

Faculty Senate Agenda
September 14, 2020
(Immediately following the 3:30 p.m. organizational meeting)

CALL TO ORDER

ATTENDANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 4, 2020

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Senator McFaddin

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- Kelly Smith – Update on Open Source Textbook Resources

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- *(if any)*

NEW BUSINESS:

- *(if any)*

REPORTS & QUESTIONS:

Executive Committee: Senator Ciocca

Faculty Regent: Senator Marion

COSFL Representative: TBD (last year: Senator Nowak)

Provost: Senator Pogatshnik

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Academic Quality Committee: TBD (last year: Senator Jones, Chair)

Budget Committee: TBD (last year: Senator Woodruff, Chair)

Elections/University Nominations Committee: TBD (last year: Senator McCardle)

Information Technology Committee: TBD (last year: Senators Fleischer & Nachtwey, Co-Chairs)

Rights & Responsibilities Committee: TBD (last year: Senator Cizmar, Chair)

Rules Committee: TBD (last year: Senator Bishop-Ross, Chair)

Welfare Committee: TBD (last year: Senator Grempe, Chair)

ADJOURNMENT

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

May 4, 2020

3:30 p.m.

The Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University met on Monday, May 4, 2020, via Zoom. Chair Ciocca called the eighth meeting of the academic year to order at approximately 3:30 p.m.

The following members were absent: A. Cizmar*^, A. Gossage*, J. Palmer, M. Powell*^, S. Self, B. Shannon*, C. Sickels

*** Indicates prior notification of absence**

^ ALT Matthew Howell attended for A. Cizmar

^ SUB Cynthia Frazer attended for M. Powell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Senator Wilson moved approval of the April 6, 2020 minutes as written, seconded by Senator Fleischer. **Motion carried.** (YES = 43 votes NO = 0 votes ABSTAIN = 1 vote) (See also: [Individual Votes](#))

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT: Senator McFaddin shared the following in his written report to Senate.

Ordinarily this time of year is the most optimistic and celebrated time on a university campus. This final week of the semester, as we traditionally recognize the achievements of the academic year and congratulate our newest class of graduates, is indeed typically filled with much “pomp and circumstance”. To say this year will be different is a glaring understatement. The conditions we find ourselves in to close this semester are certainly unprecedented and will be marked in history as one of the most disruptive periods to education.

There is no question the sudden transition to remote learning came with great trepidation. We have faced both success and shortcomings of our expectations for how we could maintain teaching and learning remotely. The question remains, how will this permanently change what has historically been the “traditional” college experience. With the majority of ECU summer courses already delivered through online instruction, we have the next few months ahead to evaluate future terms by weighing the public health environment, state and federal guidelines or mandates, all in concert with the evolving needs and resources of our students, faculty and staff. With so many variable and unknowns, I would implore each one of us to focus our time and attention on what we can control and how we respond to these uncertainties.

Among the many lessons that will be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic include the need for adaptability in instruction. The sudden redesign of education delivery demands that we become more flexible, more resilient and above all else more responsive. While we fully expect to return to campus this fall with a comprehensive plan of action, there is no way to fully forecast what crisis or challenge may be beyond the horizon. What we know, is that we must continue building on the idea that our learning environments should be adaptable to face a variety of external factors. At any moment, our traditional campus or workspace could become inaccessible. What does this mean for ECU? First and foremost, it is not a call for a full departure from our traditional pedagogies. However, it is a demand for techniques to supplement and support classroom education when the classroom is no longer a physical space, but a virtual one. Adapting classroom material into comparable and supplemental online experiences via instructional design principles will serve as another set of tools in our toolbox. These preparations will allow us to meet students where they are and offer flexibility should remote learning be required, requested or even the preferable method of delivery.

