

10/19/2023 • Minutes

3:30 PM • Jacob Conference Center

Attendance:	Chris Jurgenson, Ted Fisher, Karen Bell, Shaun Kelly, Andrea Kunze, Charles Abraham, Carolyn Bailey, Brian Becker, John Alvarez, Maia Elgin-Wegmann, Peter Dean, Christie Sledge, Nina Baghai-Riding, Douglas Mark, Lesley Mancini, Tim Watkins, Josh Armstrong, Lisa Lacy
1. Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order by President Jurgenson at 3:31 p.m.
Announcements:	N/A

Agenda Item	Comments / Discussion	Motions	Action
Approval of Minutes of Sep 14 Meeting President's	Action Item 7, 2, ii corrected names – PD and TF Approved w/ revisions 1. University Leadership Council:	Motion: PD Second: TF	Approved, unanimous
Report	 a. University FS Association – meetings held monthly. Contacted chair at UM and a couple items have come up: Request IHL representative come to those meetings; and University FS Assoc. representative attend IHL board meetings. Ad Hoc Committee on Parental Leave Goal is to write letters from FS to contact IHL for people in university system; MS is one of the few states that does not have a policy on this. Least amount of leave time – 6 weeks. Plan is to state that something needs to be done for this. Draft proposal to be prepared. Library Hours AC voted to keep library open on Saturday from noon – 4:00 p.m. Students have asked for this. It is cost neutral and schedules will be flexed, though the flex time schedule may not be permanent. The plan is to get an estimate of how many people use the library on the weekends. All university committee positions have been filled. More than one person from a college cannot sit on the same committee. Tenure/Promotion Handbook Committee Andrew Wegmann wanted to take charge of writing the handbook. President used ChatGPT for template/general organization ideas; passed on to AW, and he is working on it. 		



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- ii. This is an extensive document; comparing what other schools have done.
- iii. CJ is trying to work on a paper using ChatGPT to write some policies; GIS uses it on a regular basis. With this particular product, it is valuable for templates; it is generic, but has application and is good for gathering information, though some may not be valuable.
- iv. Question re: possibility of ChatGPT to yield a policy template applicable to a specific SACS standard. Can ChatGPT be used to find policies?
- f. Interim Provost Leslie Griffin
 - i. Out on medical leave; okay to share with faculty/peers.
 - ii. Dr. Vicki Bingham serving as Interim Provost in her absence.
- g. T&P Guidelines
 - i. Discussed with L. Griffin, but she said that not every division had guidelines.
 - ii. President Ennis has made it clear that he wants it to come from faculty. It is a work in progress; goal before Shaun takes over as FS President.Now is the right time to get this accomplished.
 - iii. Trying to transition to a university that follows policy. Concern is that in the absence of a policy, an ambiguous decision is made.
 - iv. CJ will f/u with L. Griffin when she returns to work. T&P guidelines have already been requested by Dr. Harbin in COB and Dr. Van Namen in CEHS.
- h. Teach-out Policies
 - i. Being prepared due to tightened cash monitoring (TCM). The hope is that they will not be required.
 - ii. IHL contracted with a 3rd party, and the audit was delayed, which automatically triggered TCM. SACS and IHL have requested that it be rescinded. If it is not, teach out plans will be required; estimated to be 100,000 within MS universities.
 - iii. A teach-out policy will still be needed because Dr. Ennis has made it clear that some programs will be cut, though there have been no discussions about specific programs.
 - iv. If a student cannot complete a program, we would have to designate a comparable school at



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- an equal or lower cost. The receiving institution has to agree to it.
- v. CJ has found some documents on closing programs, one being a SACS document. Email him if you would like to review these. They may be helpful. May be discussed in AC next week.
- vi. The teach out policy was to be written by Dr. Griffin, presented to AC and then Cabinet. No draft available yet.
- i. AC Academic Status of Students on Probation
 - i. Question is how do you readmit them and increase their GPA? Academic standing data sent out by Emily Dabney on 10/12/23.
- j. Commencement Regalia
 - i. Company now producing regalia and the cost (not rental) is about the same as rental. Students will be able to keep their regalia. Cost depends on degree; looks really nice.
 - ii. If you don't want to rent regalia, you can keep.
- k. Town Hall
 - i. The next town hall is 10/24 at 3:00 p.m. President Ennis wants to have regular meetings. Annual town hall meetings have not been beneficial; presented a large amount of data in a short time and did not promote transparency. President will hold monthly meeting if faculty/staff would like that. Next meeting will be mostly for Q&A.
 - ii. President had asked the budget committee and CJ said any specifics related to the budget would be beneficial, as well as a report on fundraising.
 - iii. President Ennis is attempting to maximize meetings with potential donors on any official travel. Every trip has to pay for itself.
 - iv. Centennial Fund why was amount doubled? Dr. Ennis stated that \$50M was the appropriate amount 6 years ago; doubling that amount made sense.
- 1. University Leadership Council
 - i. Executive committee dissolved by President;
 - ii. Meeting will be held every other week on alternate weeks as Cabinet; chair is Eddie Lovin.
 - iii. Members: all cabinet, deans, Student Services, student representative, dean of libraries, Larry Wakefield, Edwin Craft, student representative



