

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2020

Chair Riegel called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. via Zoom. Those in attendance were Chair Riegel, Riley, Mackie, Pribble, Mahieu, Clark, Hardaway, James, Oswald, and Lahr. (Absent: Fry)

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved through email.

### Old Business/Continuing Business

Mid-Term Elections:

- Dr. Mary Riegel called out for nominations to fill the vacant seat in Arts & Sciences on 4/13/20. She received 5 nominations (4 accepted). The election was held from 4/20/20 to 4/25/20 with 31 members of the school of Arts & Sciences responding. Dr. Sarah Fry was elected to complete the term of office ending December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.
- Dr. Mary Riegel called out for nominations to fill the vacant At-Large seat on 8/12/20. She received 16 nominations (15 accepted). The election was held from 8/24/20 to 8/28/20 with 64 members of the faculty participating. Mr. Garret Lahr was elected to complete the term of office ending December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Update from FEAD:

- The committee met prior to the start of the fall semester to discuss some of the questions from the Senate. For this fall they are planning to use a combination of video tutorials and Zoom Q&A sessions for portfolio training. They are also going to work on the rubric (potentially creating more versions to cover different types of portfolios). To assist in this process FEAD has requested data from Dr. Bell to determine if there is a need for separate 1 year and 4-5 year rubrics. FEAD will also be reaching out to departments/divisions regarding specific expectations for the portfolio to create a guide to best practices regarding the portfolio at Northwestern.
- Chair Riegel informed the senate it is a good year for FEAD to work on this as the only portfolios to be submitted Oct. 1 are from those up for tenure review, promotion, or initial tenure.

### New Business

Chair Riegel asked the senate for questions or concerns in regard to the COVID-19 situation and any questions for administration. The following questions arose:

- Could we get a break down of cases among campuses?
- What is the communication protocol regarding quarantine to faculty?
- Will students return after Thanksgiving Break?
- Concerns were raised about the imbalance between the first and second eight week schedules in terms of class days due to the change with Fall break and Thanksgiving.

Chair Riegel answered these questions based on her current information and stated she would follow-up with admin. After questions were asked, gratitude was expressed about the following:

- Virtual office hours
- Grade checks online via email

Finally, in other new business, a question was asked about schedules for tenure and promotion and if there was a need to submit a portfolio inside the three-year gap (e.g. some faculty submit for tenure review and the next year have to submit again for promotion). Chair Riegel indicated that she thought this was a RUSO policy and that she would follow up.

- Follow-up: According to the RUSO Policy Manual:
  - “The academic and professional performances of each tenured faculty member at each institution must be reviewed at least every three (3) years. (3.4.e.2)”
  - “Faculty members remain at the same rank for a minimum of five (5) years. (3.3.e)”

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

## **Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

**October/November, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Faculty Senate met via email in both October and November.

### **October Business:**

Minutes for the September Meeting were approved via email.

A survey was drafted regarding the decision to return after Thanksgiving break. This survey was sent out to the faculty and their opinions and concerns gathered. This information was then sent along to the Administration for their information.

### **November Business:**

Regular election for the 2021-2022 Senate terms was to be held after Thanksgiving break. The election to be conducted using Microsoft Forms and new membership announced in the new year.

Results:

Arts and Sciences: Dr. Karsten Longhurst and Dr. Mary Riegel

Professional Studies and Education: Dr. Jennifer Mahieu and Dr. Christie Riley

Extended Campuses: Mr. Taylor Randolph

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2021

Dr. Oswald called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Those in attendance were Dr. Clark, Dr. Hardaway, Mr. Lahr, Dr. Longhurst, Dr. Mackie, Dr. Mahieu, Dr. Oswald, Mr. Randolph, Dr. Riegel, and Dr. Riley (Absent: Dr. James)

### Old Business/Continuing Business

- Notes on October/November meeting via email available on website (survey and election)  
Dr. Oswald called on the Senate to review the notes regarding our October and November email meetings. Dr. Mackie moved to approve, Dr. Clark seconded and the motion passed.
- Admin Update – the Administration expressed their appreciation and thanks to all faculty for continuing to work hard and providing our students with the best education possible
- Election of new officers:
  - Dr. Oswald called for nominations (and self-nominations) for the position of Vice-President/President Elect from the incoming members of the Senate. Dr. Jennifer Mahieu self-nominated and the Senate accepted.
  - Dr. Oswald then asked for nominations (and self-nominations) to serve as Secretary. Dr. Riegel clarified that this is a one-year position and so can be filled by any member of the Senate. Dr. Riegel then self-nominated. With no other candidates, the Senate approved.