With this being the final report of the semester, I do not want to let the opportunity pass to recognize faculty excellence. Below are just a few of the latest achievements of faculty:

- Dr. Walter Borowski and Dr. Carol Sommer have earned the highest honor for teaching excellence bestowed by Eastern Kentucky University being named the 2020-22 Foundation Professors
- Dr. Guenter Schuster is the latest recipient of the prestigious Rowlett Award
- Dr. Daniel Roush has received a Fulbright Scholar award for Fall 2020 for a research project in support of Hong Kong Sign Language (HKSL) interpreter training
- Dr. John White has received a Fulbright Scholar Award for a 2021 study of “The Rise and Fall of Pantelleritic Magmatic Systems: Volcanic Periodicity, Rapid Differentiation, and Extreme Fractionation” in the Strait of Sicily.
- Dr. James Maples, earned a 2019 Climber Advocate Award from Access Fund

NEW BUSINESS:

Q & A from the Administration. In his written [report](#) to Senate, Chair Ciocca shared a compilation of questions received from faculty for the administration.

In response, Senator McFaddin shared the following:

- We will not be returning to normal operations on May 11. We will likely not return to a phased in approach until at least the first of June and then it will probably be primarily for staff positions, if approved by the Governor’s office.
- We have a Pandemic Response Team that has been working since the first week of COVID-19 impact, which is led by Bryan Makinen. That group has been meeting weekly.
- We also have launched an instructional and core academic mission working group co-chaired by Sara Zeigler and Elizabeth Ballou.
- We are starting the process of purchasing and replacing much of the PPE that was donated at the beginning of the pandemic. This would include non-medical grade masks and gloves.
- We are working closely with the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville, both of which are developing testing and tracing protocols.
- It is fully our intention if at all possible in a safe and appropriate way for us to be open in the fall bringing students back to campus in a face-to-face manner. Obviously, we will be working with state and federal guiding authorities as well as our own health officials.
- Please be mindful of thinking about how to make your curriculum more resilient to perhaps not just COVID-19 but for any other safety concerns or natural disaster that may occur or even for any particular need that you or a student might need that would require instruction in an alternative way.
- We need to be thinking about having conversations with our chairs and deans about alternative instruction for course work for those faculty or staff who have concerns about returning to work during these uncertain times.
- We are currently working with the NCAA and the OVC as it relates to an anticipated date for student athletes to return to campus. We do not have a confirmation on fall sports but as soon as the NCAA and the conference make a recommendation, we will share that information. But the Athletic Director has his own COVID-19 response team and so they are working with the student athletes from afar and we will evaluate where that goes as to where it relates to fall sports with a lot of guidance from the NCAA and the OVC.

Senator McFaddin shared the following budget information.

- Sixty positions have been furloughed. Those were identified through the respective departments as positions that were most impacted by the COVID-19 social distancing requirements. These are primarily public-facing positions across campus where we’re not able to conduct public activities. We tried to identify positions that were not appropriate for telecommuting nor could those individuals be shifted to other duties that could be accomplished during this period of time.

- The financial impact to the institution for this year was about \$7M which happened in the span of about 2 ½ to 3 weeks. Approximately \$6.4M of that was housing and dining credits and refunds that were credited back to students. Another \$700,000 was NCAA distribution of funds that were supposed to come to the Athletic department in the form of our NCAA participation for the basketball tournament.
- Last Thursday we received a note from the Governor's office that there is going to be a 1% cut to higher education along with the rest of state government this year. So that's another \$660,000 that we will need to send back to Frankfort prior to July 1.
- Enrollment for the fall semester is tracking at about %7 down. That represents approximately a \$7M to \$8M loss in enrollment revenue.
- We are also seeing a catastrophic impact to the Kentucky economy as it relates to COVID-19. Kentucky businesses reported April 15 to May 15 that their sales were down 40%, and the state is now projecting a \$500M shortfall in revenues. This could result in a substantial budget reduction in our general fund appropriations beginning July 1 for the FY21.
- We are having conversations with the federal delegation about another distribution of CARES funds that could perhaps be used to support the higher education institutions. As it relates to CARES, there has been two segments of funding that have come to the University. The first was \$5.2M in the student assistance fund. Those funds have been received and we anticipate awarding of those funds to start as early as tomorrow. All but approximately \$600,000 will be awarded in the first round; and we hope to use the remainder of that through the summer and into the early fall to help students who may have additional needs.

