

Minutes of Meeting

Regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate of Rochester Institute of Technology

Thursday, November 3, 2022

12:15 – 1:50 PM

Zoom

Attendance: See Below

Agenda Item No. 1: Call to Order; A. Newman (12:15)
Meeting called to order
Agenda Item No. 2: Approval of Agenda; A. Newman (12:15)
Scott Johnson: Move Seconded (M. Abushagur)
Motion to approve the agenda approved by acclamation
Agenda Item No. 3: Communication Officer's Report/Approval of Minutes; L. Hall (12:17)
<p>Update: No updates other than I'm running behind due to my entire family catching COVID last week. I will have the minutes from last week updated and will send out those and these for approval early next week. I also hope to have one more iteration of the newsletter out this semester, probably looking at the role of governance in OnePayroll and ABB budgeting, but as always, I accept requests. Thanks for your patience.</p> <p>This is a good time to point out that we have a template we can provide for Senators who would like to send newsletters of their own to their faculty.</p> <p>Comment (S. Aldersley): Please get in touch with the RABC committee about ABB content for the newsletter.</p>
Agenda Item No. 4: Executive Committee Report; A. Newman (12:19)
<p>Update: Board Of Trustees Research and Graduate Education subcommittee met on the 2nd of November. We got to hear from academic advisors, students. I was shocked to find that advisors are fielding around 275 advisees or more. They also find increases in isolation and mental health and lowered preparation for college. Attitudes toward gender roles and abilities also seem to be declining.</p> <p>We'll also need Senate representation on the steering committee for the COACHE survey.</p> <p>November 10th is not a meeting because I and our Vice-Chair Liz will be attending the full BOT meeting being held that day. We will report back on what we learn.</p>
Agenda Item No. 5: Staff Council Update; R. Milliken (12:21)

We're working on clarifying committee structure and improving conditions for staff on campus. We're also preparing for the board of trustees meeting next week. We have a lot of presentations from HR and OnePayroll, etc., so those will be at every meeting for at least this semester.

Agenda Item No. 6: Student Government Update; L. Dibble (12:23)

We had the presentation on the master plan, which was good. We asked a lot of similar questions to those brought up in the Faculty Senate. We also had ROAR the Vote come to speak with us and encouraging us and our constituencies to vote.

We also have Mario Kart this ...our SOIS Senator has put together a resume review.

PawPrints concerned smoking on campus, some from a few years ago regarding NTID scholarship and that was already addressed, and we had U of R come and watch our student government in a kind of skillshare.

Agenda Item No. 7: DEIC Report; D'Amanda and Rothenberg (12:25) *Presentation files below*

Postponed until next meeting

Agenda Item No. 8: Library Advisory Council Proposal; M. Trauernicht (12:26) *Presentation files below*

Background: The goal is to create a formal Library Advisory Council with a wider representation from students, faculty, and staff. It would be great to implement in fall 2023, if possible. Main purpose would be to communicate to and from the constituents, keep people informed about services, opportunities, and priorities. It's not involved in the operations of the library or overseeing library activities. See detailed presentation below.

Discussion:

Q (H. Ghazle): What would you like Senate to do? Who handles elections and communication with Colleges?

A (M. Trauernicht): I'm open to what would work best in terms of whether Senate needs to approve and how elections need to happen.

Q (H. Ghazle): The other question is in terms of the charges. Will the Council itself have the ability to propose charges? Or is it just leadership?

A (M. Trauernicht): Certainly anyone on the Council can propose charges, but it would be up to the chair and myself to determine priorities.

Q (E. Williams): We have a lot of faculty doing a lot of service. Why do we need this now?

A (M. Trauernicht): Before we had an informal faculty advisory council. It may be that this governance body says we could consider alternatives to the current layout of faculty.

Q (E. Williams): What do you need to know from faculty that you're not getting now?

A (M. Trauernicht): Working with the faculty on the ad hoc report from which this recommendation originated, faculty need to know more about what's going on at the library. In terms of resources and how they're used, the original committee determined we might need more transparency.

Q (O. Gottlieb): In order to understand this, we need to look at the original report, which I worked on originally. This committee is the first step in that we have significant initial investment if we're going to compete with other institutions. Right now we're a number of years behind, so the committee is really the first step in a broader process. If we could share the link to the full committee report, that would help Senators understand why a committee is necessary.

Comment (L. Lawley): To Eric's question; there are a lot of things our library isn't doing that other libraries are doing, including archiving foreign digital material created by faculty; what we have from an archive perspective is very rudimentary. In terms of looking at that suggested membership, that's an unwieldy size for a group that's going to be functional in any way. My preference would be for Senate to name 2-4 people to serve on this with staggered terms.

