

# Loyola University Chicago University Senate

## **General Assembly**

Meeting Minutes  
March 22, 2019

**Present:** Francis Alonzo, Terence Boyle, Emily Chin, Ben Feilich, Margaret Heller, Sarita Heer, Zelda Harris, Michael Kelly, Phil Hale, Diane Jokinen, Lorraine Ozar, Tisha Rajendra, Richelle Rogers, Susan Uprichard, Peter Kotowski, Tim Love, Abraham Singer, Steven Todd, Nancy Tuchman, Gabrielle Robinson, Kaitlin McMurry, Margaret Callahan (ex of.), Tim Classen (ex of.), Jeremiah Martin (ex of.)

**Delayed:** Abe Singer (3:20), Adriana Caballero Mondragon (3:18)

**Absent:** Laura Goldstein, Daniela Altamirano Crosby, Todd Malone, Sergio Ortiz, Mario Guerrero, Brittany Rebarchik, Goutham Menon, Jo Ann Rooney (ex of.)

**Quorum (18/31):** 21 voting members present at start of meeting (later 23); quorum is **satisfied**.

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### **I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Zelda Harris called meeting to order at 3:04 PM.

### **II. Call for motions to amend agenda; adoption of agenda**

Chair Harris asked if there were any motions to amend the agenda. No amendments; agenda adopted.

### **III. Review and approval of minutes from February 22, 2019, meeting**

Several typos and restatements were pointed out. Sen. Todd moved to approve; Sen. Feilich seconded. Voice vote, unanimous but for one abstention.

### **IV. Report/Update on Act to Impose an Attendance Requirement for Senators**

Chairperson Harris updated the Senate about the vote for the Act to Impose an Attendance Requirement, informing senators that only 14 people voted. After some discussion as a Senate, it was learned that several senators (approximately half) did not receive the emailed invitation to vote. Therefore the survey will be redistributed to the senate following the meeting. All senators are asked to recast their votes to ensure a complete accounting.

### **V. Reports from Officers and Committees (as needed)**

A. *Executive Committee (Chair. Harris)*

B. *Academic Affairs and Research Committee (Sen. Classen)*

Member Classen shared that Faculty Council and AARS is reviewing the topic of student evaluations of faculty.

C. *Budget and Strategic Planning Committee (Sen. Alonzo)*

- D. *Diversity Committee (Sen. Goldstein)*
- E. *Faculty Affairs and Staff Affairs Committee (Sen. Rajendra)*
- F. *Student Development and Success Committee (Sen. Chin and Sen. Schusler)*
- G. *Bylaws and Elections Committee (Sen. Singer)*

Nominations email is out for open positions; please encourage colleagues to run! At present, 14 nominations (8 faculty, 6 staff) have been received.

Question to committee: Can adjuncts run for election now that they have two year contracts? Answer: The committee will take up this matter next year as part of reconsidering proportional representation.

**VI. Update on conversation with President Rooney and Provost Callahan regarding exploratory committee on shared governance**

***Presented by Chairperson Harris***

Chairperson Harris reported that conversations are continuing with President Rooney about how best to ensure strong practices at Loyola regarding shared governance. President Rooney has asked Chairperson Harris and Faculty Council Chairperson Classen to co-chair a working group to research best practices in shared governance for future consideration. Chairperson Harris invited Senators to solicit interest from colleagues, especially those who are interested in shared governance and willing to participate in the research aspect of the work.

**VII. Discussion and vote: Resolution to Support Transparency and Inclusivity in University Decision-Making**

***Presented by Faculty Affairs and Staff Affairs Committee***

Chairperson Harris introduced history of resolution, which had first been shared with the Senate in January.

Sen. Rajendra reiterated that this resolution had been initiated in January, and then had been subsequently amended after some discussion. Sen. Rajendra recapped: the resolution was born from dissatisfaction in how VPHR Winifred Williams had presented on the changes to benefits packages, as well as dissatisfaction with how the HR benefits had been changed without transparency and in a manner that did not include adequate representation from all stakeholders. She pointed out that while we understood the financial realities for long-term financial health of the institution, it was important to have a transparent process. This resolution was specifically to ask for future changes in process.

Discussion:

- Chairperson Harris shared that the President is now aware of this feedback.
- Sen. Boyle shared that though the President may be aware, there is still value to this resolution to send a clear message and issue recommendations. Chair Harris added that some of this work would be covered by the new Shared Governance Working Group.
- Sen. Ozar affirmed and appreciated that the third resolved clause seemed to incorporate much of the past discussion at Senate and improved the resolution.

- Some discussion followed about whether #3 calls for one set of guidelines that will govern future action, or for the administration to regularly incorporate inclusive practices in the future.
- Some discussion followed about whether #3 has already been addressed through the President's call for a working group
  - Consensus reached that while the working group is appreciated, the need for a clear protocol/guidelines for subsequent committee/working group creation is independently important.
- Friendly amendments to #3 made to modify final clause to commend administration for creation of working group while also calling for creation of guidelines to assure future such working groups contain adequate representation.

