
Absent: F. Cortez-Funk, L. Irving, B. McCree, B. Sharkin, T. Williams


I. Call to Order
   After convening for light refreshments at 3:30 PM, Senate President D. Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.

II. Announcements: D. Johnson
    A. Holiday Celebration December 7th – Georgian Room from 1:00pm -3:00pm
    B. Faculty Gathering- December 8th – MSU 250 from 4:00pm-6pm
    C. Commencement – December 13th – O’Pake Fieldhouse at 9:00 am

III. Approval of Agenda

IV. Approval of the Minutes from November 6, 2014
    A-M. Cordner moved to approve; seconded by M. Maksy; motion approved

V. Approval of Graduates for December 2014
    A. Kirshman moved to approve the candidates for graduation for December 14 (lists attached); seconded by S. Mangold. Approved unanimously.

VI. Senate Officer Elections – M. Sims
    A. M. Sims presided over the election of Senate President for the term beginning August 2014. J. Schlegel was elected.
    B. M. Sims presided over the election of Senate Secretary for 2015-16. L. Norris was elected.
    C. D. Johnson noted that the Senate Constitution may have to be suspended regarding the Senate Vice Chairperson’s election as President elect.
VII. Old Business
A. Constitutional Task Force – L. Norris

1. L. Norris asked for a series of motions to accept recommendations of the Task Force on Senate membership.
   a. M. Sims moved to approve the following changes to the Senate membership, seconded A. Morris:
      i. Provide direct representation to department chairs by having Chairnet elect one senator.
      ii. Provide direct representation with a senator from each bargaining unit: APSCUF, AFSCME, SCUPA, OPEIU and SPFPA
      Motion passed
   b. A. Morris moved to change the Senate membership by providing direct representation of temporary faculty by election of one temporary faculty member; seconded M. Sims. Discussion followed. There is support for representation but logistics need to be determined. A. M. Cordner moved to table to consider logistics; seconded R. Smith. Motion passed. A. Walls voted against.
   c. P. Walsh-Coates moved to change eligibility for At-Large positions to KU employees with faculty status (teaching and non-teaching); seconded J. Scoboria. Discussion. S. Mangold: How will this maintain proportionate representation? Addition of five staff positions. Task Force included Professional Staff representation. Motion passed.

2. L. Norris asked for a motion to accept proposed changes to the Senate election timetable as presented last month, with one change: regarding timeframe for At-Large positions, change “by the end of the 8th and 10th weeks” to read “the first and third week after Break.” J. Metcalf moved; J. Ronan seconded. Motion passed.

VI. President, Committee, Task Force Reports
A. Senate President’s Report – D. Johnson

1. D. Johnson is requesting a volunteer to serve as Senate Parliamentarian

2. D. Johnson called for a new Task Force on Faculty and Staff retention. Membership to be appointed by Committee on Committees. A preliminary report is anticipated in April 2015; final report anticipated August 2016.

B. Senate Vice President’s Report – J. Schlegel

1. Retention Task Force membership will be comprised of a wide range of constituencies in addition to faculty.

2. Committee on Committee Chair is holding a meeting with all university committee chairs to clarify reporting to respective governance bodies, proper steps for changing membership, mission and by-laws, and awareness of university policies that pertain to respective committees.
C. Student Government Board Report – J. Scoboria
   J. Scoboria noted there is now full student representation on Senate. The SGB is working on policies for clubs and organizations.

D. Acting President Report – C. Vargas
   C. Vargas introduced a video of a live presentation on the university budget which took place at 11 AM on Dec. 4. He noted that this is the first of a series of open meetings on this issue. The link to the video and PDFs of presentation is:
   http://www2.kutztown.edu/news-and-media/announcements/budget.htm

E. Strategic Planning and Resources Committee Update – P. Ache
   postponed

F. University Budget Presentation – M. Delany
   1. See section VI.D., above

   2. J. Silberman noted that specific suggestions for addressing the budget deficit be emailed to budgetinfo@kutztown.edu

   3. Question/Answer/Discussion followed the video presentation. A primary consideration for addressing the budget deficit is to charge students using a per-credit system. Millersville has recently implemented this. Concerns were raised about impact on students, particularly those with double majors, minors, etc. What about courses of less than three credits? This system could lead to more delayed graduations. C. Vargas: would like to set the same full-time rate at 15 credits. J. Silberman: marketing campaign will show students the advantages of a charge-per-credit system.

VIII. As May Arise
   None

IX. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted:
L. Norris
University Senate Secretary