In response to questions raised concerning Academic Affairs, Senator Pogatshnik shared the following:

- There have been several inquiries asking for research students to have access to labs. It would be prudent not to plan for students in the labs during the first half of summer I session.
- If employers are accepting students for internships and are following the protocols, we have been permitting that. However, given that we are under a state of emergency, there are instances where our insurance won't cover somebody going into an internship position. In those cases, the internship must be halted. We are working with Bryan Makinen's group in terms of internships, labs, and non-standardized courses to get some type of clarification. It will probably be early June or July before we have a determination.
- In answer to the question about using student evaluations as teaching evaluations, we are planning to collect that data this year. However, we do not plan to use them in P&T circumstances.
- The same goes with tenure leniencies. A task force of deans is looking at that now. A working draft will be presented at the deans meeting on Wednesday. The expectation is that if this continues on into the fall, we will have to make accommodations in terms of allowing folks some flexibility in P&T decisions and how the coronavirus is going to impact us.
- When pass/fail was early announced by other institutions as soon as we got into coronavirus, we had a discussion on this at the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Based on that discussion, I felt confident that students and faculty would be able to adapt to this environment and that the broad use of pass/fail grades wasn't really necessary. I was also concerned about how pass/fail grades might be viewed by graduate schools which could have a negative impact on students. After hearing from a number of students who raised legitimate concerns, we put together a team of administrators, faculty, and a staff person to review the issue. They came up with a list of recommendations; but at the end of the day we decided to go forth with the A, B, C, pass/fail system. Choosing this system included the following benefits: easy to implement; can be applied consistently, does not add burden to faculty at a stressful time; and maintains the prerequisite or program retention requirements where "B" or "C" grades are required to progress on to the next course or in the program. In addition, using "P's" instead of "D's" minimizes the impact on a student's Academic Standing.
- Additional information will be provided to the deans on Wednesday regarding the appeal process to go from a "C" to a pass. As requested by Senator Gremp, I will recommend to the deans that the appeals process should probably start with the department chair rather than the faculty member, which was previously discussed.
- The Provost office is reviewing all purchase requests that are being made right now. I urge you to save and hold off on some expenses that are non-essential at this time so that we can employ people and keep them in their jobs and serving students for another year.

[Report from Council on Academic Affairs](#). Vice Provost Robinson presented the following materials.

NEW PROGRAMS
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Natural Areas

1. **Certificate in Environmental Education (Undergraduate)**
2. **Certificate in Environmental Education (Graduate)**

PROGRAM REVISION

COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Communication

3. **Minor in Public Relations**

Add BEM 305W; remove unnecessary language

Senator Bishop-Ross moved approval of items #1-3, seconded by Senator Woodruff. **Motion carried.** (YES = 47 votes NO = 0 votes ABSTAIN = 1 vote) (See also: [Individual Votes](#))

Senator Pogatshnik announced that this will be Vice Provost Robinson's last Senate meeting as she plans to retire in May. He thanked her for her many years of service to the University. Her dedication to policies, in particular, has been exemplary--not only at this institution but as a model for other institutions to follow.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

[REPORT FROM REGENT](#): Senator Marion shared the following in his written report to Senate.

The next Board meeting is planned for June 4, 2020. The meeting may occur via Zoom in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order and the Attorney General's opinion on how to conduct open meetings in this environment.

