

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 27, 2020

3:30 - 5:00 pm (Virtual Meeting via Zoom)

**Senators Present:** Bailey, Barut, Billingham, Bowen, Bray, Buerge, Carlson, Castro, Clawson, Core, Dowling, English, Figy, Flynn, Granada, Hakansson, Hammond, Hill, Hull, Jarman, Lee, Lockard, Marble-Flint, Markova, Moody, Mozzani, Mullins, Muthitacharoen, Myose, Navarro, Newman, Nicks, Price, Pulaski, Ross, Schwartz, Small, Smith-Campbell, Solomey, Storrer, Sylvester, Yildirim

**Absent:** Ahmed, Bukonda, Celestin, Decker, Harrison, Jeffres, Kalomo, Ma, Millar, Mirasol, Popejoy, Tamtam, Weheba, Zewde

**Excused:** Sternfeld-Dunn

[Link to attendance for 2019-2020](#)

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Process / External Link</u>	<u>Notes and Outcome/Action/Completed</u>
Call to order		3:31 pm
Informal statements & proposals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Informal statement &amp; proposal submitted by a Senator For many in the university community, the President's virtual townhall on Friday the 24th was the first time that we heard the explanation behind the administration's efforts on some major building projects: first, build a new Convergence Sciences building, second to purchase the Flats and Suites just in time before two new competing student apartments near campus are about to finish construction, and number three to tear down (and build anew) the Cessna Stadium stands, all during this time of turmoil. For many, we were hearing the details about these proposals for the first time after it was already approved by the Board of Regents and feel that shared governance was not demonstrated. This announcement gives the appearance of the university's tone-deafness to the community, to families of students which are hurting financially. At the same time, it will significantly hurt our employees who may be furloughed, our contractors such as in dining who may already be working fewer hours, and to our students who will be charged higher tuition and fees next year. Although the Administration provided arguments that separate pots of money will be used for these projects, it is very clear that, at a minimum, significant effort by the administration as well as staff and faculty serving in committees will be redirected and focused on these efforts. I urge the Senate to consider legislation requesting that the administration put these efforts on hold and focus on helping our students get through the next year, academically and financially.</li></ul>
Approval of minutes	<a href="#">April 13, 2020 Minutes</a>	Moved & seconded, approved unanimously
President's Report	David Miller (Univ Budget Director), Werner Golling (VP Finance & Admin), & Lois Tatro (Sr Assoc VP Financial Srvc)  Budget documents in Senate website:	<u>Budget Update</u> – Senate budget committee met last week & update is being provided by VP's <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Werner Golling gave the overall background – Fiscal Year (FY) 20 should be fine, made some sweeps to help with FY 21 – very fluid situation with international student enrollment as well as Kansas state budget (mid-year cut is unknown); Cares Act to WSU includes \$4.4 million for students plus another \$4.4 million for the university, but waiting on guidance</li></ul>

[scenario 1](#), [scenario 2](#), & [scenario 3](#)

- about what this second part can be used for; budget scenarios 1 to 3 consider different possibilities; furloughs are possible
- David Miller gave a PowerPoint presentation of the FY 21 budget – he commented that some things are changing very rapidly, but still looking for input from the Senate and faculty
  - Overview
    - Currently at point in the budget cycle when department input about their budget requests are submitted, then in June the Board of Regents reads the university’s budget submission and approves for start of FY 21 in July
    - Talking with campus experts to determine best, most likely, and worst-case scenarios
    - FY 21 budget may include some items that may not be as affected by the pandemic (e.g. federal research grant funds)
    - Metro [Wichita] students may choose to be closer to home (e.g. WSU over K-State or KU), but some may not be able to start college so resident & domestic most likely numbers were kept close to current numbers
    - International student numbers are likely to be down a lot so total credit hour production overall may be down about 3% or \$6.8 million less in tuition revenue
  - Budget specifics
    - To help with the deficit, a one-time \$3 million GU/RU reallocation & cash sweep along with a tuition increase (for long term part of the revenue deficit) is in the proposed budget
    - The university does not control many parts of the GU operating budget because state funding for higher education has already been voted and passed by the legislature; however, a significant decrease in the likely state revenue may affect this
    - Tuition rate increase of 2.5% is supposed to bring \$2 million additional revenue; summer teaching with a shift from GU funds should bring in \$100k
    - On the expenditure side, there will be a \$500k increase in health care benefits, summer tuition incentive expansion, \$500k for GU re-alignment, \$300k for promotion in the academic ranks, and \$1 million for final year of SEM Plan scholarship fund
    - Budget reallocation items include a sweep of ~\$500k in travel funds set aside for next year’s budget; other sweeps of FY 20 budget of ~\$700k, one-time FY 20 RU sweep of \$900k, and shifting FY 21 GU shuttle bus cost to RU funding side (a one-time solution)
    - Other operating needs – considering whether to fund or not depends on the situation
  - Question was asked if these PowerPoint slides can be provided; response – they will be made available [ed. They have been added after the meeting to the Senate website here:]  
[https://www.wichita.edu/academics/facultysenate/documents/42720/FY21\\_BudgetPresentationMaterial\\_WorkingDraft042720.pdf](https://www.wichita.edu/academics/facultysenate/documents/42720/FY21_BudgetPresentationMaterial_WorkingDraft042720.pdf)
  - Q&A with responses
    - What countries are most represented? Response: cannot recall specifics, but International programs office provided input on this when the budget estimates were made
    - Can international students start [classes] from their own country? Provost Muma responded that we are trying to allow them to start overseas while students are waiting for their Visa’s and possibly allow them to withdraw if the Visa is not forthcoming.
    - Any sense that KBoR will approve the proposed 2.5% tuition increase? David Miller

