

Emory University Senate Meeting Minutes
Jones Room, Woodruff Library
March 28th, 2017
3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Attended: Juliette Stapanian Apkarian, Madison Bader, Henry Bayerle, Mary Bingham, Deborah Bruner, Paul Byrnes, Amy Covington, Susan Cruse, Erica Duncan, Jared Greenbaum, Vanda Hudson, James B. Hughes, Linda Jackson, Deena Keeler, Matthew Klopman, Benn Konsynski, Melanie Kowalski, Chloe Lalonde, Mark Lamb, David Lynn, Hiram Maxim, Judy Raggi Moore, Mimi Newell, David C. Payne, Nichole Powell, Astrid Prinz, Scott Rausch, Fiona Riedl, Karen Scheib, Jason Schneider, Pamela Scully, Stephen Sencer, Joey Shea, Laurie Speed, Sidney Stein, Anand Swaminathan, Lisa Tedesco, Vineet Tiruvadi, Dona Yarbrough, Holly York, Kristin Wendland, Jaffar Khan, Kelli Pittman, Claire E. Sterk, Stuart Zola, Katie Hoppenjans, Nicole Nixon

Excused Absences: Jonathan Lewin, Cynthia Wetmore, Vince Dollard, Lauren Kent-Delany, Jessica Sales, Carla Berg, Hope Bussenius

Unexcused Absences: Mikelyn Batiste, Noah Cole, Christine Dunham, Mishaal Gardezi, Kenyatta Greer, Marvin Poulson, Gurbani Singh, Shontell Stanford, Merete Tschokert

Ex Officio Absences: Max Zoberman, Christopher Beck, Marlon Gibson, Sasha Volokh, Muhammad Naveed, Lisa Underwood, Joe Crespino

Ex Officio - University Administration Absences: Peter Barnes, Lynn Zimmerman, Micheal Andrechak, Richard Mendola, Ajay Nair, Allison Dykes

Guests/Visitors: Kimber Williams, Sarah Cook, Del King, Jill Adams

I. Senate Meeting Call to Order: The March Senate meeting was called to order at 3:16 p.m.

II. Approval of Senate Meeting Minutes: The February 2017 Senate meeting minutes were approved by the Senate members. The February minutes have been posted for review in the Senate Box folder.

III. Election of 2017-2018 University Senate Officers

Senate President Wendland introduced the two nominees for president-elect: Dr. Deborah Bruner and Dr. Jason Schneider. Then she introduced the two nominees for Senate secretary, Nicole Nixon and Kelli Pittman. All nominees addressed the Senate, and provided their respective background and qualifications.

The 2017-2018 election ballots were distributed to all voting Senate members, and the votes were tallied with the announcement of the 2017-2018 Senate officers as follows: Dr. Jason Schneider as Senate president-elect and Kelli Pittman as Senate secretary.

IV. Senate Announcements and Updates

2017-2018 Senate Committee Rosters

Senate President Wendland informed the Senate members the 2017-2018 Senate committee rosters have been vetted by the Senate Executive Committee and are available for review in the Senate Box “Proposed Senate Committee Rosters” folder. The Senate members will vote on the 2017-2018 Senate committee rosters during the April 18th, 2017 Senate meeting.

President Sterk's Call-to-Action

Senate President Wendland updated the Senate regarding President Sterk's "Courageous Moral Action and Community Engagement" call-to-action. Wendland indicated the working group, comprised of faculty, staff, and students had their first meeting. It reviewed President Sterk's charge to 1) propose activities over the course of the semester that foster community building and community selfcare, and 2) gather information to produce an inclusive assessment of the wide-range of views within the Emory community.

The working group discussed various short-term and long-term activities. The short-term view encompassed a clearinghouse or website to post ideas and activities of events that are already going on within the Emory community. The long-term view would be to engage various schools, to create or utilize conversation tools of compassion, and to embrace values outside of our own political differences. The working group's next meeting will be March 31st, 2017.

Senate members may email Kristin Wendland regarding activities happening around the Emory community, and she will share the information with the working group as it compiles information.

Emory Statement on Civility Discussion

Senate President Wendland updated the Senate regarding the Faculty Council's Statement on Civility. The Statement on Civility is an outcome of the Faculty Council's Life Course Subcommittee review of the Class and Labor II report. After discussion the Faculty Council decided the Statement on Civility should go beyond the Faculty Council to embrace the entire Emory community, and the Council voted to bring this statement before the Senate for discussion and endorsement.

