluation: No report.

New Business:

- Deactivation of program Area of Emphasis in ArtX: Expanded Forms, B.F.A., Lamar Dodd School of Art. Michael Marshall summarized the proposal and asked for questions. There were no questions and the motion to deactivate the program Area of Emphasis in ArtX was passed unanimously.
- Proposal for Academic Program Name Change in an Area of Emphasis in the School of Art—Michael Marshall, Lamar Dodd School of Art. Michael Marshall summarized the

proposal and asked for questions. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.

- Proposal for Minor Program of Study in Biological and Medical Anthropology–Jennifer Birch, Anthropology and Peter Brosius, Senator, Anthropology. Jennifer Birch summarized the proposal and asked for questions. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal for an Undergraduate Certificate in LGBTQ Studies–Cecilia Herles, Institute for Women’s Studies and Chris Cuomo, Philosophy and the Institute for Women’s Studies. Cecilia Herles summarized the proposal and asked for questions. There were no questions and the motion passed unanimously.
- Proposal for a School of Computing – Thiab Taha, Computer Science. Thiab Taha summarized the proposal and asked for questions. Anne Summers asked if Math, Statistics, and IOB would be subsumed within the school of computing. Taha stated that it is not the plan, and good relations and collaboration exist between CS and Mathematics, Statistics and IOB. The motion was passed with one opposing vote.
- Final Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Telemeeting Crimes–Cassia Roth, Senator, History. Cassia Roth stated that the final report is available, and highlighted the fact that this is a constantly evolving, ongoing issue, and that the ad-hoc committee recommends that this committee be dissolved and be incorporated it into a permanent existing standing committee. Chris Pizzino asked about the top priorities of such a standing committee. Roth mentioned gender and sexuality requirement as one of the top priorities. Nancy Reeves agreed with the necessity of a standing committee. Alisa Luxenberg stated that the Committee on Planning and Evaluation could take this charge, perhaps with Committee on Faculty Affairs. DeLoris Hesse proposed to review and add these charges to the appropriate committees, to be voted on during the next senate meeting. Alberto Villate-Isaza proposed that the senate vote on the entire document today, and that the ad-hoc committee recommend which charges could be taken up with standing committees, which can be voted on during the next meeting. Roth agreed. The motion that the Franklin Senate adopt the report was passed unanimously. The second motion to distribute the charges on the current report to the appropriate standing committees (to be voted on the next meeting) was passed unanimously.
- Senate Resolution on GSA’s Stance on Special Institution Fee–Cindy Hahamovitch, Senator, History. Cindy Hahamovitch introduced Kathleen Hurlock, the chair of the GSA student advocacy committee. Hurlock stated that according to surveys, 96% of graduated students suffer financially. Their previous requests to be heard by the board of regents have been rejected repeatedly. The letter sent by the graduate school to the faculty senate has been the first time the graduate school commented on the resolution, which was passed last Spring. Bryant Barnes (vice president, treasurer of GSA) stated that GA Tech lowered this institutional fee for their graduate students, even though in his letter Dean

Walcott stated that UGA cannot make a unilateral decision regarding this institutional fee. Given that it is already 4:45pm, DeLoris Hesse asked if the senate should discuss this issue now, or consider writing a resolution to support GSA's stance. Hesse also asked if the senate would like to invite Dean Walcott to present his view on this institutional fee for the next meeting. Cindy Hahamovitch stated that the current resolution is already written in the format of a faculty senate resolution. Sriram asked if the GSA representatives and Dean Walcott could meet and discuss this first before we vote on it? Given the previous interactions, Hurlock stated while there's nothing that would preclude them from having such a meeting, they were hesitant as the repeated line from the graduate school on this issue is that there's not really anything they can do about it at the university level, as the fee is set by the board of regents. As a member of the graduate council for three years, Hahamovitch stated that she could not get this issue on the graduate council's agenda despite her repeated efforts. Chris Pizzino asked how Dean Walcott's letter was routed from his office to the senate. Hesse replied that Dean Walcott sent her and Dean Dorsey a letter and asked that they distribute it to the senators. Chris Pizzino stated that given the importance of the issue, it was odd that Dean Walcott did not volunteer to show up. Pizzino said that he asked this rhetorical question to point out an ongoing apparent concern with enforcing a certain perspective on the senate and an inability or unwillingness to show up, which needs to be addressed. He stated that the senate should let the administrators know that just trying to enforce a message at a distance is not appropriate, and that they should show up to convey their opinion. Sidney Kushner stated his support for the resolution. The motion for the resolution was passed with one abstain vote.

Old Business:

None was reported.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Caner Kazanci

Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for the Mathematics Department