Moving forward, I'm reminded of our [institution's mission](#) and the [legislature's stated purpose](#) for our university and the other universities around the Commonwealth. No matter what change may bring, may we look to our mission and our historical unchanged statutory mandate that pre-dates 1942 for guidance in how to proceed. As a public institution that receives substantially less public support than in previous decades, we are more dependent upon enrollment than ever before; however, negative shifts in either category will impact us. The taxpayers through the state government provide the university with over \$60 million. More uncertainty than usual remains in how our current state budget will be impacted and/or modified by our current and future events. The state budget director's [recent quarterly economic report](#) presents potential impacts on this fiscal year and beyond. Without any additional federal intervention or state legislative action to raise state revenues, our university budget will rely even more on enrollment along with other institutional measures if we are to maintain.

Moving forward, adaptation with an intentional effort to be nimble while protecting the health and safety of our community will impact our ability to weather these times or to even excel in this landscape. If you have suggestions on processes that would better enable us to adapt while supporting shared governance in such a way, please let me know.

As we carry on, may we keep the 60 furloughed ECU community members and their families in our hearts and on our minds as they endure through the challenges associated with the recent changes in our university's operations due to the current pandemic. University leadership made additional strides to ease this experience as much as possible by applying for the enhanced unemployment benefits for them through a group application on their behalf. Additionally, the administration coordinated a plan that ensures these folks would retain their health insurance and tuition benefit through the duration of that challenging time. The term has brought many challenges including the losses of two of our dear faculty colleagues and dear friends. As I messaged the whole university community last week, may we all strive to bring the kind of loving light that both Dr. Sheila Pressley and Dr. Sherwood Thompson provided to us.

Please know you may reach out to me anytime. As senators, your perspective is particularly valuable to me in my role.

REPORT FROM PROVOST: Senator Pogatshnik shared the following in his written report to Senate.

Many thanks to all of our faculty, both part time and full time, who have met the extraordinary challenges caused by the corona virus pandemic. What all of you have accomplished has been truly remarkable and a point of pride that will remain long after the current crisis has passed.

As far as questions about the Fall semester, the President has established a Contingency Planning group to look at possible scenarios for the start of classes. Faculty are encouraged to send comments to Dean Sara Zeigler, who is co-chairing the committee. While our hope is that we will be able to operate with students and faculty on campus, we also are committed to the safety of all. Faculty need be prepared for what we could face in the Fall term. Specifically, every faculty member should develop contingency plans for offering robust online courses and/or hybrid in some or all of the Fall term to be able to respond to whatever we may face with regard to the corona virus pandemic. It will probably be mid-June to early July before a final decision is made – much depends on what happens during the next few weeks.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Academic Quality Committee. For the 2019-2020 academic year, the Academic Quality Committee (AQC) was charged with “reviewing best practices for high enrollment courses which will focus more on sharing some of the most effective methods that can be used to successfully teach large classes, and when it's appropriate to offer them”. The committee had a similar charge last year.

The current AQC requested additional guidance to differentiate the charges of the 2018-2019 Committee and the 2019-2020 Committee. The response was for the Committee to investigate “how prevalent is the use of large classes for Major courses, as opposed to Service and General Education.” The Committee was further instructed to contact representation from the General Education Task force to “discuss if there is a common interest between your findings and the new vision for Gen-Ed”.

General Education Task Force Chair, Dr. Garrett Yoder, attended the AQC meeting on October 28, 2019 to discuss the current status of general education revisions. He reported that general education revisions were not at the point of making recommendations to the AQC.

Provost Dr. Jerry Pogatshnik attended the AQC meeting on November 25, 2019. He discussed the charges of the AQC and the General Education Task Force and the 2018-2019 AQC report. Dr. Pogatshnik indicated his position is that decisions regarding who teaches large classes are best left to faculty of those departments. A general education workshop was scheduled for January 2020.

The general education update at the February 3, 2020 Faculty Senate meeting indicated no decisions are anticipated prior to the end of the current academic year.

AQC met on February 10, 2020. At that time Committee members discussed the state of the charge being delayed until additional information is available from the General Education Committee.