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- iv. Major work will be policy review (none are emergencies); problem with SACS is that policies have not been reviewed. (Ex: overload pay).
- v. Policy review will be conducted at established intervals, plus anything else that coms up that and requires ULC input. ULC has a submission date for policy review requests. Time frame for review by ULC ~ a month for ULC and Cabinet, giving time for review by all.

m. Ad Hoc Budget Committee

- i. President's website includes committee members, minutes, town hall links, documentation used by committee.
- ii. Focus on transparency.
- iii. Update on IRS \$ from COVID funds to cover employee payroll taxes. Per Larry Wakefield, paperwork submitted, but no real update. New IRS staff is requesting more specific information.
- iv. President is clear that we have to find things that will save money immediately.
- v. In regard to timeline of cuts: comparable information from IPEDS and CUPA are being evaluated, along with peer institutions that have or are restructuring and cutting their budgets. CUPA data is accessible to university and can be used for comparable salaries (used in the past).
- vi. FOIR requests be mindful of electronic communications to prevent information from being taken out of context. Requests do have to be targeted, per Edwin. MEW Journalists publish based on contexts they have access to, and interaction can be positive.
- v. Joi Phillips stepped down as chair, replaced by CB.
- vi. President's home \$2.3M borrowed, state property. Focus on future for the institution, using it as much as much as possible for fund raisers. Concern about future plans if/when Dr. Ennis leaves DSU.
- vii. Charge specifically: new budget \$40M with a 3-5% contingency at end of year. Contingency could be used for days of cash. Cuts \$2.4M current FY; cut additional \$3.1M in next FY budget. Major cuts will be the current/next FY.



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		more useful for faculty and students. Document		
8.	Topics	i. During SACS review, Josie Welsh reviewed and could not get data out of those that would be beneficial.ii. AK has been asked to task this to make course evals		
8.	Discussion	Course Evaluation Document – Kunze	Second: KB	
		Potentially change how awards are handed out. 5. Executive Committee recommended closed session.	Motion: JA	Passed, Unanimous
		ii. CB will take care of room change. 3. Connected Educator Award i. Friday, Nov. 3 ii. AC agreed that it was too late to change format.	Second: SK	
		 iv. Suggested changes – send to Nora or Chris. 2. Motion to Change the December FS meeting date: i. Moved to 11/30, 3:30 p.m. in JCC unless unavailable. 	Motion: MEW	Passed, Unanimous
		iii. CJ discussed with Dr. Griffin, addressed with Dean. Lowest enrollment class is what will be used for overload. The idea of resolution is that you will be paid what an adjunct would be paid to teach the class. Effort is to decrease adjuncts.		
7.	Action Items	 i. Highlights: resolution (see 3 bullet points) ii. CJ – request for course release not approved by dean. 		
	Guest Speaker Action Items	None (Dr. Griffin on leave) 1. Resolution on Overload Pay – First Reading		
	Faculty Senate Committees	 Committee on University Services (ZT): No report. Committee on University Standing (KB): No report. Committee on Elections (MEW): No report. Committee on Technology (CA): No report. Committee on General Academic Affairs (NGD):No report 		
4.	University Entities	1. Report from Staff Council (HR): No report.		
		 viii. Areas to review/consider: items on list given to committee. Brick and mortar buildings; revenue streams; Timeline is 6/30 theoretically; no specifics yet. ix. When is timeline for IHL non-reappointment? 		



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- outlines items she has been working on for several years.
- iii. Big things to think/talk about: would it be worth putting together an ad hoc committee of faculty and students to review/revise a set of new questions?
- iv. Differentiation with F2F and online classes, as well as studio and lab courses, considering modality. All those nuances can make a difference w/ relevance. Measures are not valid.
- v. AK is hoping is a small group of faculty that have these different courses that could create a template with a subset of questions that faculty can have flexibility to select. Some of that comes down to the intention of our evaluation, e.g., inform T&P, give feedback on pedagogy.
- vi. The "salad bar" of assessment while being mindful of some universal items 1) recommend the instructor; 2) open-ended question; 3) how satisfied you are with the course.
- vii. Separate course evals and instructor evals. Group go through what we would want for our eval; include students and have a small group that will create new forms for us. Likely be mindful of what SACS is looking for.
- viii. QEP process is working on improvement in our campus with several programs. How to put together a committee and have some template items ready for review. Contact SGA Pres (CJ). CJ will contact Hayley Murrell. Contact CJ if you or one of your constituents would like to be part of this group.
- ix. Report back to FS ASAP. Make sure current forms align with new ones.
- 2. Parental Leave Taskforce
- 3. Connected Educator rules for giving awards. Change the date? What initiated this?
- 4. Intersection of Concern: N. Fifth Ave, Oak St. and Coahoma St.
 - i. SK asked about 4 way stop. Chief Johns states that would come from the city. Statistics from DOT indicates that accidents are increased with 4 way stop. Shaun will contact City.
- 5. Confidence in Administration



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9. Adjournment	1. The meeting was adjourned by President at 5:50 p.m.	Motion: MEW	Adjourned, unanimous
		Second: CB	

Next meetings

Executive Committee Meeting: November 2, 2023; Union Faculty Lounges General Faculty Senate Meeting: November 9, 2023; Jacobs Conference Center