

DRAFT Meeting Minutes
UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING
Friday, December 1, 2023
3:00pm – 5:00pm

Link: <https://luc.zoom.us/j/85022699988>

Senators Present: Whelton Miller, Bill Adams, Minerva Ahumada, Ben Bryan, Sophie Buchman, Noah Butler, Teryn Robinson, Lisa Marie Thomas, Matt Hejna, Bridie Hulsebosch, Stacey Jaska, Theresa Krafcsin, Rachel Leamon, Conner Scholze, Lauren Schwer, Paige Warren, Matt Williams, Casey Welby, Abby Abuya, Nery Pineda, Cara Foster, Emily Barman, Mustafa Anwar (*ex officio*), Margaret Callahan (*ex officio*), Keith Champagne (*ex officio*), Jim Devery (*ex officio*), Janice Parks (*ex officio*)

Absent: Mark Torrez, Lisa Gillespie, Peter Lachman, Oliver Schramm, Tom Kelly

Quorum (14 needed): 22 present at the start of the meeting; quorum is satisfied.

Chair Ahumada called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

- I. Review of the preliminary agenda and call for motions to amend**
 - a. Sen. Williams motions to mend agenda to add a discussion with Tim Love from the Title IX office to speak about harassment matters. Sen. Ahumada proposes to move the discussion to item IV and move all items after accordingly. Sen. Jaska seconded the motion.
 - i. The senate voted to amend the agenda by a vote of 17 yays, 2 nays, and 2 abstains.
- II. Approval of Minutes from October 27, 2023**
 - a. Sen. Buchman motions to approve minutes. Sen. Williams seconds the motion.
 - i. Minutes approved by a vote of 17 yays and 3 abstains.
- III. Reapproval of Minutes from September 29, 2023**
 - a. Sen. Ahumada mentions that a mistake was found on the Sept. 29th approved minutes. Minutes stated that former Sen. Jules left the university; however, he just left the senate. The minutes have been corrected and require reapproval. Sen. Miller motions to approve. Sen. Hejna seconds the motion.
 - i. Minutes approved by a vote of 18 yays and 3 abstains.
- IV. Change in Academic Policy – Janice Miller, Associate VP, Graduate and Professional Enrollment Management**
 - a. Ms. Miller was invited to speak about a policy change regarding TOEFL scores. The senate is being informed on the matter, there will be no vote on the policy change.
 - i. TOEFL introduced changes to the scores called MyBest scores similar to what has been implemented by ACT and SAT exams where applicants can use what are known as ‘super scores’: a sum of their highest scores on each individual section even if not from the same test date. Test scores from a single test date can still be used and test score minimums are not changing. This is being

implemented at many universities and it is being recommended to implement this at Loyola as well.

b. Discussion:

- i. Sen. Williams asks if the change is expected to have an impact on admissions. Ms. Miller has not found any research regarding an impact this policy may have; however, applicants have been asking about it. She believes this may remove a barrier of application and make it more accessible. Sen. Ahumada mentions that as someone who has taken this exam, this can relieve a travel burden for some applicants having to take the exam multiple times.

V. Campus Master Plan Presentation – Kana Henning, Senior Associate VP, Facilities

a. Ms. Henning has been invited to speak about an update to the Master Plan.

- i. This has been in progress for a few months now. Another Master Plan had been completed in 2015 and another brief plan after. Now they are looking to the future and developing a plan for the next 10 years. They are mid-way through the development of a new plan.
- ii. Partnered with RDG Planning and Design which started gathering information on space utilization and received data from Loyola through workshops and other engagements with students and faculty since May. Engagement with students has been very successful and RDG has also been on campus observing usage. Concepts are now under development from information gathered. Lots of agreement about what's wrong and right with the campus. Developed set of guiding principles to guide the plan and goals for the school.
- iii. There have been multiple emerging themes from the data, especially more classroom space. There is 98% utilization of Loyola classrooms, usually universities strive for 65%, and this model is not sustainable. New classrooms need to be adaptable to different needs. A new STEM facility is needed, there is not enough lab space, and the space needs to be interdisciplinary and new space for chemistry and biochemistry. New facilities for undergraduate health sciences programs at LSC, especially Nursing and Parkinson's which are located away from undergrads at the health sciences campus so they remain competitive. Student success and recreation space are undersized, do not meet student demand, and doesn't allow for quality interactions. Additional residence halls are needed along with a welcome center. Beautifying the campus perimeter to communicate the beauty of the campus interior. Developing a strategy for space utilization at WTC to relieve LSC and evaluate research space utilization at HSC for future research. Develop new space for proposed PT, OT, and PA programs. Once these themes are explored, they'll be able to create a full roadmap.
- iv. For next steps, they will update the Board of Trustees and begin engaging the local community and alderwoman. They will be able to begin refining the concepts to build a complete roadmap which will be presented to the Board.

b. Discussion:

- i. Sen. Williams asked how much of the space on campus will be reutilized versus how much will be addressed by expanding the campus limits and what the impact of expansion may have on the local communities. Ms. Henning says that space is not too much of an issue at WTC and Loyola already has quite a few land holdings that have naturally expanded Loyola's borders at LSC already. The

plan is to begin using the landholdings and how to best utilize those spaces. A few buildings on LSC have expired and are no longer useful that will need to be demolished allowing for redeveloping sites within Loyola's established borders. Sen. Williams wanted to ensure that these are landholdings that are not in use currently so no one may be displaced who may be living there. Ms. Henning ensures that these holdings are either vacant lots or property used by Loyola but not for academic purposes.