Budget Committee. The existing charge for the budget committee was to determine the reason for a discrepancy between the reported subsidy growth for the athletics department as reported to the NCAA and the reported subsidy decrease according to the Strategic Budget Process as reported by former President Benson. It was suggested at the time of the charge being given that some of this could be due to timing issues of reporting over different calendar or fiscal years.

On March 22, 2018 Dr. Benson emailed the campus regarding \$25,100,000 in cost reductions due to budget changes for Fiscal Years 2019-2020. The Budget Advisory Committee had proposed \$2,025,800 would come from athletics. This was to be driven by “right sizing” the athletic department to be more in line with the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) peer institutions. This included the proposal to eliminate some non-revenue sports.

The reporting of athletic related revenue and expenses are compiled every year by the USA Today. In those filings, the university reports a revenue category of “School Funds” of more than 10 million a year beginning in 2014. In 2016 it increased to \$11.6 million and over the next two years grew to \$13.1 million and \$14.0 million, respectively. 2016 also had a one time student fee of over \$1.1 million.

It was determined that the reporting for the NCAA and the state budget follow different conventions. Much of the funding around athletics are transfer pricing agreements on campus. In the example of scholarships, it does not cost ECU the full cost of tuition to provide the educational scholarship even though the full cost of the scholarship is reported. This type of accounting rule is in place as it assists the university and regulators in ensuring compliance with Title IX in athletic support and opportunities.

The next budget year will be very unusual as the NCAA significantly cut expected payouts to all Division 1 institutions which includes ECU. This was due to the CoViD pandemic disrupting the NCAA Division 1 basketball tournament which is a major driver of NCAA revenue.

The committee suggests that a future charge may be to determine how exactly the current pandemic has changed revenue and expenses in athletics. If there is a significant disruption to FCS football, will this result in cost savings with regard to travel and lodging? What is the loss of revenue to ECU due to the loss of summer programs?

[Elections & University Nominations Committee](#). This year, the Elections and University Nominations Committee held elections for university standing committees.

- In April, we sent out a list of vacancies to Meagan Murray in the Office of Institutional Research for the dissemination of self-nomination forms to each college.
- On April 23, the committee verified the nominations and created a ballot of candidates from each college. The ballot was sent to faculty on April 24.
- On May 5, the committee will meet to verify the results and report the results.
- On April 27, we sent out an email to department chairs to report on their departmental elections and submit their senator vacancies. All replacements must be completed by August 31 since the organizational meeting for new senators will take place the first Monday in September. Typically, this meeting takes place in May, but Covid-19 has caused delays in the election process.

[Information Technology Committee](#). The committee was charged with the following tasks this year.

1. Continue monitoring Blackboard issues as necessary.

No specific issues with Blackboard were reported to the committee this year. Committee invited Jeff Whitaker, Interim Chief Information Officer, to provide a summary of the University IT Department's response to feedback from the 2019 Faculty IT Survey. The committee has been working with University IT department to create a follow-up survey to continue to improve faculty's IT support. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to be flexible in our instruction in the fall, the committee is going to administer a targeted IT survey to identify specific faculty needs should the University move to fully-online instruction.

2. Monitor technology issues related to PC and MAC users for effective teaching and learning

No specific issues related to hardware were reported to the committee this year.

3. Continue to provide IT support during Faculty Senate Meetings

Committee has provided IT support during each meeting by recording the votes and sending the reports to the Faculty Senate Secretary. Turning Point procedures were adjusted when a new Windows 10 machine was used for voting—beginning with the February Senate meeting—to comply with University cybersecurity protocols. Transitioned voting mechanism to Google Forms during the COVID-19 pandemic when the Senate met via Zoom.

4. Coordinate with the Rules Committee to assess and update

No updates were made to the IT Committee's operating procedures.

