

**Emory University Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Jones Room, Woodruff Library**  
**September 27th, 2016**  
**3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Juliette Stapanian Apkarian, Peter Barnes, Henry Bayerle, Carla Berg, Mary Bingham, Paul Byrnes, Lynell Cadray, Sarah Cook, Amy Covington, Susan Cruse, Lauren Kent Delany, Erica Duncan, Christine Dunham, Mishaal Gardezi, Jared Greenbaum, Gary Hauk, Vanda Hudson, James Hughes, Adriane Ivey, Linda Jackson, Deena Keeler, Jaffar Khan, Del King, Matthew Klopman, Benn Konsynski, Melanie Kowalski, Jonathan Lewin, Richard Mendola, Rene Meza, Judy Raggi Moore, Mimi Newell, David Payne, Astrid Prinz, Scott Rausch, Christine Richardson, Fiona Riedl, Jessica Sales, Stephen Sencer, Karen Scheib, Jason Schneider, Pamela Scully, Sidney Stein, Claire Sterk, Anand Swaminathan, Vineet Tiruvadi, Katie Voss, Kristin Wendland, Kimber Williams, Dona Yarbrough, Lynn Zimmerman, Stuart Zola

**Excused Absences:** Marlon Gibson, Deborah Bruner, Hiram Maxim, Hope Bussenius, Nichole Powell, Laurie Speed, Holly York, David Lynn, Lisa Tedesco

**Unexcused Absences:** Madison Bader, Mikelyn Batiste, Christopher Beck, Mary Cahill, Joe Crespino, Reshma Daniel, Matthew Early, Carol Flowers, Kenyatta Greer, Jessica Hill, Carol Kissal, Chloe Lalonde, April Lewis, Margery McKay, Theresa Milazzo, Tenia Miles, Muhammad Naveed, Kelli Pittmann, Marvin Poulson, Courtney Ruckert, Joey Shea, Shontell Stanford, Ben Tompkins, David Wynes, Max Zoberman

**Ex Officio Absences:** Micheal Andrechak, Ajay Nair, Jerry Lewis, Allison Dykes

**Guests/Visitors:** Adriane Ivey (for Nichole Powell), Shanella Fernando, Robert Schapiro (for Lisa Tedesco)

**I. Senate Meeting Call to Order:** The September Senate meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

## **II. University Senate President's Welcome and Senate Orientation**

Senate President Kristin Wendland welcomed the 2016-2017 Senate to the first Senate meeting of the academic year. Wendland began the meeting with an overview and orientation of the university Senate for new and returning Senate members. A Powerpoint file detailing the breakdown of the University Senate structure is available on the Senate Box. She reviewed the online resources available to the members, including the new Senate website. Wendland stated a goal of the Senate during this academic year should be increased communication not only between Senate members and the Senate committees, but also ensuring Senate matters are conveyed to our constituents.

Also, any information related to the Senate will be moved from Blackboard to Box, and all eligible members should have received an invitation for Box access to view current and upcoming meeting minutes, agendas, committee information, and all things related to the university Senate. Wendland indicated all returning Senate members will continue to have Blackboard access to view archived information, and should any new members need to review any archived information on Blackboard, email Emrah Simsek, the Senate and Faculty Council assistant for access.

## **III. Executive Vice President of Emory Health Affairs Presentation**

EVP for Emory Health Affairs, Dr. Jonathan S. Lewin addressed the Senate regarding the aspirations for Woodruff Health Sciences Center at Emory. Lewin provided his autobiographical background to the Senate, and spoke about the importance of the Emory Healthcare Pledge; the pledge involves respect, culture, honesty, integrity, authenticity, engagement, and these characteristics align with Woodruff Health Center's five-year aspirations.

Dr. Lewin outlined the five-year aspirations for the Woodruff Health Sciences Center that include culture and values, engagement, tripartite mission, collaboration, and providing benefit to Emory's patients, their families, and society. Lewin also addressed three fundamental efforts he focused upon during his first eight months at Emory

Healthcare, which included creating strategic clarity, building an effective architecture, and creating constructive culture.

#### **IV. Approval of Senate Meeting Minutes**

The April 2016 Senate meeting minutes were approved by the voting Senate members. The minutes have been posted for review in the Senate Box folder.

#### **V. Approval of Senate Member Rosters**

The 2016-2017 Senate rosters were approved by the voting Senate members. The rosters have been posted for review in the Senate Box folder.

#### **VI. Approval of Senate Committee Rosters**

The 2016-2017 Senate committee rosters were approved by the voting Senate members. The rosters have been posted for review in the Senate Box folder.

#### **VIII. Senate Committee Selection Timeline**

Committee Chair for the Campus Life Committee and Director for Residence Life, Scott Rausch addressed the Senate concerning the possible change in the timeline for the Senate committee selection process. Rausch outlined the current Senate bylaws governing the Senate committee selection process for committee chairs and committee members; for chairs, “by March 15<sup>th</sup> of the third year of a chair’s term, each committee should recommend a person or persons to serve as chair for the forthcoming Senate year,” as outlined in Article IV, Section 2, Part 2(a). As the bylaws relate to committee members, in Article IV, Section 2, Part 2(c): “....by August 20 of each year, committee chairs should send to the president of the Senate their list of proposed members....”

