



Emory University Senate Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2023

3:00-5:00 p.m. | Zoom

Attendees: Alicia DeNicola, Grace Goh, Benn Konsynski, Ganesh Satyanarayana, Rachel Lebovic, Paul Marthers, Andrea Casson, Nick Chang, Dawn Francis-Chewning, Noah Marchuck, Michelle Lampl, John Wang, Lot Bercasio, Michael Martin, Walter Kolis, Holly York, Aditi Vellore, Richard Castillo, Deborah Bruner, Noelle McAfee, Eric Abrams, Cyen Peterkin, Florian Pohl, Anjulet Tucker, George Shepherd, Kelly Garner Shannon, Kate Yeager, Kirk Edwards, Lori Jahnke, Floyd Hall, Andrew Yang, Minnie Glymph, Carrie Keogh, Dani Fallin, Nikki Hurtado, Nitika Gupta, Ravi Bellamkonda, Abigail Sepich, Jodie Guest, Madi Olivier, Babak Mahmoudi, Katrina Shafer, Khegan Meyers, David Payne, Lisa Underwood, Kathryn Wood, Octavian Ioachimescu, Shervon Lewis, Joy McDougall, Lisa Macklin, Erkin Ozel, Del King, Susan Ray, Jonathan Poole, April Flint, Modele Ogunniyi, Rebecca Ellis, Sarah Dobbs, Amy Chen, Abigail Dubinski, Ilya Nemenman, Andrea Casson Galiano

Excused Absences: Lanny Liebeskind, Roberto Franzosi

Unexcused Absences: Erin Bonning, Lily Dresner, Stacey Gall, Lauren Gay, Joy Hearn, Curtis Henry, Scotty Jenkins, David Kulp, Siva Prasad Kalimuthu, Sam Schmuell, Stephanie Schorsch, Alyssa Stegall

I. Welcome and Approval of Consent Agenda, *Alicia DeNicola, University Senate President*

Dr. Benn Konsynski moved to approve the consent agenda; Dawn Francis-Chewning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. Emory Research, *Deb Bruner, Senior Vice President for Research*

Senior Vice President Bruner reported that in FY 22, Emory brought in \$944M in total research funding (\$605M in federal funding, \$98M in corporate funding, and \$142M in foundation funding), which is a 5.6% increase from FY21. There is a correlation between number of PIs at peer universities and NIH ranking, and Emory is working with the deans to map out individual PI funding relative to peer institutions to strategize best ways to improve on this metric. In FY22, Emory's Training Grant Support Office ranks 20th nationally, and managed \$14M across 25 active awards, supported 105 predoctorates and 77 postdoctorates, with a 78% increase in submissions with a 8.9 point reduction in average score (lower score is better). For FY23, the goal is to develop a TRex Data System, expand services to include admin support and evaluations, as well as implement a training grant post award community of practice. SVP Bruner also briefed the Senate on the ongoing Mega Grant comprehensive proposal development program: two pilot phases have been successfully completed and transitioned into permanent service in Jan 2023 with 3 service levels for \$10M+ grant proposals. She reported on other programs such as the Constructive Collisions series, the Berkeley Skydeck, and the Emory Research Security Program. In FY23, there will be a 13% increase in staffing for ORA, new pipelines for enhanced staffing, new comprehensive staff training program, and shared governance between ORA and school units. There are also several initiatives in place to position Emory for success within the new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), which is a new federal agency intended to complement NIH's investments with \$5B funding in FY23-26. Emory is always seeking multi-faceted strategic partnerships with corporate partners, and our top corporate partners are pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. The Emory-PHARMA (Partnerships for Health and Advancing Research, Medicine, and Academics) Initiative is running a pilot partnership with Novartis. There are also newly launched campus-wide efforts to create awareness, support, and feature the role of women in innovation: Women in Innovation Network (WIN) and the Female Founders Forum at Emory (F3@E).