[Rights & Responsibilities Committee](#). During the 2019-2020 academic year, the Faculty Rights & Responsibilities Committee was charged with providing input related to the Political Activity of Faculty policy. The policy was being revised and subsequently became the Campaigning Activity of Employees policy. In conjunction with other university stakeholders, including members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the university counsel's office, changes to the policy were implemented before submission to the full Faculty Senate for a vote. This policy was ultimately approved by the Faculty Senate at the March 3, 2020 meeting.

Additionally, the committee had several discussions about the faculty grievance policy this academic year. The committee has discussed this issue for the last two academic years. There were concerns that the current policy, including the types of documentation and response allowed in the grievance process. In discussing this policy, the committee invited Joan Beck (EKU's Ombudswoman) to attend several meetings to answer questions and engage in the discussion. The committee also reviewed several sample policies from other universities to evaluate aspects of those policies which might be useful for ECU's policy. Important potential changes identified by the committee included:

- Requiring an arbitration process as the first step in any grievance, to ensure that the grievant's concerns are heard.

- Establishing training for faculty/staff “counsel” to assist in the grievance process.
- Establishing a faculty led grievance panel to work in conjunction with the Office of the Provost.

The committee strongly advises that this policy be submitted for revision in the 2020-2021 academic year.

[Rules Committee Report](#). During Fall 2019, the committee concentrated on the following charges:

Faculty Senate Handbook Revisions – Status: completed, sent to Faculty Senate

- Sought clarification regarding definitions of faculty and faculty-at-large from Vice Provost Robinson.
- Sought clarification regarding the Senate process from Pauletta King due to her institutional knowledge.
- Revised and updated the Handbook Part 7 definitions of faculty and adjusted the entire section to reflect current Senate practice.
- All members of the Rules Committee proofread the revised Faculty Handbook and brought forth any further suggested edits to the committee.
- The Faculty Handbook Part 7 was finalized with implementation of these final revisions.

Faculty Senate Standing Committees – Status: Completed, sent to Faculty Senate

- Discussed workload for Faculty Senate standing committees.
- Brought forth a motion to limit senators to serving on no more than 2 senate standing committees.

During the spring semester, the committee worked on the following charge:

Reviewed the clicker process for Voting – Status: Completed, sent to Faculty Senate

- Discussed options for checking out/checking in clickers to vote for Faculty Senate.
- Senator Bishop-Ross explored the current clicker process with Pauletta King and logistics of using clickers for voting with IT Committee.
- In consultation with Pauletta, recommended having assigned clickers and a sign-in sheet with check boxes for Faculty Senate members to increase efficiency of signing in/out for each meeting.

[Faculty Welfare Committee](#). The Faculty Welfare committee pursued three major charges during the 2019-2020 academic year.

- The first of these was to obtain Employee Health Benefits information relevant to the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The committee met with John Dixon and Patty Sallee. Key information they wished to convey included the following:
 - Faculty and staff are encouraged to seek well visits and diagnostic tests. Under the current benefits only surgeries and hospitalizations are counted toward deductible.
 - The highest coverage PPO 1500 plan is not actually more economical in the long run.
 - Blue Mine clinic will be available.
 - A new wellness platform will be initiated and premium credits can be earned. All are encouraged to participate
- The second charge was to investigate the number of faculty who have left the university in the past two years due to budget cuts.
 - The committee emailed HR, completed an open records request, and corresponded with University Counsel. It was determined that no current existing data would provide this information, so this charge was rescinded.
- The third charge of the year was to collect faculty comments related to Policy 4.3.17.
 - All comments were sent to the Faculty Senate Chair, the Policy Drafting Team, and made available to the faculty as a whole.

The committee is scheduled to meet with John Dixon and Patty Sallee again on May 4th to ask questions about health benefits for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The May organizational meeting has been postponed to the September meeting in hopes that a face-to-face may be feasible.