		<p>responded that President Golden is sensitive to this issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Follow-up question: what do we do if the 2.5% tuition increase is not approved? David Miller responded that the effect of funds from the CARES Act [to the university] has not been taken into account because there is no real guidance yet. If the CARES Act funds can be used, then it may help one time; however, we need to understand what is eligible [under the CARES Act]; Provost Muma commented that WSU has received the first half of the CARES Act for \$4.4 million [to be used for domestic student support], but have not yet received the second half for \$4.4 million nor guidance about what it can be used for</li> <li>○ Is budget reduction proportional to each division's budget? David Miller responded that yes, but some items like electricity [and others] are the same and cannot be reduced</li> <li>○ Follow-up question: any modeling of electricity costs going down because we are not on campus? David Miller responded that physical plant has been improving energy efficiency and weather has been helpful too; however, if we plan on a reduction then we may have trouble if a contingency comes up; Lois Tatro commented that some of this has already been swept up</li> <li>○ Would the Foundation be able to help? Provost Muma responded that there is no active push to get such support, only for student support</li> <li>○ Is there support for international students? Provost Muma commented that the CARES act [from the federal government] is not available for international &amp; undocumented students, but the Foundation is helping in this area [international &amp; undocumented students]</li> <li>○ Could the Foundation help with non-student part of the budget? Provost Muma responded that the Foundation &amp; donors are facing many of the same issues [as the rest of the community], and a new effort asking donors is difficult</li> <li>○ Can the pay increase of \$100k [for the President] be deferred? Provost Muma clarified that that this is actually not an increase but what was negotiated by the President and already agreed to as his starting salary at the time he was hired</li> <li>○ Does across the board decrease include Athletics? David Miller responded yes</li> </ul>
	<p>Senate President Jarman</p>	<p><u>President Golden's Townhall</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next Townhall will be on 8 May <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Main issue will be the return to campus (but other issues may be discussed)</li> <li>○ Please provide input / suggestions for other items to be discussed</li> <li>○ There is also a potential for an additional Townhall at the end of the month</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Return to campus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are seven groups – highlighting two of them that may be of interest to the faculty: health &amp; safety and curriculum design</li> <li>○ With regard to curriculum design, the intent is to have a range of teaching mode options (e.g., online, remote, hybrid), but need feedback</li> <li>○ Question was asked whether there will be different fees for online only vs. hybrid or remote; response by Provost Muma: there is an online fee for classes meant to be 100% online (or nearly 100% online except for having proctored [in-person] exams) because such classes need those fees [for equipment / increased networking, etc.]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Follow-up question was asked whether a course could consist of half fully online students and half traditional or remote students; response by Provost Muma: it would not be possible to have half the students be fully online with other half traditional/remote/hybrid</li> </ul> <p><u>Upcoming Awards (Online) Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● President’s distinguished service awards on 5 May</li> <li>● Faculty awards on 8 May</li> </ul>
<b>Committee Reports</b>		None
<b>Old Business</b>	Academic integrity documents in the Senate website including revisions to the policy and handbook (with track changes so that you can see updates)	<p><u>Academic Integrity (AI)</u> – second read followed by a vote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Changes were made to improve the language, based on input from the previous meeting</li> <li>● Both the policy and the handbook is now under Senate oversight</li> <li>● Moved &amp; seconded to accept</li> <li>● Proposal was approved 37 in favor, none against</li> </ul>
<b>New Business</b>	Gery Markova, Senate Vice President	<p><u>Senate Election Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Election is still in progress with the at-large elections now completed</li> <li>● Still waiting on election / results from Humanities &amp; Applied Studies</li> <li>● There are still two unfilled slots (no nominations) from LAS Science division</li> <li>● Comment: those who didn’t get to vote, it is because that unit did not have a contested election</li> </ul>
		<p><u>2020-21 Senate Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next meeting will consist of the final session of this year’s Senate in the first half followed by the first session of next year’s Senate where the only agenda item is to vote on next year’s Officers</li> <li>● Many Senators thanked President Jeff Jarman for his leadership this year</li> </ul>
		<p><u>High Performance Computing Systems</u> by Terrance Figy, Dept. of Math, Statistics, &amp; Physics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BeoShock is the new HPC cluster consisting of 700 CPU’s which has been installed at WSU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This effort is a collaboration together with KanREN &amp; K-State</li> <li>○ Financial support was provided by the College of Engineering, LAS, Barton School of Business, Office of Research, and Academic Affairs</li> <li>○ There are now 97 user accounts</li> <li>○ Training session last Friday had 63 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Information is available at: <a href="https://www.wichita.edu/services/hpc/index.php">https://www.wichita.edu/services/hpc/index.php</a> which takes you on a virtual tour</li> <li>● Contact: <a href="mailto:HPCAdmin@wichita.edu">HPCAdmin@wichita.edu</a></li> </ul>
		Senate President Jarman mentioned & congratulated Senators who received tenure and/or promotion
<b>As May Arise</b>		None

<b>Adjournment</b>		4:37 pm
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**\*Note: this meeting includes final action by the 2019-2020 Senate AND the election of new officers for the 2020-21 Senate.**