The discussion to amend the Senate bylaws originated from the challenges the Senate committee chairs face with the committee member selection timelines. Currently, the committee chairs receive the committee membership applications right before the end of the academic year. The end of the academic year deadline means the committee chairs must vet and select any new members over the course of the summer, and commencing this process over the summer subjects the committees to decreased efficiency as most people are on limited schedules over the summer months. In addition, most committees have important agendas at the beginning of the academic year, but unfortunately have to curtail their activities until the committee rosters are approved by the university Senate at its first meeting.

Rausch therefore proposed a change to the university Senate bylaws indicating the “requests for new Senate committee members will be distributed by December 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, with applications being due by January 15<sup>th</sup>...by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year committee chairs should send to the president of the Senate their list of proposed members...the Senate will vote to accept or deny all committees’ proposed members, at its last meeting of the year.” The change to the university Senate bylaws regarding Senate committee chairs would read, “...by February 1<sup>st</sup> of the third year of the chair’s term, each committee should recommend a person....” instead of by March 15<sup>th</sup> of the third year of a chair’s term.

Rausch indicated these proposed, amended dates to the Senate bylaws would ensure a more efficient, effective beginning for the Senate committees, who would have their rosters approved before the start of the new academic school year, and, if needed, would be able to meet over the summer months to conduct any committee business.

Several Senate members voiced concerns related to the dates surrounding the proposed call-for-committee applications, due to the timing of Fall semester final exams, Christmas break, and beginning of the Spring semester term. As a result, a motion to change the Senate bylaws was postponed. Rausch then asked the Senate members whether it was better to have the call-for-committee applications later in the Fall semester or earlier in the Spring semester. The Senate indicated later in January would be preferable for the call-for-committee applications.

More research will be conducted as to the most appropriate dates for the call-for-committee applications, and Rausch will update the Senate accordingly.

## **IX. Senate Diversity Committee Update**

Christine Ristaino addressed the Senate on behalf of the Senate Diversity Committee, indicating that a Senate Diversity Committee transition team had been created as a result of the plan to sunset the Senate Diversity Committee.

Ristaino outlined the reasons why the Diversity Committee was dissolving and merging with other Senate committees. First, the Advisory Committee on Community and Diversity, otherwise known as ACCD, was approved as a standing University Senate Committee in March 2016; second, there is continued leadership and member turnover within the Senate Diversity Committee; third, the structure in which the Senate Diversity Committee finds itself lacks a process that ties the committee with other structures within the university that are also performing diversity work, and, lastly, the Senate Diversity Committee goals are now being accomplished throughout the institution through new committees and processes that are in place.

She further listed the university Senate Diversity Committee objectives: to provide a more comprehensive view of the university's offices and initiatives responsible for strengthening diversity at Emory and to facilitate discussion and communication between offices and groups around these initiatives, to encourage diversity considerations in the formation of all university Senate committees, and to publicize events on campus that have a strong diversity component.

Several Diversity Committee accomplishments include a liaison system between the Senate Diversity Committee and other organizations involved in diversity work, a diversity portal to accomplish the Committee's objectives of publicizing events, the 5 Best Practices Project, a Diversity Statement for classes, various Senate presentations, the Neuroethics Symposium, the creation of a Student ACCD Divisional Committee, QEP and diversity, and "ghosting" workshops.

Ristaino stated the reason for transitioning the committee was to facilitate collaboration, reach, and connection around various university diversity efforts in a more efficient manner. All interested Senate Diversity Committee members were absorbed into the ACCD Committee so they could continue their work on diversity initiatives.

**Senate Motion:** Christine Ristaino made a motion to sunset the Senate Diversity Committee, and the motion was passed by present, voting Senate members.

## **X. Emory University President Remarks**

President Claire Sterk addressed the Senate, and shared some initial reflections about her first month as Emory's new president. At the June Emory Board of Trustees' meeting, the Board of Trustees favorably voted for Dr. Sterk's appointment as Emory's next president. During this meeting BOT Chair Mr. John Morgan presented her with a binder filled with the results of the listening sessions collected by the Emory Presidential Selection Committee.

There were approximately 50 campus-wide listening sessions involving various Emory stakeholders: faculty, students, staff, alumni, community leaders, among others. These listening sessions culminated into the feedback used in the prospectus for the role of the next university president.

Sterk indicated several themes from these listening sessions addressed what stakeholders were looking for in a new president. They wanted someone who could bring a new perspective to Emory, as well as be a disrupter. She also outlined several of Emory's strengths, including its location in Atlanta, and how Emory can have a global impact by strengthening its ties to the Atlanta community. Another strength was Emory's reputation in academic excellence, academic health center, and excellent employment culture. The third area involved several of Emory's characteristics: collaboration, interdisciplinary mission, a strong, diverse student body, and a strong culture of mentorship and leadership development programs, and the fourth area was Emory's physical campus.

President Sterk said the academic mission of the institution would be faculty, programs, and students.

**XI. Adjournment:** The September meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.