- ii. Sen. Leamon wants to know if campus safety in terms of traffic will be addressed during the process, especially on Sheridan. Ms. Henning explained that a traffic study was done and they are still awaiting results. The president is very concerned about the safety of people crossing at a lot of the major intersections around campus. They are working with Chicago Department of Transportation to best move people across those areas and move cars faster through the campus like at the parking garage.
- iii. Sen. Buchman asks if there are any plans for LUREC facilities. Ms. Henning stated that there are no plans in this master plan for LUREC but facilities continues to plan for a carbon neutral campus at LUREC.
- iv. Sen. Abuya asks if there's any plans to expand recreational facilities at WTC. Ms. Henning explains that is what they're trying to examine currently and not much is addressed with this and the HSC in this master plan. They have realized they'll need smaller master plans for these 2 campuses as well. Sen. Abuya asks if they have a timeline for these smaller plans and Ms. Henning says they do not.

VI. Discussion: Faculty safety concerns (amendment)

- a. Tim Love has been invited to speak about some safety concerns of faculty and communications they have received since the start of the Israel-Hamas war. He provided information regarding what his office does and that they have put a protocol in place for these communications and ensure the safety of faculty and staff.
- b. Dr. Callahan recognized the work done by Keith Champagne in the Division of Student Development (DSD) for instances occurring in classrooms related to the war. DSD has been working with students directly and indirectly to address problems and disagreements that have arisen. They also have a response team that addresses these concerns and those of parents and guardians. These efforts along with efforts from the Office for Equity & Compliance (OEC) have been well received.

VII. EC report

- a. Stacey Jaksa, Newsletter
 - i. The Senate Newsletter will be released on the 1st Wednesday of every month starting on February 7th. Folks can subscribe to receive an emailed copy of the newsletter by using the subscription link and the newsletter will be posted on the Senate website. Folks should use the submission link to request to post announcements in the newsletter by the third Wednesday of each month.
 1. Subscription: <http://eepurl.com/iFg53s>
 2. Submission: https://luc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e5w3ixOpd7cLeoC
 - a. First submission request due by: Wednesday, January 31st
- b. Whelton Miller, Website contact information

- i. Suggests adding information regarding subcommittees, if we want to list everyone on each committee with their contact information or just the chairs of the committees. Vote on the issue.
 - 1. Sen. Miller motioned to vote. Sen. Welby seconded the motion.
 - a. The Senate voted to list all names and info of each committee member with 11 votes. Not listing names or info of committee members received 0 votes, and listing only the name and info of committee chairs received 8 votes.
- ii. Discussed new meeting schedule for spring semester in order to make sure the Senate meets after faculty council according to the Chart of Approvals.
 - 1. Spring meeting dates are Feb. 2nd, Mar. 1st, Mar. 29th, and May 3rd.

VIII. Small Group Discussion by Campus

- a. Instead of small group discussions, the majority voted that based on time to have a general discussion about events to meet senators and constituents to hear their concerns and merchandise.
 - i. Sen. Ahumada asks for events that could be sponsored by the Senate with invited individuals that constituents may be interested in seeing. Suggests holding events with two new VPs of technology and human resources. Also suggests an event with CFO on an update of university finances and at event, senators could wear t-shirts so people know who senators are.
 - ii. Sen. Williams believes hearing more from Janice Parks about human resources would be very useful for people and may be well attended. Dr. Callahan suggested that the Student Accessibility Center could do a report since it is under the Office of the Provost. Metrics of recruitment are improving but it may help people have a better understanding of staffing problems.
 - iii. Sen. Krafcsin suggests a presentation or event from the CFO who is very open to presenting the status of the university. We could take his offer of presenting and turn it into a senate event at different campuses where we could provide lunch for people. Also suggests inviting the new VPs for Senate meetings to get to know them.
 - iv. Sen. Thomas suggests hosting meet-n-greet events at each campus and smaller events. Sen. Ahumada thinks smaller events are helpful but since there are so many people, a main event may be better. Sen. Miller suggests hosting a large event at the beginning of the semester and then smaller campus events as the semester goes on.
 - v. Sen. Williams suggests to host the events around issues people are having and food in order to encourage attendance at events. Sen. Robinson believes that finding a reason why people want to know who senate is for getting attendance. Letting people know how we can be helpful for them.
 - vi. Sen. Ahumada suggests starting with events with Wayne.

IX. Committee Planning time

- a. Senators were sent into breakout rooms to meet new members. Sen. Ahumada will contact committee chairs to see if there is anything the EC can assist with.

Sen. Williams motioned to adjourn. Sen. Thomas seconds the motion.

Chair Ahumada adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, BMH 01/26/2024

Senate Meeting Schedule for Academic Year 2023-24

General Assembly Meetings

- ~~September 29~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~October 27~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~December 1~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- February 2 3:00-5:00PM Zoom
- March 1 3:00-5:00PM Zoom
- March 29 3:00-5:00PM Zoom
- May 3 3:00-5:00PM Zoom

Executive Committee Meetings

- ~~September 15~~ ~~4:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~October 13~~ ~~4:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~November 17~~ ~~4:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~January 19~~ ~~4:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- February 9 4:00-5:00PM Zoom
- March 1 4:00-5:00PM Zoom
- April 12 4:00-5:00PM Zoom