Q (S. Aldersley): My constituents in SOIS would be supportive of more attention and resources, but I want to go to Hamad's question. What is the Senate being asked to do? The proposal is not for a Senate committee.

A (M. Trauernicht): Goal was to provide information about a university-wide library council. This is a very large faculty-heavy committee, as many have noted. As this point I would seek advice from the Executive Committee in terms of what would work best for faculty. A recommendation that I could take back and re-work into a proposal would be fine with me.

Comment (A. Newman): We could even ask an existing standing committee to be involved as Senate and faculty representation, but it would be up to the Senate which committee. Thanks for your presentation.

Q (R. Zanibbi): Can we get a quick update on the physical library?

A (M. Trauernicht): I'm happy to discuss that. The main library collection and services are over in Ritter. If all goes well, the Wallace Library should be kind of finished by the end of May, so we would be relocating everything back over summer to open in the fall semester. Fourth floor is classrooms and study rooms, third floor is classrooms, study rooms, and RIT Archives, and enclosed study spaces and some exhibits, the second floor will house the Carey Collection, RIT press remains where it is, most of the books will be on the second floor; the first floor will have a range of services and the circulation desk. We're connected to the SHED on all levels.

[Library Presentation](#)

[Libraries Advisory Council Charter 2022](#)

[Libraries Advisory Council Charter 2022 with Lines](#)

[Ad Hoc Holdings Committee Report](#)

Agenda Item No. 9: COVID Adjustments; L. McQuiller Williams (12:50) *Presentation files below*

Background: Since spring 2020, the Faculty Senate and Office of Faculty Affairs, we've worked continuously to support faculty during the COVID-19 pandemic. I'm asking to request that we consider extending COVID adjustments for faculty, given that Senate passed these unanimously last year.

Discussion:

Q (S Aldersley): One of the charges to the FAC discusses plans of work, etc.; has your conversation been extended to think about what might happen next year?

A (L. McQuiller Williams): All these extensions are seen as really just affecting this year.

Comment (A. Newman): These are essentially Band-Aids and any formal changes would come through standing committees like FAC.

VOTE: motion to approve COVID extension is approved with 40 yeses, 0 nays, 2 abstentions

Comment (B. Thomas): I'm abstaining because it doesn't seem like colleges are following this rule. I submitted a skinny report and was asked to prepare a more detailed one.

A (L. McQuiller Williams): Part of the issue was the timing, in that it was difficult to get this information out

Comment (A. Newman): It would also be good for Deans to remember not to ask this work to be done when faculty aren't on contract.

Q (L. Hall): I don't have a lot of clarity about how to use these documents in merit, T&P as a chair. I also have concerns about equity in terms of who can get consideration and who cannot.

A (L. McQuiller): because of that concern, there was a guidance document sent to the unit heads and Deans in terms of interpretation, because it also impacts T&P committees. Back in September, we did a workshop for all T&P committee members and addressed more specifically these COVID impact statements and how to address them. There's a professional development training that Chris Licata ran last year, so chairs and unit heads should

take that training.

VOTE: Motion to continue the COVID exemption #2 is approved 34Y, 0N, 3A.

VOTE: Motion to continue the COVID exempt #3 is approved, 35Y, 1N, 2A.

Q (E Williams): How is it ensured that every single committee chair will get this text?

A (L. McQuiller Williams): Because this is the third year, this template language is included in all communications to the Dean's offices, etc. So it goes out from us and from the Deans.

Comment (B. Thomas): I don't understand why we need an amendment to the tenure policy for the third year. What this creates in the colleges will be that we have people coming up for T&P under different criteria than those who came before them or after them. I just don't understand why we're still discussing this for the third year. Restrictions on E.5 are concerning. It seems like we're going to see students coming back and asking for P/F, etc. When do we stop?

[COVID 19 Adjustments for Faculty Presentation](#)

Agenda Item No. 10: New Business; A. Newman (1:15)

Question (S. Aldersley): I seem to remember that Senate had a budget for a full time staff member as staff for Senate. I'm not sure what Tamaira's plan of work is, but it's broader than the Senate. Is there any plan to provide a full-time staff member?

Q (L. Hall): I've been asked to bring to Senate's attention serious concerns with cleanliness in the Colleges and how FMS plans to increase staffing to ensure classrooms and shared office spaces are getting cleaned. There was a serious issue with very dirty classrooms for Open House this past week, but the issue goes further than that.

