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University of Northern Iowa Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, August 24, 2020

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University Faculty Senate Agenda

August 24, 2020

Online Zoom meeting

Senators in attendance: John Burnight (Chair), Danielle Cowley (Vice-Chair), James Mattingly (Past-Chair), Amy Petersen (Faculty Chair), Imam Alam, Megan Balong, Francis Degnin, Melissa Dobosh, Kenneth Elgersma, Gretchen Gould, Kenneth Hall, Mark Hecimovich, Thomas Hesse, Rob Hitlan, Charles Holcombe, Syed Kirmani, William Koch, Matthew Makarios, Nicole Skaar, Andrew Stollenwerk, John Wiles (Fifty percent quorum met, with 20 of 20 voting senators present; the Faculty Chair does not vote and the Senate Chair votes only in case of a tie).

Call to Order at 3:30 PM 9 [time stamp [0:00:02](#)]

To maintain order in this Zoom virtual meeting, Chair Burnight closed the microphone for all attendees and asked that they open their microphone to speak only if recognized by the Chair. Senators were instructed to use yes and no buttons to vote accordingly, and to press neither yes nor no, if they wish to abstain from voting.

Call for Press Identification

None present

Introduction of Guests

Regular Guests: Mark Nook, Jim Wohlpart, John Vallentine, Patrick Pease, Becky Hawbaker (United Faculty President), Elle Boeding (NISG President).

No other guests in attendance today.

Courtesy Announcements

Comments from President Nook [time stamp [0:02:04](#)]

President Nook provides a status update regarding pandemic-related arrangements on campus and first-week experiences, both on campus and in the local community, and answers a number of questions from senators on related topics.

Comments from Provost Wohlpart [time stamp [0:20:52](#)]

Provost Wohlpart discusses Academic Affairs' response to reports of widespread abstention from mask-wearing by students in the local community over the weekend.

Comments from Faculty Chair Petersen [time stamp [0:21:57](#)]

Chair Petersen thanks the university community for our hard work over the summer, preparing for face-to-face classrooms this semester. She discusses faculty leadership activities over the summer, especially related to Program Vitality, the Provost's 5-year evaluation, and the Board of Regents Advisory Committee, which is charged with potential collaborations and efficiencies across the 3 Regents' institutions. She invited all faculty members to the Fall Faculty meeting, which will be held at 3:30 PM Monday, October 5.

Comments from United Faculty President Hawbaker [time stamp [0:26:20](#)]

President Hawbaker thanks the university community for our hard work over the summer, and calls for careful monitoring of health risks on campus, and a commitment to move the semester online if necessary. She also calls for accommodations to be made in faculty evaluation, give the unusual circumstances, and reminds us that United Faculty must be recertified every two years, and that the electronic recertification vote will be held again this fall, in October. Non votes are automatically counted as “no” votes, so PLEASE be sure to participate in the election.

Comments from NISG President Elle Boeding [time stamp [0:30:45](#)]

President Boeding wants faculty to know that students broadly recognize the significant work that faculty, administration, and staff has invested to ensure that students are able to enjoy their on-campus experience this semester. She cautions us that students are also broadly fearful of the circumstances surrounding the pandemic, and advises that we give careful attention to their mental health in our interactions and in resource allocation.

Comments from Senate Chair Burnight [time stamp [0:35:51](#)]

Chair Burnight welcomed 4 new senators, and thanked the Senate and the Ad Hoc Summer Advisory Council for their engagement during the summer. Vice-Chair Cowley also introduced the Ad Hoc Senate Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and provided a high-level summary of the committee’s initial charge.

Calendar Items to be Docketed for the September 14 Meeting:

MOTION to docket: Kirmani/Mattingly (Passed 18-0; 1 abstention) [time stamp [0:41:25](#)]

1511 [Dennis Clayson emeritus request \(Marketing\)](#)

1512 [Mary Stichter emeritus request \(Teaching\)](#)

1513 [Kenneth McCormick emeritus request \(Economics\)](#)

1514 [Charles Adelman emeritus request \(Art\)](#)

These calendar items were bundled for a single vote on a consent agenda. They were docketed for handling during the next meeting.

1515 [Budget consultation with Vice President Michael Hager](#) [time stamp [0:42:43](#)]

MOTION to docket: Hesse/Koch (Passed 18-0; 1 abstention)

1516 [Petition to discharge the Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Summer Advisory Council](#)

MOTION to docket: Hecimovich/Kirmani (Passed 18-0; 1 abstention)

1517 [Charge for the next phase of the General Education Re-envisioning Committee](#)

MOTION to docket: Degning/Makarios (Passed 18-0; 1 abstention)

1518 [Proposed constitutional changes related to term/temporary faculty voting eligibility](#) [time stamp [0:45:50](#)]

MOTION to docket: Mattingly/Stollenwerk (Passed 18-0; 1 abstention)

Faculty Chair briefly introduces the constitutional changes included in this proposal.

Other New Business

No new business was proposed.

Adjournment at 4:22 PM [time stamp [0:51:44](#)]

MOTION to adjourn: Koch/Skaar

Submitted by James Mattingly, Past Senate Chair