



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

University Senate

University Senate
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
3:00 P.M.
The Jones Room, Robert W. Woodruff Library

MINUTES

Voting Members Present (45): George Shepherd (President), Nitika Gupta (Past-President), Noelle McAfee (President Elect), Walter Kolis (Secretary), Abigail Dubsinski, Francis Albright, Kenan Bajraktarevic, Monica Thieu, April Edward, Shervon Lewis, April Flint, Paul Marthers, Michael Martin, Michael Owens, David Borthwick, Ilya Nemenman, Anna Espinosa, Stacey Gall, Kurt Warncke, Michelle Lampl, Sean Meighoo, Roberto Franzosi, Sasha Volokh, Jehu Hanciles, Benn Kosynski, Jodie Guest, Florian Pohl, Harold Simon, Kajal Patel, Andrew Sherrill, Babak Mahmoudi, Jeffrey Lichtman, Pranay Mamileti, Sohan Bellam, Harleigh Markowitz, Ameer Alnasser, Max Nguyen, Chris Palazzollo, Andrea Casson Galiano, Janet DeForest, Mustapha Oloko-Oba, Terez Whately-White, Tiffany Boller, Carlos Northern, Richard Freer

Voting Members Absent (8): Liz Carlino, Chris Blake, Lisa Underwood, Jessica Wells, Jennifer Stepal-Wax, Murphy Sullivan, David Kulp, Torrie Dunn

University Administration Present: Gregory Fenves, Ravi Bellamkonda, Brad Slutsky, Allison Dykes

University Administration Absent: Chris Augustini, Ravi Thadhani, Deborah Bruner, Enku Gelaye, Joshua Newton, Lanny Liebeskind, Susan Bonifield, John Ellis

Non-Voting Administrative Support Present (1): Lisa Parker

Invited Visitors Present: Spencer Friedland, Eva Roytburg, Danielle Miller, Melissa Daly, Anjulet Tucker, Amy Adelman, Luke Anderson, Justin Abraham, Pearl Dowe, Carol Henderson, Del King, David Payne, Ciannat Howett

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. in the Jones Room of the Robert W. Woodruff Library, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

Kenan Bajraktarevic moved to approve the minutes of the May, 1, 2024 University Senate minutes. The motion was adopted without objection.

Nitika Gupta, moved to approve the 2024-2025 University Senate committee rosters. The motion was adopted without objection.

Nitika Gupta announced her resignation as Past-President of the University Senate. Nitika Gupta left the meeting at this time.

George Shepherd, introduced the guest speaker, Gregory Fenves, Emory University President, who provided remarks regarding events that occurred on campus in April, 2024, Emory University's Open Expression Policy and addendum, the Jones Day Law Firm review, and actions taken by the administration since the Spring. Following remarks, The Emory University President answered questions from members.

April Flint provided a report on behalf of the Athletics and Recreation Committee. Flint reported a focus on composition of the membership of the committee, facilities and programs in addition to athletics, and the mission of the committee.

On behalf of Christopher Blake, Walter Kolis read the report from the Campus Development Committee. The report indicated that the committee met on September 19, 2024 and received updates from Campus Services. The committee will focus on the graduate housing initiative, new residence hall at Oxford College, and, Cox Hall renovations. The committee will engage with the Office of Sustainability Initiatives this Fall regarding Emory's sustainability vision.

Paul Marthers provided a report on behalf of the Campus Life Committee. Marthers reported a focus on moving the committee from a passive to an active approach. The committee will focus on underserved students, partnering with the Senate's open expression committee, and dining needs due the renovation to Cox Hall.

Michael Martin provided a report on behalf of the Environment Committee. Martin reported that the committee met and will focus on continuing a conversation about PATH proposal made 2 years ago, partnering with the Transportation and Parking Committee, sustainable building standards for 3rd parties on Emory-leased property, and waste management after items leave Emory. Martin further reported the committee engaging as individuals in the Office of Sustainability Initiatives' sustainability vision.

Walter Kolis informed Senate members that the prior chair of the Fringe Benefits Committee, Amy Chen, had resigned and that the position was vacant.

Walter Kolis informed Senate members that Nitika Gupta was chair of the Governance Committee, and no report was provided.

Michael Owens provided a report on behalf of the Honorary Degree Committee. Owens reported that nominations for honorary degree recipients opened September 16, 2024, will remain open through November 1, 2024, and then follow a process to publicize and affirm the slate. Owens further reported a renewed focus on increasing the number of nominations, allowing for consideration of additional degrees of diversity in the selection process.

David Borthwick provided a report on behalf of the Libraries and Museum Committee. Borthwick reported the committee would meet on September 17, 2024 and will focus on providing input for negotiations with Elsevier, the search for the director of the Rose library, and the acquisition of the Cochran collection. Borthwick further reported a focus providing input open access funding provided by the library.

Ilya Nemenman provided a report on behalf of the Open Expression Committee. Nemenman reported the committee has not yet completed 2 reports related to compelled speech and the control of mailing lists, that completed reports voted on by the committee are posted on the committee's web page, and that the

committee finished 1 report on August 25th, related to flyers, which is available on the committee's webpage. Nemenman further reported the committee completed an additional report on September 23, 2024, related to an employee's expression, which is available on the committee's webpage. Nemenman further reported the committee has completed a review of the addendum to the Open Expression Policy. Nemenman further reported a focus of the committee on an incident related to flyers, as well as University guidelines for employee behavior in an election year. Lastly, Nemenman reported that the committee was seeking additional members.

Anna Espinosa provided a report on behalf of the Prevention of Sexual Violence Committee. Espinosa reported that the committee met with the Office of Respect to assess campus policies and education. Espinosa further reported the committee would focus on involving the entire community in education and assisting in the prevention of sexual violence on campus.

Stacey Gall provided a report on behalf of the Transportation and Parking Committee. Gall reported a focus of the committee on pedestrian safety and a mobility master plan. Gall reported the creation of subcommittees for each respective topic, and partnership with the Environment committee. Gall further reported the parking violations appeals board subcommittee has met, and the full committee would have its first meeting in October.

George Shepherd welcomed members and provided brief remarks about the role of the University Senate, his goals for the University Senate, and the creation of a subcommittee by the University Senate's Executive Committee to provide recommendations to the University Administration regarding the Open Expression policy. Following his remarks, George Shepherd answered questions from members about the subcommittee and its timeline.

George Shepherd read the following resolution to be proposed for action in the October 2024 University Senate meeting: "Be it resolved that, in order that members of the Senate have sufficient time to consider and discuss any resolution before voting, a resolution may be voted on at a Senate meeting only if has been submitted to the Senate Program Coordinator by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday eight days before the Tuesday meeting."

Ilya Nemenman moved to add the following item in the form of a resolution to the agenda for the September 24, 2024 University Senate meeting: "Article II, section 1 of the Emory University Senate bylaws states that the functions of the University Senate, as stated in the Bylaws of the University, include considering and making recommendations concerning any matter of general University interest. Shortly after the termination of protests this past spring, the president and the administration alerted the University that they would have an independent and external review of all events and decisions on and after April 25, 2024. In order to carry out its prerogative stated in the Bylaws, the University Senate requests that the Emory University administration release to the Senate the full report from the Jones Day law firm regarding the events of April 25, 2024. We move that this report be released to the University Senate by October 15, 2024." The motion failed.

George Shepherd announced the University Senate would enter executive session with all voting members of the University Senate at 4:39 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 P.M.

Submitted, Walter Kolis, Secretary