ADJOURNMENT:

Senator Pogatshnik moved to adjourn at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**catherine.edwards@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**timothy.smit@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**thomas.jarvis@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☐ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☒ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**heather.beirne@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**todd.mccardle@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**christopher.budano@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**matthew.howell@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**eugene.styer@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**joel.cormier@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**kristen.wilson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**teri.nowak@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**allison.noland@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**anne.fleischer@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**brian.clark@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**richard.crosby@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**amy.schilling@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**todd.gooch@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**jens.arneson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**renee.causey-upton@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**benjamin.woodruff@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**don.yow@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**melanie.johnson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**william.dooley@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**john.fitch@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

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Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

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- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**marco.ciocca@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**lisa.jones@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**cynthia.harter@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**lynn.squicciarini@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**carla.hagan@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**michelle.gremp@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**radhika.dasari@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**joanne.mcglown@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

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Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**donghui.quan@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

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Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**ann.burns@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**rachel.bishop-ross@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**daniel.enz@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**ken.engebretson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**eric.sokolowski@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

Minutes

The respondent's email address (**javier.alvarez@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve of the minutes for the meeting on 4/6/2020?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**heather.beirne@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

This form was created inside of Eastern Kentucky University.

Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**matthew.howell@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**eugene.styer@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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- ☒ YES
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- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**eric.sokolowski@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**timothy.smit@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**renee.causey-upton@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**todd.gooch@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**rich.byrd@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**teri.nowak@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**jens.arneson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**thomas.jarvis@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☐ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☒ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**todd.mccardle@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

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The respondent's email address (**ann.burns@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**brian.clark@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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- ☒ YES
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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**joel.cormier@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
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- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**carla.hagan@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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- ☒ YES
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- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**kristen.wilson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**richard.crosby@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**anne.fleischer@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO
- ☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**joanne.mcglown@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

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The respondent's email address (**christopher.budano@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**allison.noland@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

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☐ ABSTAIN

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**catherine.edwards@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**pat.calie@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**amy.schilling@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Google Forms

Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**steve.szabo@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**jon.endonino@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

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☒ YES

☐ NO

☐ ABSTAIN

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Faculty Senate Meeting - 5/4/2020

CAA Curriculum Forms

The respondent's email address (**melanie.johnson@eku.edu**) was recorded on submission of this form.

Do you approve all THREE curriculum items put forth by the Council on Academic Affairs?

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David T. McFaddin
President

TO: The Eastern Kentucky University Faculty Senate
FROM: Senator David T. McFaddin
DATE: 14 September 2020
RE: September Report

Congratulations are in order, we have made it to the fifth week of the fall semester. We are a quarter of the way through the full semester, and some courses have already reached the midterm point. Being fully open, over the summer as we witnessed the pandemic surge, some of us were not certain the day would come when we could see faculty and students back in classrooms, residence halls welcoming occupants again, and our athletic teams returning to competition, but here we are. We made it, and each day we are closer to achieving the goal of in-person instruction and limited on-campus services being offered up to the Thanksgiving break. I want to share my continued thanks for your diligence as faculty to make the necessary adjustments to your instruction methods and course delivery to assure our students can reach their educational goals.

In terms of our pandemic response, we are seeing manageable caseloads of infection so far and every area of the University has risen to the occasion to implement the required health and safety measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 at ECU. I know the data on reported cases within our campus community has drawn great interest, and I hope you are using the [EQU COVID-19 dashboard](#) to stay informed. This is a critical tool to see where our case count stands and if certain populations are at increased risk. So far, what is encouraging to note is that our residential students seem to not be at any greater risk of infection than those commuting to campus, and also note to date employees, and I have been informed more specifically faculty have the lowest overall case count of any internal group. What this illustrates is that our preparations are working to decrease risk in our classrooms, offices, housing, and other public spaces. Our community is being diligent in following masking, social distancing, and hygiene guidelines. While there have been some reports of non-compliance, by and large, those not honoring the rules are the exception, not the norm. Thank you for all the work that has gone into giving us the best shot at a successful fall semester. I hope we will continue to see limited impact due to illness on our campus for the next few months, but it will require us to stay the course and not lose sight of all that is expected of us to keep ourselves and each other healthy and well.

