

**University Senate**

**FULL SENATE MEETING**

**Minutes**

**September 29, 2020**

**3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

***Videoconference***

**Senators in attendance:**

•Ahlawat, •Anderson, •Baldwin, •Connors, •del Carmen Rodriguez, •Donovan, •Emanouilidis, •Farrokh, •Filardo, •Gover, •Gubi, •Halper, •Joiner, •Knis-Matthews, •Lee, •Logue, •Lynch, •Mack, •Marks, •Mulry, •Pintado-Casas, •Roebuck, •Sargent, •Schraer-Joiner, •Shebitz, •Stavola-Daly, •Webber, •Wenzel, •White, •Yucetepe

**Student Representative:**

Vacant

[•=present ex=Excused absent=ab]

**Guests in attendance:** Joy Moskovitz, Allison Edgley, Bala Subramanian, Lori Reid, Cindy Lazo, Andrea Rosa, Diana Trybulski, Luis Martinez, Barbara Ridener, Carey Brown, Steven Shaffer, Kathleen Curran, Linda Symanski, Marguerite Mayhall, Taylor Shubda, Susan Miksza, Marianne Gass, Patrick Shaw, Rosemarie Kramer, Sean Keegan-Landis, Catricia Shaw, Pamela Griffin, Jessica Adams, Paul Casey, Wendy Ritch, Nicole Turlington-Rodriguez, Julia Nevarez, Mukul Acharya, Rose Gonnella, Sasha Rashid, Stephanie McCluney, Solman Ahmed, Louis Beaugris, Dean Casa, Rana Zeine, Jackie Stonberg, John Simons, Joe Kang, Christopher Bellitto, Anisa Abdul-Baasit, Aniesa Atiyyah, Adam Eckert, Johnathan Mercantini, Elizabeth Hyde, Deborah Skibitsky, Gilbert Kahn, and others not recorded.

***Meeting called to order by chair Donovan at 3:17 p.m.***

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| **I. Minutes** – June 25, 2020 |
| 1. **Motion:** Maria Del Carmen 2. **Second:** Sucheta Ahlawat 3. Minutes approved |
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| **II. Curriculum Notifications/Vote-None** |
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| **III. Old Business-None** |
| **IV. New Business** |
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| A. Student and faculty concerns regarding discussion questions and  remote learning   1. Stated that faculty are the best qualified to determine how to implement discussion questions yet faculty were required to utilize this format 2. Concerns were expressed about the pedagogy of remote instruction 3. Students have launched a Change.org petition to end the discussion question requirement. 4. Discussion ensued regarding discussion question requirement 5. Joy Moskovitz, representing VPAA office, provided clarification and noted that discussion questions can be reduced or eliminated as appropriate. She advised faculty to speak with their deans regarding the issue. 6. Suggestion was made to reinstate Center for Professional Development for faculty training and support. |
| 1. Update from Learning Management System (LMS) task force    1. Senate members volunteer for “phase 2” task force, technology subcommittee    2. During the summer, a task force was created to consider the three major LMS platforms (Canvas, Blackboard, D2L) and add-on tools (e.g., Ment.io).       1. Report concluded that all three platforms should be examined further during this semester in a sandbox format so that they can be tested by faculty, staff and students    3. Joy Moskovitz provided an update regarding a University-wide committee to evaluate these technologies, which she will be co-chairing with Steve Kubow. 2. Committee will have two representatives from each college, designated by the deans, as well as student representation. 3. Committee will have two working groups: one focusing on LMS, the other on technology. 4. BlackBoard is scheduled to be updated to Blackboard Ultra in the spring. Migration to a new platform, if chosen, would take time, and BlackBoard would need to remain in use through this interim period. Per Joy Moskovitz the university is waiting confirm the term of the BlackBoard contract. |
| 1. University staffing – including faculty, administrative and professional staff    1. Status of Art History faculty was discussed, including the continuation of Art History courses and Art History minor following faculty retrenchment. 2. Suggestion was made to form a Senate task force to review process of Art History curriculum changes. 3. Senators noted that enrollment in Art History courses and minor remain strong.    1. Senators raised concerns regarding retrenchment of staff – It was noted that Enrollment Management is significantly under-staffed    2. Significant concerns regarding staffing for student support services (e.g., Financial Aid, One Stop) were noted.    3. There is a need to examine staffing across the University; the issue will be discussed at next Senate Executive Committee meeting. |
| 1. Senate support for and engagement in antiracism, equity, and inclusion initiatives, including those developed in the NWGC and the CLA.    1. Committees formed in CLA and NWGC to work on curriculum and pedagogy.    2. Union also has a working group.    3. Suggestions: Create a Senate task force to follow up with curriculum committee in reflection of these issues and provide leadership. |
| 1. Board of Trustees (BoT) Senate Representative Report-   Monday, September 14 (Dr. David Joiner)   * 1. There no urgent items requiring Senate response.   2. President Repollet identified key recommendations for the University to address in the coming year:      1. Increasing diversity and inclusiveness of faculty and  staff      2. Improving climate and morale on campus |
| * + 1. Improving communication and transparency     2. Improving research status of the University     3. Increasing student success and retention   1. Public speakers at the meeting advocated for Music, Music Education and other programs   2. Speakers noted that members of the BoT continued to hold investments in a building that houses an ICE detention center.   3. Senate indicated eagerness to work with the administration on plans to address diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as police brutality.   4. Suspension of Theatre Education and three Music programs that was enacted at the May 11 BoT meeting will need to be revisited (Concern noted that these discontinuations did not follow established curriculum processes). |
| 1. **Guest:** Lauretta Farrell-Voter Registration Deadline-GOTV with Kean University faculty, staff, and students    1. Students are actively involved promoting voter registration.    2. Deadline to register to vote in New Jersey is October 13.    3. Individuals who have moved, must update their registration.    4. Kean.turbovote.org provides a means to register |
| 1. **Adjournment:**    1. Motion to adjourn: Sucheta Ahlawat    2. Second: Dan Glover   ***Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM*** |
| * + 1. **Next Meetings:**   ***Executive Committee Meeting –***  Tuesday, October 6, 2020 -- 3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m. ~ Videoconference  ***Full Senate Meeting –***  Tuesday, October 13, 2020 -- 3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m. ~ Videoconference |