

**MUW Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**September 8, 2023**  
**Hybrid: Fant Library Seminar Room B & Zoom**

**In attendance:**

|                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Stephen Meek                       | Lindsay Kemp            |
| Shyam Heda                         | Kristy Alpe             |
| Holly Krogh, President             | Shana Lenoir, Secretary |
| Susan Hurley                       | Elizabeth Fountain      |
| Bronwyn Teague                     | Catherine Cotton        |
| Leslie Stratyner                   | Chad Murphy             |
| Melissa Smith                      | Jared Quist             |
| Lestonio Yarbrough, Vice President | Rose Ford               |

**Absent:**

**Proxy:**

Brian Burnes proxy for Chanley Rainey

Mary Helen Hawkins proxy for Carol Dowdy

**Guest:**

President Holly Krogh called the meeting to order at 12:19 p.m.

1. Introductions—all senators introduced themselves and their respective departments.
2. Approval of Minutes from April – the minutes were motioned and approved by the senators with no necessary corrections.
3. Committee Reports
  - Administrative Council (distributed by email on the 1<sup>st</sup>)—reviewed by Holly Krogh.
    - i. Town & Tower meets next week; SACS report gets submitted next week for off-site review and then the on-site visit in March will focus on the QEP.

- ii. Culinary Arts Building—some tours this morning, official ribbon cutting on the 25th, grand opening in the spring; the building is multiuse but not yet in the reservation system; tiered and active learning classrooms as well as conference rooms and event spaces will be available; the HVAC works well and keeps the building at 70 degrees so dress accordingly if you visit
- iii. today W athletics are officially NCAA Division III
- iv. Thursday September 7th—on-campus Lowndes County emergency drill in the morning; expect W-Alerts to go out, sirens may sound, but there is no need to participate if you are holding class; please do take this as an opportunity to tell students about emergency response (e.g., safe spaces during a tornado)
- v. Staff Council—delivered school supplies to Joe Cook Elementary; Owl Stars nominations are due on the 15th; a needs assessment survey will be developed for staff
- vi. SGA is holding a poetry reading at the end of the month
- vii. student refunds go out on the 8th; FAFSA deadlines are shifting to December
- viii. parking decals for last year are expired now so be sure to display the new ones
- ix. Naming Committee—this week's meetings with Chernoff Newman focused on branding; our website is good—students found it interesting and effective; the research indicated we are empowering, supportive, tradition-rich, progressive/future-looking, and inclusive; we need to brag more about those things and advertise ourselves as a 1st choice university; the idea is to promote our women's history, leadership, and mission with a Women's College within the university; they will be back in a couple weeks to talk names and will not be suggesting any geographical (i.e., compass-point) names
- a. Meeting with the President- She had a short meeting with President Miller. Discussed the Title III grant that has expired. Expecting the written report for the evaluation committee to be positive. The jobs created have already been institutionalized. The work has been overall positive and efforts will be continued throughout the institution. Disaster Drill Day yesterday went smoothly, a few opportunities for improvement will be ongoing from the lessons learned.
- b. Academic Council (no report; will meet in September) reported by Lestonio Yarbrough
- c. PIE (no report or meeting scheduled at this time) reported by Shana Lenoir.

- d. Canvas Access Policy subcommittee—Leslie Stratyner reviewed the drafted policy with the senators. She will draft the paperwork for a new policy to start the approval process.
- 4. Unfinished Business- President Krogh reported there is no unfinished business.
- 5. New Business
  - a. Fund A and Faculty Foundation Funds
    - i. Fund A for travel-6 approvals were done over the summer by the executive committee. There is \$5900 left in the account. All received level one. Senators asked for a copy of the criteria for Fund A. President Krogh stated she would send it out electronically.
    - ii. Fund B Improves faculty teaching- one approval was done. The account has \$2000 left for funding. If a faculty member needs equipment or technology for classroom teaching, reach out to get funding.
  - b. Faculty Development Monies Committee membership (three senators, each from a different college/school/library) President Krogh stated the committee will need quick turnaround for approval.
    - i. Melissa Smith
    - ii. Lindsay Kemp
    - iii. Rose Ford
  - c. Faculty Salaries Committee membership (minimum two senators) President Krogh stated this new committee will require detail on statistics. The goal is to improve equity in salaries. The committee will collaborate with the Academic Council.
    - i. Shyam Heda
    - ii. Chad Murphy
  - d. Traffic and Parking Committee membership (two senators)
    - i. Elizabeth Fountain
    - ii. Bronwyn Teague
  - e. Grievance Procedure Committee membership pool (six senators, must be a diverse and broadly representative group) The committee rarely meets but if a case arises, the work may be intense.
    - i. Jared Quist
    - ii. Stephen Meek
    - iii. Elizabeth Fountain
    - iv. Kristy Alpe
    - v. Catherine Cotton
    - vi. Lindsay Kemp
  - f. Input sought

- i. computer and printer—The faculty senate owns a computer and printer that have been housed in the theater department. President states she does not have a need to utilize the equipment for official business. All senators were in agreement to donate the computer and printer. President Krogh stated she will work with the theater department to transfer use.
  - ii. Parking and accessibility issues—A senator reports issue with parking by Hogarth Dining Hall. Stated a ticket was issued for parking violation. A senator reported having issues with finding parking around Martin and Turner Hall. The Speech and Hearing Service department has designated parking for clients. President Krogh said she will ask the police chief to attend an upcoming meeting and discuss parking issues.
- g. Review of constitution- We discussed the constitution at the April meeting. President Krogh has revised the constitution with the input from senators. She discussed the membership criteria changes. She also discussed the clarification that department chairs could vote for senator appointment. President Krogh asked if the senators agree that a faculty member is on sabbatical, the faculty member will be allowed to vote for senator appointment. All senators agreed. She discussed the revisions to describe all officer duties. Article V Conduct of Business was written to give more clarity. Quorum revisions were discussed to give less restrictions for the establishment of quorum. President Krogh stated no changes have been made to the constitution on this point. No changes were made to the quorum. The Appendix change was to set more layers of approval on the annual award limit. The Faculty Salaries Committee will serve as a standing committee. It was motioned and approved to accept the Faculty Senate Constitution changes.

President Krogh asked if there was a need to have an open forum to discuss the changes or could the senators communicate with their respective departments? The senators agreed that the Faculty Senate Constitution changes could be discussed within their respective departments.

- 6. Other—If anyone is interested in serving on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, volunteers are encouraged. Catherine Cotton will serve as the senator representative to the committee.
- 7. Closing Comment/Adjourn at 1:48 pm by President Krogh

Respectfully submitted,

Shana M. Lenoir