

MINUTES OF  
FULL FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
September 28, 2021

Professor of Art and Design Natalija Mijatovic, Chair of the Faculty Senate called the meeting to order at appx. 12:47 on 9-28-21. Chair Mijatovic turned the meeting over to President Harvey Stenger for his [full faculty presentation](#). President Stenger updated the group on the status of things so far in the fall 2021 semester.

- Question from faculty member Kuwana Dyer-Pietras about why some departments were contacted about hiring plans while others did not get selected. How is that decision made?
- Answer from Dean Celia Klin about how a number of criteria are reviewed when determining hiring plans across Harpur and other units.
- Provost explained that he and his office worked with the Deans on their hiring plans. And it is the Deans who have to be relied upon to make these decisions because they have the best and most up-to-date information on what the needs of their schools are.
- Yvonne Johnston asked about whether there were plans for a crosswalk between the Pharmacy School property and the Decker College property. Harvey indicated that they would indeed be looking into that.
- Andrew Walkling wanted to know more about the status of the staffing plan for the Covid response on campus. Harvey indicated that early on in the semester (late August into early September) we started seeing concerning numbers. We thought at one point it was going to get as bad as last February's numbers where we had more than 400 people in QI housing. So, the staff was asked to commit just four hours every two weeks to assist with the response needed to manage a large number of students testing positive who then had to go into QI housing. Almost immediately after putting out that call and getting a good response, we saw our numbers drop. We do not know why they went up and we do not know why they went down but they did and therefore we were able to pull back on that mandatory plan. Staff was allowed to remove their name from the pool of "volunteers". VP JoAnn Navarro added that our goal with the mandatory staffing plan was to try to give a break to the dozens of staff on campus who have been working these duties for more than 18 months in some cases. Even after the number of Covid cases dropped and the mandatory requirement was removed, we are still left with a solid pool of more than 400 individuals who can be called up in the weeks to come to address the situation if cases escalate again. JoAnn indicated that even a number of faculty have volunteered and that is much appreciated. JoAnn indicated that we have tried to hire in the past and we simply were not able to hire in a timely manner to address the escalating situation. But now that we are back to a manageable number of cases we are looking into hiring staff to assist both in the testing center AND in the role of Covid Consultant.
- Andrew Walkling reinforced that one of the things that makes this campus a great place to work is that we have good relationships between staff, faculty, and the administration, and he would like to see that continued.

Chair Mijatovic (NM) then closed the President's presentation and question and answer session and opened the Faculty Senate meeting with brief introductions.

1. Minutes

Minutes from May 18, 2021 meeting were approved.

2. Obituary Notices

Chair Mijatovic asked for a moment of silence to remember Distinguished Professor Jean Quataert. Jean passed away on May 25, 2021.

3. New Business

- Correction to the change of by-laws (the change was approved on May 18, 2021). The sentence fragment “of which one is a co-chair appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee,” was left off of the previously approved change. SC provided some brief background on the change and the specific language left out of the description at the time of the vote last spring. SC also indicated that the FSEC had already approved the updated version with the full description correction. At this time, Tom Sinclair noted that the name of the committee had also not been corrected within the body of the description.

The motion was made and seconded to update the name of the committee throughout the document. After this amendment was approved, the motion was made and seconded to approve the changes to bylaws (which included the correct title of the committee and the missing fragment sentence), and after no further discussion, unanimously approved.

Chair Mijatovic then closed the meeting.

Present: Jane Bear-Lehman, Aaron Beedle, Kimberly Brimhall, Tracy Brooks, Scott Craver, Jeremy Dibbell, Anthony Ephirium-Donkor, Alex Feingold, Jakob Feining, Rodney Gabel, Ariana Gerstein, Neyda, Gilman, Thomas Goodheart, Madhusudhan Govindaraju, Robert Guay, Kevin Hatch, Norah Henry, Robert Holahan, Anushree Karkhanis, Clarice Kelleher, Jonathan Krasno, John Kuhn, Alistair Lees, Richard MacKenney, Cynthia Marasigan, Katherine Martineau, Richard Mattson, Marcin Mazur, Robert Micklus, Natalija Mijatovic, Ralph Miller, Candace Mulcahy, Nagendra Nagarur, Richard Naslund, Chang Hee Park, Sara Reiter, Hiroki Sayama, Jeffrey Schertzer, Thomas Sinclair, John Starks, Ozlem Tongue, Elizabeth Tucker, Andrew Walkling, Kenneth White, Thomas Wilson, Sarah Young, Zhongfei Zhang, Harald Zils, John Zilvinskis

Excused: Dina Danon

Absent: Nathanael Andrade, Serdar Atav, Megan Benson, Frederick Bentley, David Brown, Ana Maria Candela, Subimal Chatterjee, Nikolay Dimitrov, Salvador Fajardo, Nicole Fenty, Mark Fowler, Guy German, Joel Harder, Dikran Karagueuzian, Michael Lawler, Wei-Cheng Lee, Ronald Miles, Vladimir Miscovic, Kelvin Santiago-Valles, Tarek Shamma, Timothy Singler, James Sobel, Antonio Sobejano-Moran, Lisa Tessman, Ruth VanDyke, Michelle Withers, Wei Xiao, Lijun Yin