

APPROVED April 24, 2015

University Senate Minutes of the Senate March 20, 2015

Members Present: Lisa Burkhart, Tim Classen, Leanne Cribbs, David Embrick, Michael Fasullo, Lucas Fleisher, Zelda Harris, Adam Hepp, Isha Jog, Pamela Johnson, Thomas Kelly, Vicki Keough, Terri Kilbane, Joyce Knight, Timothy Lacy, Ronald Martin, Niamh McGuigan, Kenechukwu Mmeje, Melissa Nksic, Noah Sobe, Anne Sutter, Maria Udo, Bastiaan Vanacker, David Yellen.

Ex Officio Members Present: Curtis Main, Gordon Ramsey, John Pelissero

I. Welcome

The chair, Noah W. Sobe, declared a quorum, welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm

II. Adoption of February 20, 2015 Meeting Minutes

L. Burkhart moved that senate approve the minutes as amended. L. Cribbs seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

III. Announcements and Follow-up Reports on Previous Senate Resolutions

On behalf of the Senate, the chair congratulated Provost Pelissero on his new appointment as interim president. Sobe raised a concern about the planned composition of the presidential search committee and indicated that it was important that the committee represent key university constituencies inclusive of faculty, staff and students. T. Kelly added that details of the composition of the search committee had not been worked out yet but noted that the Loyola community would be engaged. Discussion ensued. The chair asked for feedback from the senators via e-mail, and indicated that this topic would be returned to at the April meeting.

The chair reported that the President had received the Senate's Fossil Fuel Divestment resolution and would be reporting back shortly.

The Provost updated the Senate on his efforts regarding increasing textbook affordability, stating that progress is being made and that faculty will be asked to consider cost, and other sources such as Open Stax.

IV. Diversity Committee Report and Recommendation on Diversity Core Requirement

M. Nksic presented the report and recommendation of the Diversity Committee (circulated to Senators in advance) regarding the creation of a diversity core requirement that would require all undergraduate students to enroll in at least one three-credit hour course on diversity as a graduation requirement. Discussion ensued. L. Burkhart proposed that the issue of a Diversity Core requirement be tabled for discussion at the April meeting when the Diversity Committee will also present its report on Loyola's 2015 Diversity Report. The motion was seconded by M. Fasullo and passed unanimously.

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V. Discussion of Draft Loyola Climate Action Plan

Aaron Durnbaugh, Director of Sustainability presented a brief report (circulated to Senators in advance) on the development of Loyola's Climate Action plan. Following discussion, the following motion was proposed by M. Fasullo and seconded by L. Burkhart:

The University Senate endorses the development of Loyola's Climate Action Plan and planning towards carbon neutrality.

Discussion ensued and prior to voting the chair invited public comment which included LUC graduate student James Johnson suggesting that the motion be amended to specify a goal of carbon neutrality "by the year 2020". Kelly Hof, undergraduate student and chairperson of the Student Environmental Alliance, also commented on student activity around environmental activity. The motion passed by a vote of 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

VI. Adjournment

The Chair noted that the next meeting will be held on April 24th on the 4th floor of the Information Commons, LSC. The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce D. Knight
Secretary, University Senate