Answer (E. Granberg): Sue Provenzano is raising these issues with John Moore. We have serious staffing issues with FMS. And we did check in with the Open House. There was a communication issue in that the staff in the Dean's office did not know that they had to make a special request, though that doesn't address why the classroom was so dirty to begin with.

The RABC has a remit to raise issues around resource allocation. That might be an appropriate way to engage on this issue. We could also ask Sue Provenzano to talk to John Moore about where they stand on their staffing. So I can take that on a follow-up and ask for an update.

Comment (A. Newman): It's worth noting that during this pandemic we've all stepped forward and done more than expected and from the Faculty Senate perspective it's absolutely worth noting that we have a dedicated faculty who is doing everything they can. Perhaps we want to bring this issue back to the table soon. Any more new business?

Agenda Item No. 11: Adjournment; Newman (1:22)

Motion to adjourn

Attendance November 3, 2022

Name	Relationship to Senate	Attended		Name	Relationship to Senate	Attended

Abushagur, Mustafa	KGCOE Senator	x		Ma, Yunn-Shan	ALT CLA Senator	
Adrion, Amy	ALT CAD Senator (Fall 2022)	x		Malachowsky, Sam	Treasurer, GCCIS Senator	X
Aldersley, Stephen	SOIS Senator	x		McLaren, Amy	CAD Senator	x
Anselm, Martin	CET Senator			Newman, Atia	Chair, CAD Senator	x
Babbitt, Gregory	COS Senator	x		Newman, Dina	COS Senator	x
Bamonto, Suzanne	CLA Senator	x		Olabisi, Joy	SCB Senator	x
Barone, Keri	CLA Senator	x		Osgood, Robert	ALT CHST Senator	
Boedo, Stephen	ALT KGCOE Senator			Perez Sanchez, Alejandro	CAD Senator	
Brown, Tamaira	Senate Coordinator	X		Puchades, Ivan	KGCOE Senator	x
Butler, Janine	ALT NTID Senator			Reed, Mary Lynn	COS Senator	
Crawford, Denton	CAD Senator	X		Reisch, Mark	ALT CAD Senator	X
D'Amanda, Elisabetta	CLA Senator			Ross, Annemarie	ALT NTID Senator	
Dell, Betsy	CET Senator	X		Shaaban, Muhammad	ALT KGCOE Senator	
Deese, Franklin	CAD Senator (Fall 2022)	X		Sheffield, Jr., Clarence	ALT SOIS Senator	
Dibble, Leah	Student Gov't Rep	X		Song, Qian	SCB Senator	X
Eddingsaas, Nathan	COS Senator	X		Sparkman, Torrence	ALT SCB Senator	
Faber, Joshua	COS Senator	x		Thomas, Bolaji	CHST Senator	X
Gehret, Austin	NTID Senator	X		Tobin, Karen	NTID Senator	x
Ghazle, Hamad	Operations Officer, CHST Senator	x		Tsukernik, Olga	ALT COS Senator	

Granberg, Ellen	Provost	x		Van Aardt, Jan	ALT COS Senator	
Gottlieb, Owen	ALT GCCIS Senator	X		Venkataraman, Jayanti	KGCOE Senator	x
Hall, Lauren	Communications Officer, CLA Senator	x		Villasmil, Larry	ALT CET Senator	
Hazelwood, David	NTID Senator	x		Warp, Melissa	ALT CAD Senator (Spring 2023)	
Heyman, Emily (sub - Renee Milliken)	Staff Council Rep.			White, Phil	ALT GCCIS Senator	
Hsieh, Jerrie	ALT SCB Senator	X		Williams, Eric	GIS Senator	x
Jadamba, Basca	COS Senator	x		Worrell, Tracy	ALT CLA Senator	x
Johnson, Dan	CET Senator	x		Zanibbi, Richard	GCCIS Senator	x
Johnson, Scott	GCCIS Senator	x		Zlochower, Yosef	ALT COS Senator	X
Jordan, Anne	Spring 2023 CAD Senator					
Kincheloe, Pamela	NTID Senator	x				
Kiser, Larry	GCCIS Senator	x				
Kray, Christine	CLA Senator	x				
Lapizco-Encinas, Blanca	KGCOE Senator	x				
Laury, Dino	NTID Senator	x				
Lawley, Elizabeth	Vice Chair, GCCIS Senator	x				
Lee, James	ALT CET Senator					
Liu, Manlu	SCB Senator	Excused				
Lutzer, Carl	COS Senator	x				

Interpreters: Nicole Crouse-Dickerson and Philip Ynzunza

Student Assistant: Paulina Hudspeth

Presenters: Marcia Trauernicht and LaVerne McQuiller Williams