The Faculty Council Statement on Civility reads as follows: "We believe the manner in which we interact with each other is critical to cultivating and maintaining a meaningful and effective intellectual environment. We encourage a climate of respect and inclusiveness that welcomes and embraces community members with diverse backgrounds and life experiences. We deliberately seek multiple perspectives and support the free and open exchange of ideas and civil discourse. We affirm the inherent dignity in all of us and we strive to maintain a climate of justice marked by respect for each other. Our community can only continue to thrive when we approach each conversation with an open mind and when each member can contribute fully."

The Senate members discussed changing the title to better represent the Emory community. After Senate discussion Wendland proposed the title be changed to Emory Statement on Civil Discourse.

Senate Motion: A motion was passed by present, voting Senate members for the Senate's endorsement of the newly titled Emory's Statement on Civil Discourse.

President Sterk suggested President Wendland and President-elect Bayerle bring the Statement to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board.

V. Senate Discussion – Distinguishing Personal from Professional as Emory Community Members

Senate President Wendland opened the floor to continue the discussion regarding the rules and guidelines for personal versus professional representation of Emory University for faculty, staff, and students. Wendland said the issues involve the point where we draw the line between our personal beliefs and our role as representatives of Emory.

Senate members discussed how various political issues and opinions around campus indicate the need for a clearinghouse (currently under discussion by the President's Call to Action Working Group), which will be a centralized location for all the activities, events, and committees involved in the Emory-wide "civil discourse" conversations.

VI. President Sterk's Remarks

President Claire Sterk addressed the Senate members about Emory University's future to ensure that the wider community knows who Emory is, what Emory stands for, and where Emory wants to go. In addition, she spoke about the importance for everyone to have a sense of what is happening on Emory's campus so people can make choices for what they want to be a part of.

President Sterk presented "Emory's Three C's," which are competition, collaboration, and compassion. Emory competes at the highest levels, but has a culture where we don't celebrate, let alone know, our own successes. How can the world know our successes when we don't know what they are? Also, Emory has an environment of collaboration, and we're excited to collaborate as a community because when we work together we can do more and are stronger. Emory has an enormous amount of compassion, and Emory can make a big difference not only here, but also in the wider Atlanta and global community through arts and business with a deeper engagement.

VII. Emory University Employee Council Update

Past Employee Council President Linda Jackson and President Elect Deena Keeler spoke to the Senate about Emory's Employee Council background and provided a review of this year's events. The 2016-2017 Employee Council's theme was "The Greatness of Emory." It encourages each of us to seek opportunities to collaborate and support our colleagues across the enterprise, while sharing our zeal for Emory. Jackson also outlined the Employee Council's mission to include fostering greater community work among staff, increasing awareness about employee resources, making ourselves more visible, ensuring we are representing all areas of the university, and attending to employee needs and concerns.

Several of the Employee Council events include monthly meetings, sustainability achievements, Coffee with a Cop, the Emory Hardship fund, Veteran's Day ceremony, Oxford and Grady campus visits, and the annual Spring Town Hall.

This year's Spring Town Hall will be April 12, 2017 on the Campus Pavilion.

VIII. Emory Alumni Association Presentation

Laurie Speed and Joey Shea provided the Senate with an overview and orientation to the work of the Emory Alumni Association (EAA) and Emory Alumni Board. The Emory Alumni Association's mission is to connect alumni to the university and each other, build traditions, foster student and alumni leadership, serve the diverse needs and interests of our community, and create opportunities for investment in Emory's future.

The EAA intersects alumni interest and university priorities to create lifelong Emory connections. In addition, the EAA purposefully grows its volunteers into needed Emory leaders, who forge partnerships with our university colleagues to achieve broad objectives. This is accomplished by engaging constituents through strategic events, communications, and services that support the EAA's mission.

The Emory Alumni Board supports the Emory Alumni Association's mission and priorities. Several major initiatives include the University Scholarship Initiative, the Student-to-Alumni Experience Initiative and award and leadership selection.

IX. Interim Provost Zola Remarks

Provost Zola addressed the Senate, stressing the need for open communication within the Emory community. Zola challenged the Senate to think about how we can all communicate Emory's "Three C's" to our students, staff, faculty, and alumni, as well as to the Atlanta and global communities.

X. Adjournment: The March Senate meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.