### New Business

Dr. Oswald asked the Senate for any new business.

- Dr. Riegel informed the Senate that she had recently been elected for a 2-year term to serve on the FAC. The Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) is a board representing Oklahoma institutions to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, and Dr. Riegel described it as akin to a statewide Faculty Senate whose members are chosen from among Faculty Senate leaderships across the state. Dr. Clark having served on the FAC in the past expressed her enthusiasm and asked that Dr. Riegel keep the Senate informed of the information that is acquired through participation.
- Dr. Oswald asked for any further business. Hearing none a motion to adjourn, given by Dr. Riley and seconded by Dr. Mackie, was passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2021

Dr. Oswald called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Those in attendance were Dr. James, Dr. Longhurst, Dr. Mackie, Dr. Mahieu, Dr. Oswald, Mr. Randolph, Dr. Riegel, and Dr. Riley (absent: Dr. Clark, Dr. Hardaway, Mr. Lahr)

Guest: Dr. Steven Palmer

### Old Business/Continuing Business

- Minutes approved via email
- Athletic Advisory Board appointments approved via email
  - Unexpired terms ending September 1, 2021: School of Arts and Sciences – Roger Hardaway; At-Large: Mindi Clark
  - Newly appointed terms ending September 1, 2022: School of Arts and Sciences – Dena Walker; School of Professional Studies and School of Education: Christie Riley; At-Large: Mary Riegel
- Admin update- none at this time

### New Business

- Dr. Palmer – update from Athletic Advisory Board
  - Dr. Palmer mentioned that despite concerns that the cancellation of Athletics due to COVID-19 would cause a drop in student athlete academic performance, the data comparing Fall 2019 to Fall 2020 actually showed that team GPS's went up for all but 2 teams (those teams still both maintaining GPA's over 3.2). The entire department having a semester GPS for Fall 2020 of 3.23 compared to 2.99 in Fall of 2019.
  - Dr. Palmer attributed this change to Coaches and Staff who value and push academics. He acknowledged that faculty sometimes struggle with student athletes and asked that they reach out to coaches. He reminded us that grade checks are important and are looked at and followed up on by both the coaches and Mr. Franz.
  - Dr. Riegel asked on behalf of several faculty members if the electronic grade checks could be coordinated better to arrive at closer to the same time so they could be done together rather than over the course of over a week. Dr. Palmer will forward that request on to Mr. Franz.
  - Dr. Longhurst asked how the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent cancellation of athletic events had affected retention among student athletes. Dr. Palmer indicated that similar roster drops were experienced to prior years, but further clarified that dropping from an athletic roster did not necessarily mean the student left NWOSU. Sports generally have more designated student athletes than actually appear on the game-day roster. That being the case he was unsure about academic retention rates for students initially designated as student athletes.

- ITV stipends – Dr. Mackie
  - Dr. Mackie questioned whether the ITV stipends, which were suspended during the 20-21 Academic year, would be reinstated for the Fall of 2021?
  - For those faculty who regularly teach ITV courses, the removal of this stipend caused a significant (and unexpected) decrease in income.
  - Dr. Longhurst asked for clarification on the rationale behind the ITV stipend, which Dr. Mackie indicated were to cover the difficulty in teaching ITV courses, dealing with the courier, managing enrollment at multiple sites, and the logistics involved in teaching such a course.
  - Dr. Mackie further wondered how the transition to Zoom for courses and away from the Polycom ITV system would affect stipends.
  - Dr. Oswald will follow up with Administration at their next meeting. It was suggested that Dr. Pecha be invited to participate in that meeting.
  
- Strategic Planning Committee –
  - Faculty Senate needs to generate 5 recommendations. Committee work will start in late spring, continue through summer, and wrap up in the fall. Agenda is set by previous survey data.
  - Dr. Oswald and Dr. Riegel volunteered to serve on the committee. Dr. Longhurst indicated a desire that someone from Fine Arts (either himself or Mickey Jordan) serve on the committee. Dr. Mahieu recommended Leslie Collins from Nursing (she had previously talked to Leslie, who agreed to serve). Taylor Randolph indicated that he would be willing to serve as a representative of Enid (and the extended campuses). Dr. James and Dr. Riley indicated that depending on the schedule over the summer they would also be willing to serve.
  
- Dr. Oswald asked for any further business. Hearing none, a motion to adjourn was given and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.