III. Emory Science Gallery Atlanta, Floyd Hall, Interim Director

Director Hall explained the Science Gallery Global Network and its mission to ignite creativity and discovery where science and art collide. The site for the Emory Science Gallery Atlanta will be located at the [Historic Pullman Yards](#). The Science Gallery Mediator Program offers Emory students the chance to serve as docents and help facilitate the visitor experience by engaging participants in conversation, listening to their input and ideas and discussing the underlying themes embodied in exhibits, at times aiding them to directly take part in exhibitions through participatory exhibits and experiments. The Science Gallery Atlanta Research Fellowship Program is a one-year paid position for an Emory faculty member, providing the fellow with the opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of the SGA program and advance the SGA research program. The inaugural exhibition was HOOKED, which delved into the complex world of addiction and recovery. Examining addiction as a fundamental risk of being human, HOOKED argued it is a global health issue rather than a moral failing or necessarily a crime. The next exhibition will be JUSTICE. It invites researchers, artists, and audiences to contemplate and reimagine some of the current big ideas in our society that have local and global impact—criminal justice, labor practices, transit, climate change, housing, food access, health inequity, data agency, and more. The central question for this exhibition is, “What is justice?”

IV. PATH Project, Carrie Keogh, Committee on the Environment Chair

Dr. Keogh presented on the proposed PATH development in the preserved lands of Lullwater and Wesley Woods, and the relevant university policies governing the use of campus forested lands. She also presented the justifications for the COE’s opposition to the project, which includes environmental damage to irreplaceable preserved lands, and a misalignment with existing policies and prior negotiations to balance development and transportation needs with forest preservation. Dr. Keogh also offered an alternative route for consideration and asked that the Senate vote on a resolution for Emory to engage in a holistic decision-making process. Associate Vice President David Payne clarified that the PATH Foundation is currently working on a feasibility and scoping study (results to be delivered at the end of 2023) and opined that it is not in the spirit of the Senate or of Emory to refrain from further efforts to garner support for this project. He said that the current policies did not take into account the extent of sewer repair and maintenance needed. The Senate voted to amend the resolution and approved the amended version to be sent to President Fennes. The full amended and approved text of the resolution can be found [here](#).

Questions:

- 1) Why does PATH want to build in this specific location?
 - a. Some areas are already cleared, so this would minimize new disturbances to the land, and to increase access Wesley Woods complex.
 - b. Counterpoint: DeKalb County is mandated to restore and reforest some of the cleared areas, so it is a separate and intentional decision to not restore those cleared areas. And once the route crosses Houston Mill to head to Wesley Woods, that’s a brand-new disturbance to the lands that do not fall under this justification.
- 2) Is there any benefit to Emory to have this path, and if not, what other organizations benefit from this?
- 3) What is the Victoria Estates/Hahn Woods vote?
 - a. [saveourcreek.org](#)
 - b. Their main concerns are property value impacts, and perceived safety, security, and privacy risks that come from increased public access to recreation trails



- c. PATH has engaged the neighborhood as a stakeholder group
- 4) Will this PATH trail be adequate for Dekalb City access for maintenance? I just don't see big trucks driving down the PATH, while also in use by people, bikes, etc.
 - 5) SGA voted to approve a resolution to amend the PATH proposal. What alternatives have been considered?
 - 6) What are the county laws for preserved lands?
 - 7) Are there any conflicts of interest (residents of Victoria Estates) within the committee on the environment?
 - 8) Who is on the PATH Foundation's stakeholder advisory task force? And how were they selected/chosen?

V. Campus Development Committee Report, *Walter Kolis, Chair*

Mr. Kolis presented on the committee mission and membership. In AY21-22, the committee focused on increasing members' engagement by developing foundational knowledge of existing and future developments, opportunities and challenges facing Emory at a local and regional level, supporting Emory University's Master Planning and Strategic Framework with a focus on the wellbeing of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors, and cultivating Emory as a place that supports a vibrant community. The committee established a new SharePoint site to house all committee documents, and defined their priorities for AY22-23, which includes the Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative, Graduate Housing, Accessibility, Multiuse Trails, Land Use & Acquisition, Environmental Sustainability, and Facilities. The committee is proposing 2 new subcommittees, Construction (new construction, renovations, building design standards, CHOA Eggleston property) and Connectivity (trails, sidewalks, paths, intracampus & intercampus, Emory + Atlanta, Clifton Corridor Transit). For AY23-24, the goals are to focus efforts of these subcommittees, improve collaboration with other University Senate committees, increase engagement with stakeholders across the university, and develop better partnership with Emory Master Planning.

VI. Executive Session

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.