**Outcome of vote: PASSED, with 21 for, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions**

**VIII. Information and discussion: Tobacco-free campus initiatives**  
*Presented by the Student Development and Success Committee*

Sen. Chin shared that President Rooney has expressed a general favorability to creating a working group, and invited Sen. Robinson – as a student – to introduce details.

Sen. Robinson briefly recapped how last year's SGLC conducted polls, completed some preliminary research, and reviewed practices at other schools to come to pass the resolution calling for the creation of a working group to put forward a plan for creating a tobacco-free campus policy.

Discussion:

- Sen. Rajendra asked if this was meeting an identified problem? Sen. Robinson said that there are some students who have expressed that due to asthma, etc. they are bothered by smoking. Additionally, Sen. Caballero suggested that additionally, there are sustainability issues with litter and butts in the cracks of the pavement.
- Sen. Singer asked if the sustainability argument could also apply to vaping. Sen. Robinson said that other policies were more specific as to definitions by format.
- Sen. Chin also added some policies ban any type of tobacco product as a health and safety issue.
- Chair Harris said that the Senate could either go along with the SGLC resolution or create a new resolution.
- Sen. Feilich asked why this policy had not been adopted before, and what concerns had existed in previous discussions. Sen. Caballero said that concerns mostly centered around students who did not want to be forced to leave campus, as well as faculty smokers.
- Sen. Hale: It will be necessary to consider marijuana and include possible impact of impending legalization at state level. Federal law will require the university to ban marijuana use on campus even if it is legal at the state level.
- Sen. Chin asked who would be responsible for drafting the policy. Chair Harris answered that the policy would be drafted by Human Resources, and the Senate could pass a resolution asking for a policy but would not be drafting the actual policy.

- Provost Callahan pointed out that the SGLC resolution was asking for a working group to study the policy issue, of which President Rooney was in favor.
- Sen Jokinen asked about enforcement and consequences for breaking the policy. Sen. Robinson responded that this was an issue that was brought up before, and that the working group would need to include members from Campus Safety and Residence Life.
- Sen. Tuchman added an additional environmental sustainability point that the cigarette butts get stuck in the permeable pavement and block the rainwater from getting into cisterns.
- Sen. Love: called for clarification of what we might actually be calling for – is the request by SGLC for Senate to endorse the idea of becoming tobacco-free, or are we just supporting additional research to see if such a policy would be best for Loyola? Sen. Robinson and others clarified that this is just a discussion item at present, with the Committee interested in hearing what feedback the Senate has about the topic in order to propose a clear response and plan.
- Sen. Ozar: recommends committee draft resolution with “whereas the students have recommended a working group...” and also asks that a working group be formed to take the issue seriously from all sides.
- Some general discussion of logistics of working with Human Resources, which Provost Callahan said she could bring up with Dr. Williams to speed along the process, and said that it would be important to note this was a student issue that the Senate was considering from additional points of view.
- Sen. Singer recommends actually including tobacco users specifically for input and also considering different campuses’ contexts. Sen. Robinson clarified that the Water Tower Campus is de facto tobacco-free, and the Maywood Campus is tobacco-free. The policy would not apply to the Rome campus.

## **IX. New Business and Announcements**

Sec. Love informed Senate that he is resigning following this Senate meeting. Due to new professional role at Loyola, Love no longer represents Student and Academic Services, and is instead now an “administrator” under Senate classifications. Additionally, in order to remain impartial as required under new role, Love (and his supervisors) find it important that he resign to avoid any possible (or perceived) conflicts of interest. Love will resign to Chairperson Harris following meeting, and thanks his Senate colleagues for the experience.

Sen Hale announced that he is actively seeking guidance and input on the concept of free speech and the presidential free speech announcement, which will inform the Higher Education Reauthorization Act. This would be of particular relevance to SGLC and Faculty Council. He asks senators to email him with feedback or ideas.

Sen. Singer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Sen. Heer. **Meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM.**

*Respectfully submitted 4/10/2019, by Sec. Love and Sec. Pro Tem. Heller*

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**Senate Meeting Schedule for Academic Year 2018-2019:**

- **University Senate Schedule:**

- September 7 3-6pm Institute of Environmental Sustainability, Room 123/124 (\*combination first general meeting and closed orientation)
- October 5 3-5pm Information Commons, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, LSC
- November 2 3-5pm IES Room 123/124, LSC
- January 25 3-5pm IES 123/124, LSC
- February 22 3-5pm IES 123/124, LSC
- **March 22 3-5pm IES 123/124, LSC**
- April 26 3-5pm IES 123/124, LSC

- **Executive Committee Schedule:**

- August 17 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC
- September 21 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC
- October 19 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC
- January 11 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC
- February 8 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC
- March 8 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC
- April 12 3-4pm CLC 1233, WTC