

3-27-2020

## 2020-03-27 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Executive Committee

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### Recommended Citation

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Executive Committee, "2020-03-27 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate" (2020). *ECAS Minutes*. 485.  
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Approved Minutes  
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate  
March 27, 2020  
9:00 am – 10:30 am  
Zoom meeting

Present: Joanna Abdallah, Paul Benson, Anne Crecelius, Shannon Driskell, Deo Eustace, Mark Jacobs, Denise James, Michael Davies, Leslie Picca, Jason Pierce, Fran Rice, Andrea Seielstad

Guests: Janet Bednarek (Faculty Board representative)  
Elise Bernal-Institutional Researcher for Academics

**Opening**

- Opening prayer / meditation – Paul Benson (poem)
- Approval of minutes from 03/06/2020 ECAS meeting -- Minutes approved.

**Announcements**

**New Business**

- Senate elections proposal – Elise Bernal presented ideas on how to run electronic elections for ECAS and for Academic Senate officers, and the timeline for the elections. Options included one electronic ballot for ECAS members and separate electronic ballots for Senate officers (president, vice-president-secretary), or one electronic ballot for ECAS members, determine who is willing to serve and in what position and have all positions on one electronic ballot. Discussion points included:
  - how do we handle ties
  - what happens if someone is elected but does not want to serve
  - suggest use a Google form for ECAS, tabulate results, move on to officer elections and tabulate after each with the ability to remove anyone not wishing to run

The decision was to use an electronic ballot for ECAS and run the election of officers live during the April 24<sup>th</sup> Academic Senate meeting. Anne C. and Mark will prepare the “live balloting”.

- Resolution on student voting—Andrea Seielstad. Comments on the resolution:
  - Bulk of academic day does not get in the way of people voting
  - In-person voting may not be held, absentee ballots might be used instead
  - Not clear why academia is getting in the way of voting

Bringing this resolution to the full senate was not supported by ECAS. Instead, it was suggested ECAS include this proposed resolution in its year-end report and possibly allow the student group a brief amount of time to speak on the importance of civic engagement in September 2020.

- Lecturer Promotion Committee membership—The proposed staggered election of membership was approved. This staggering will ensure a mix of representation across the units, the process would be replicated every three years, and this will be the process moving forward. Lecturers must be promoted to serve on this committee.
  - The following positions were elected this year
    - CAS - tenured faculty
    - CAS - lecturer
    - LIB - tenured faculty
    - SBA - lecturer
  - Next year the following positions will be elected:

- CAS - tenured faculty
  - SBA - tenured faculty
  - SOE - tenured faculty
  - CAS - lecturer
  - SEHS - lecturer
- The following year, these positions will be elected:
  - CAS - tenured faculty
  - SEHS - tenured faculty
  - SOE - lecturer
  - LIB - lecturer (if they have individuals available)
- Open discussion about current status of UD
  - It can't be overstated how exhausting the move to online classes has been. Concerns that online classes aren't sustainable. Hearing, "this is my 10<sup>th</sup> Zoom call today." Faculty want greater recognition for this heavy lift.
  - Will contracts be sent out in April?
  - Faculty are curious about who has lost jobs?
  - Would like to have SET optional for pre-tenure faculty and for the evaluation process, give faculty the option of making SET part of their review or not.

Response—Yes, this is a very heavy lift for faculty, but we have no choice. No, no one has lost their job. How SET is used is a decision at the department level. Contracts will be delayed; pending approval of the university's budget by the BOT.

Concerned as we move to online education, how are decisions being made about our permanent landscape, faculty rights, and academic freedom. Unfair for faculty to conform to other 3<sup>rd</sup> party teaching models like 2U. Are we losing some of our freedom to fit into their particular teaching model? So far, the message to faculty has been "you have complete latitude." But will that continue for summer or fall terms? Response: Nothing has been determined at this point.

Concern that students are being overwhelmed by some faculty "dumping" the rest of the semester on them. Response: I think most students would prefer a weekly email/Isidore announcement going over the content and assignments for the week. This would allow students to focus just on that week's content and not become overwhelmed with what they need to accomplish for the entire semester.

Concern as we're planning for next stages, what input do we have as faculty? This is a fast track to change the work of faculty, how can we give feedback? People are worried, how can we gather feedback from Faculty/Staff instead of relying on a small group to make these decisions. Response: gathering feedback through the Academic Senate, we're hearing a lot via emails from Faculty/Staff/Students, relying on officers of ECAS to bring forward concerns, and discussions happening at Dean meetings.

Agenda items on hold due to time constraints:

- Develop an action plan based on the SAPC report on S.E.T.
- Charge to APC to evaluate and revise teaching section of handbook to address all forms - pend

## Old Business

- Strategies for stimulating greater faculty participation in shared governance – open discussion
- Senate composition discussion – pend for future meeting
- Mini-course approvals – pend for future meeting

Adjourned: 10:45 am

Respectfully submitted, Fran Rice