

Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

WTC Corboy 206

Members in attendance: Artemchik; Binaku; Blackmond Larnell; Cavallo; Cornelius; DeCook; DeFrancesco; Desai; Devery; Dong; Duffy; Ellis; Elsky; Gawlinski; Goldstein; Gupta-Mukherjee; Keefer; Kang; Lee; Peterson; Pope; Rhodes; Rosenblatt; Todd.

Guests: Badia Ahad (Vice Provost); Lee Hood (University Senate, sitting in for Senate Chair Sarita Heer); Erla Dervishi (University Senate); Benjamin Johnson (outgoing Council Secretary); Tavis Jules (outgoing Council Chair); George Thiruvathukal (outgoing Council member)

A quorum for the incoming (academic year 2022-23) Council was established. Outgoing Chair Jules welcomed the new members to the Council. Discussion moved to the selection of new officers for the Council. A motion to nominate Jim Devery for Chair was made and seconded. Devery stated that he was hopeful for what will happen in Loyola's near future, given the good things being said about the incoming university president. There are many issues to be addressed, including whether faculty members' time is valued and the serious understaffing in different corners of the university. Several members spoke positively of Devery's work on the Council in the past year, especially with regard to the Student Accommodations Center. Devery was elected chair unanimously.

Twyla Blackmond Larnell's nomination for Vice Chair was moved and seconded. Blackmond Larnell briefly described her outlook and her investment in equity and justice. Several members spoke on her behalf, stating that she is a consistent advocate for equity. She is good at integrating multiple perspectives while maintaining a strong commitment to core issues. Blackmond Larnell is elected Vice Chair unanimously.

Patricia Lee's nomination for Secretary was moved and seconded. Lee thanked the Council and indicated her interest in the position. Although she is new to the Council, she has served on the University Senate and the Handbook Committee and would be able to serve as the Council's Secretary. Several members spoke on Lee's behalf, describing her care, competence, and organizational ability as outstanding attributes. Lee was elected Secretary unanimously.

Discussion then moved to the election of At Large Executive Committee members. Jules noted the importance of demographics in the broad sense of the word, including across the university's three campuses. Bill Duffy, Abigail Silva, Julia DeCook, Qunfeng Dong, and Graham Moran are nominated and their nominations seconded. Indicating her willingness to chair a committee, after some discussion, Silva declined nomination. DeCook, Dong, Duffy, and Moran are unanimously elected. Committee chairs were elected next. Jenny O'Rourke was nominated and elected to chair Faculty Affairs. Laura Gawlinski was nominated and elected to chair Academic Affairs.

Jules moved to a discussion of assigning Council members to committees. Johnson requested that assignments be done later. Jules responded that it is important and that there was time. Several minutes were spent assigning members to committees.

Minutes from the April and March meetings were submitted for approval. With thirteen yesses and seven abstentions, the minutes were both approved.

Jules introduced a motion to a resolution passed by the University Senate on Paper-Limited Classrooms. Erla Dervishi is introduced and given the floor. Dervishi indicated that the resolution has been discussed with Council leadership. Jules clarified that the intention had been to meet earlier in the semester with students before discussing the resolution. Dervishi indicated that the Senate has waited for Council support of the resolution before voting on it, so as to defer to faculty on a matter that touches on classroom instruction. She observed that the university gives students only a tiny amount of photoduplication credit (\$3.50). Most students go through this amount quite quickly. The Senate anticipates working with the Office of the Provost, which has been quite supportive, on the implementation of this measure.

One member expressed support for the resolution, saying that it reflects the idea of a “just sustainability.” Another member asked if the resolution would apply to graduate school as well as undergraduate classes, indicating it might work differently in the law school. Dervishi says that the specifics of the printing fund might not apply, but that she has worked with students from across the university on this matter. A different member suggested that PDF files could be provided and read without printing. Yet another member says that the budget is one issue, and that students should have a much larger allotment for printing. A different member suggested that online submission of electronic files is not viable for all classes, including foreign language instruction.

Dervishi emphasized that this measure would be evaluated by departments and that formats would continue to differ across units. A member stated that the Council should support this resolution, in part because it encourages faculty to familiarize themselves with new technologies. Another member expressed skepticism about the idea that an electronic format provides a smaller ecological footprint. A different member observed that digital editorial design is more complicated than it might seem; some classes emphasize printing documents out since they are design classes. Students use different devices, and the campus computer labs are not always up to the task. Dervishi acknowledges that she has the perspective of an undergrad rather than a faculty member, but hopes that the Provost’s Office could work out details once agreement on the general principal has been reached. Several Council members indicated that Dervishi has already worked closely with faculty members, which is where the emphasis on the Office of the Provost and working with faculty came from. They praised Dervishi and the resolution, arguing that it creates a process to reduce paper usage but doesn’t mandate outcomes of this process. The motion was moved and seconded, and passed with eighteen yes votes and three abstentions.

Jules moved to the next agenda item: Connecting the Council with the university’s incoming President. Jules noted that the Council’s officers have sent him a letter requesting a meeting, and that receipt was acknowledged. Jules stated that one matter being discussed is looking at the President’s cabinet and suggesting changes. A discussion followed.

After this discussion, a member presented their motion: That outgoing and incoming Executive Committee members make a record of their concerns about the governance of the

university over the past six years; and frame it with respect to expectations of shared governance at a university.

This motion was seconded, briefly discussed, and passed unanimously.

Discussion of Jules' leadership and praise for the revitalization of the Council. A motion to adjourn and eat, drink, and be merry is made, seconded, and passed with acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Johnson, FC Secretary (2021-2022)

Updated by Patricia Lee, FC Secretary (2022-2023)
September 21, 2022