



FACULTY SENATE

Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2023

Senators Present: Ann Abraham, Bob Antenucci, Omid Bagheri, Casey Boyd-Swan, Lauren Copeland, Jennifer Cunningham, Mark Dalman, Ed Dauterich, Omar De La Cruz Cabrera, Kimberly DePaul, Vanessa Earp, Julie Evey, Michele Ewing, Michael Fisch, Michelle Foster, Tianyuan Guan, Angela Guercio, David Kaplan, Sean Kennedy, Edgar Kooijman, Janice Kroeger, Velvet Landingham, Tracy Laux, Richard Mangrum, Karen Mascolo, Mahli Mechenbier, Taraneh Meshkani, Oana Mocioalca, Vic Perera, Amy Petrinec, Linda Piccirillo-Smith, Helen Piontkivska, Lydia Rose, Susan Roxburgh, Athena Salaba, Deborah Smith, Jennifer Taber, Eric Taylor, Robin Vande Zande, Laurie Wagner, Theresa Walton-Fisette, Sue Wamsley

Senators Not Present: Tina Bhargava, Claudia Gomez, Todd Hawley, Denise McEnroe-Petitte, Christopher Was

Ex-Officio Members Present: Provost Melody Tankersley; Lisa Reifsnyder for Senior Vice President Mark Polatajko; Taléa R. Drummer-Ferrell for Senior Vice President Eboni Pringle*; Vice Presidents: Sean Broghammer, Doug Delahanty, Amoaba Gooden, Sameer Jaleel for John Rathje, Charlene Reed, Peggy Shadduck, Stephen Ward, David Ochmann for Willis Walker; Deans: Sonia Alemagno, Christina Bloebaum, Allan Boike, Ken Burhanna, Alicia Crowe for James Hannon, Versie Johnson-Mallard, Mark Mistur, Mandy Munro-Stasiuk, Diane Petrella, Elizabeth Piatt*, Amy Reynolds, Frank Congin for Alison Smith, Deborah Spake, Manfred van Dulmen

*Interim

Ex-Officio Members Not Present: President Todd Diacon; Vice Presidents: Valoree Vargo

Observers Present: Emeritus Professor Paul Farrell, Ms. Olivia Eader (USS)

Observers Not Present: Ms. Emily Erb (GSS)

Guests Present: Denise Bartell, Sue Clement, Chris Dorsten, Susan Emens, Nick Gatozzi, Jennifer Hebebrand, Michael Kavulic, Jennifer Kellogg, Valerie Kelly, Dana Lawless-Andric, Jennifer Marcinkiewicz, Shelley Marshall, Hedi Nasheri, Amy Quillen, Therese Tillett, Deirdre Warren, Kevin West

1. Call to Order

Chair Laux called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. in the Governance Chambers, Kent Student Center.

2. Roll Call

Secretary Dauterich called the roll.

3. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda (Smith/Taylor). The agenda passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2023

Chair Laux asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2023, Faculty Senate meeting. A motion was made and seconded (Kooijman/Smith).

The minutes were approved with two corrections.

5. Chair's Remarks

Chair Laux delivered his remarks [[attached](#)].

He then invited comments or questions.

There were no comments or questions.

6. Provost's Remarks

Provost Tankersley began by explaining that October would be Mental Health Awareness Month, and she explained that Kent was celebrating it on a different month than usual because the need for mental health support peaks during October. She said that more information could be found at two different websites: <https://www.kent.edu/recwell/mentalhealthawarenessmonth> and <https://www.kent.edu/mentalhealth>.

She added that celebrating it at this time puts Flashes Take Care of Flashes into action and highlights our core value of kindness. She said kindness is simple, yet profound and life-changing. Kindness is not random. It is deliberate, and our actions matter; we can make a positive difference in the lives of others. Kindness does not mean foregoing expectations, rigor, or standards or holding back critique. She quoted the Dalai Lama, who said, "Be kind whenever possible." She reminded everyone that kindness costs nothing but can mean everything.

She then invited comments or questions.

There were no comments or questions.

7. EPC Action Item : Cybercriminology B.S. (Establish new degree program to be offered fully online and mostly online at all Kent State campuses and the Twinsburg Academic Center (fall 2024 pending final approvals))

The item was presented by Associate Dean Deirdre Warren (A&S), with the following there to answer questions: Associate Dean Sue Emens (CATS), Professor Hedi Nasheri (A&S) and Associate Lecturer Shelley Marshall (CATS).

Senator Dauterich moved to approve the proposal.

After explaining the rationale behind the item, the presenters invited comments or questions.

Senator Taylor asked for an explanation of how it differed from cybersecurity.

Dean Warren said it integrates knowledge of investigations and procedures of the justice system with computer knowledge.

Senator Kaplan asked why the Sociology/Criminology department would not be the home for this degree.

Dean Warren replied that housing it in interdisciplinary studies is not uncommon, and the course will be staffed with more IT courses than criminology courses.

There were no further comments or questions.

The proposal passed unanimously.

8. Old Business: Mental Health and Well-Being Statement

Senator Roxburgh's suggested revisions to the tabled motion were presented before the meeting.

A motion and a second were made to take the previous motion from the table (Abraham/Walton-Fisette).

The motion was taken from the table.

Senator Vande Zande asked for clarification about the proposal.

Senator Dauterich said it was a proposal for Faculty Senate to endorse it.

Senator Smith asked whether redline versions could have been provided in advance.

Chair Laux replied that it could happen in the future.

Senators Taylor and Evey who moved and seconded on the original statement accepted Senator Roxburgh's amendment in its entirety.

Associate Vice President Drummer-Ferrell agreed that the language was supported by the Division of Student Affairs.

Emeritus Professor Farrell said he was confused about whether this was a required statement for faculty syllabi.

Chair Laux said we are endorsing it as an option for the syllabus, not a requirement.

USG Representative Eader asked what the point of endorsing the statement was if it is not on the syllabus. She believed that the statements should be on the syllabus and that some students would support it being there.

Chair Laux responded that if the university wants better dissemination of statements to students, he promotes placing it elsewhere. Placing it on a syllabus would require a change to university policy. He said that he appreciated Representative Eader's comments and would welcome an effort to change policy if there was the will to do so. He also added that students have enough of a burden with long syllabi.

There were no further comments or questions.

The original item passed unanimously.,

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Announcements/Statements for the Record

Senator Taylor announced that November 3rd from 3-5 would be the date and time for the Faculty Senate Fall Retreat. More details are forthcoming. He also announced that the Celebrating College Teaching Conference is Friday, October 20.

Senator Smith pointed out the upcoming state election and encouraged early and frequent election participation.

Chair Laux pointed out that tomorrow is the last day to vote in Ohio and encouraged registration.

He added that former Dean Kathy Wilson had informed him that the United Way campaign is under way at Kent and gave information for how to donate through Flashline.

The chair recognized Director Marcinkiewicz (Center for Teaching and Learning), who said that the CTL is ready to help faculty convey senses of belonging to students and craft meaningful syllabi in upcoming workshops.

There were no further announcements or statements for the record.

11. Adjournment

Chair Laux adjourned the meeting at 4:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Edward Dauterich
Secretary, Faculty Senate