



University at Buffalo
Faculty Senate
University Shared Governance
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2024
Zoom

Attendance: see attached attendance.

Call to Order

- Chair called meeting to order at 3:05pm

Agenda Approved

- A motion to approve the Faculty Senate Executive Committee [12_10_24 FSEC Agenda](#) was made by the Faculty Senate Chair. Motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded; EC unanimously approved the agenda.

Actionable Items

- [11_26_24 FSEC Meeting Minutes](#) was unanimously approved.
- [Chair Report 12_10_24](#) was accepted.
- SUNY Senator Kristin Stapleton made a motion to charge the DEI and IT Standing Committees to address the current UB policy on choosing surname and allow staff, faculty, and students to use chosen surname, where appropriate, such as email or course listings. Motion was seconded.
- Executive Committee members voted to display interest in attending Governance Day activities on March 4, 2025 [14/19 yay, 1/19 nay, 4/19 abstain].

Other Items

I. SECRETARY REPORT

- Chair-elect, Kristin Stapleton, Professor in the Department of History, was announced. Dr. Stapleton's term will begin July 1, 2025.
- New Executive Committee member, Sreyasee Das Bhattacharjee, was announced. Dr. Bhattacharjee, Assistant Professor of Research and Teaching in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, will replace Weifeng Su, Professor in the Department of Engineering.

II. UPDATE ON PROPOSED PLANS FOR SHARED GOVERNANCE DAY

- **Shared Governance Day (SGD) will be held on March 4, 2025**
 - Current Committee organizing SGD: Phil Glick, Barbara Prinari, and Dominic Licata
 - Phil Glick shared the following:

- Screening room in the Center for the Arts is available for the event from 4p-5p. The atrium in the same building is available from 5-6:30p. Price quoted to use place was \$610 with possible negotiations to use the space at no cost due to being a UB event.
- Catering for the event has not been confirmed.
- Potential speakers are being discussed and includes SUNY and UB administrators, UB student association officers, and local politicians.

III. RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

- Jennifer Livingston, Chair of the Research and Creativity Committee provided the following update the activity of the committee:
 - **Committee membership.** There are currently 9 members in this committee. Dr. Livingston shared that if other faculty would like to join, contact her. The committee is looking for representation from all programs, specifically Performing Arts and School of Engineering.
 - **Publication funding.** Committee provided recommendations to the Budget Priorities Committee regarding funding for faculty to publish in open access journals.
 - **PI effort on grants.** Addressed concerns of faculty regarding the PI effort mandates by department chairs. PI effort could impact securing a grant. The Committee met with the Academic Freedom and Responsibility Committee and the Vice President for Research regarding this issue. The conclusion was that PI effort recommendations are within the purview of the chair. This will be an issue that committee will continue to monitor.
 - **COACHE survey results.** The results of the COACHE survey concluded that there is dissatisfaction with research resources at UB. There were no focus groups that assessed the results of level of satisfaction with research. The committee will be assessing the survey results to get a better understanding of reasons for dissatisfaction with research resources at the University.
 - **Sponsored Projects.** Jessica Best will be presenting on changes for Sponsored Projects that are planned and whether faculty will have more input on the changes.
 - **Survey.** Committee is considering sending out a survey to faculty to learn their perceptions on research at the University.
 - **Issues with bank cards.** There have been issues with bank cards that are being provided to survey participants: (1) cost \$1.00 processing fee, which can add up for large studies and (2) confidentiality where staff are able to see participants of other studies. These issues will be addressed by the committee by working with Rich Karalus, Director of Research Compliance.

IV. FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES: CHARGES AND UPDATE ON IT COMMITTEE

- The Chair of the IT Committee, Jessica Kruger, was unable to attend meeting today due to scheduling conflict. She will present her report at another meeting that will be scheduled over the next coming weeks.
- The FS Chair shared concerns about inactive committees and the best methods to increase committee engagement.
- Suggestions to increase Standing Committee engagement:
 - The Faculty Senate Chair can provide each committee with charges at the beginning of the academic year.
 - Faculty Senate senators can communicate faculty needs from their units to EC/FS.
 - Address UB faculty committees that have faculty participation but are not officially part of the Faculty Senate.
 - Interaction between committees to ensure that there is no duplication of charges.
 - Recognition of service for volunteering for a committee.

V. **APPROVAL OF 12/17/24 FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA**

- Motion to approve the 12/17/24 Faculty Senate meeting agenda was made and seconded. 12/17/24 Faculty Senate Meeting agenda was unanimously approved.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30p

TPF