We also anxiously awaited to see what would come of our enrollment predictions. Questions over how and where courses would be taught caused great concern, financial losses and economic uncertainty weighed heavily on families making decisions on college, and the level of acceptance of our “new normal” led to great speculation on how many students would enroll this semester. Once again, our faculty, staff, and students have demonstrated Colonels do not back down from a challenge. At last week’s board meeting Vice President for Student Success Dr. Tanlee Wasson reported record performance in student retention, significant growth in student outcomes among underrepresented student populations, and stable overall enrollment. Our preliminary enrollment of approximately 13,700 students includes:

- more than 3,200 new students
- 928 transfer students
- a nearly 10 percent increase in e-Campus enrollment
- more than three percent increase in graduate student enrollment
- and a 5.8 percent increase in freshman retention.

We set ambitious goals for recruitment and retention even before any of us had said the word coronavirus, and to see us gaining ground in some key areas only reaffirms that through great adversity our students still seek the opportunities ECU provides. It is also a testament to our caring, dedicated support system of faculty and staff who continue to comprehensively support our students who depend on us. We should take pride in these results and work to continue growth in these areas.

Finally, I want to recognize another significant accomplishment: a favorable budget position to close our 2020 fiscal year. Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Barry Poynter reports a strong financial performance following the implementation of cost-saving strategies across the University. The year over year position for the institution improved around \$6 million and the University is ahead of budget on tuition revenue by more than \$4 million. This is certainly an area where we expect additional challenges and will need to work diligently in controlling costs and seeking to increase revenues through thoughtful budgeting, aligned with our strategic plan. To that point, some of you may have heard about a potential reduction in state appropriations based on revenue declines due to COVID-19 impacts the past six months. We are expecting to get official notification today that ECU and all other state agencies submit a plan that reflects an eight percent reduction to our general fund appropriation for this fiscal year. For context, ECU's general fund appropriation for the current fiscal year is \$65,337,000. **An 8 percent reduction would result in cuts totaling \$5,226,960.** I will be sharing an update with campus later this week once we have official notification.

I am honored and humbled to officially serve as the 14th president of my alma mater and work with all of you through the unique circumstances facing ECU. This University and its people have consistently exceeded my expectations to offer opportunity, and this chapter of our history will certainly be written to reflect the great resolve that will power us through to continued success.

Thank you for all you do.

One Eastern,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David T. McFaddin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David T. McFaddin, Ed.D.
President

Faculty Senate Chair report
 September 10 2020
 Submitted by Marco Ciocca, chair of the Senate

Dear Senators: The semester is 4 weeks old and we are still here!

There is trepidation, excitement and not a little fear. But most of the student are behaving and most of the faculty and staff. Noses still are making their appearance now and then. Keep them covered!

Last May we decided to move the Organizational meeting to September, this day, with the hope of being able to run the elections in a “normal” way, face to face. No such luck, so we will learn another skill: Google Forms. Hopefully everything will run smoothly

For the foreseeable future, we are going to keep all senate meetings in a remote format. Should a happy change occur, I'll keep everyone posted.

Senate Activities: Executive Committee

The Senate had its first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Semester on August 24 at 3:30 PM via the Zoom Platform.

As I said in my introduction, during this meeting it was decided to move all Fall Semester's meetings of the Senate online by using Zoom. This move will be revisited later in the semester with the hope of returning to face-to-face meetings in the Spring Semester.

Policies

Ms. Haley Norberg will be the new contact person for all university policies. The current policy process will continue to be followed. Jennifer Wies, Associate Provost, will work closely with Ms. Norberg on the academic affairs policies.

Other items discussed were the introduction of [new charges for the Senate Standing Committees](#) and on the best way to administer and capture Senate voting. We will see today if it works well!

One major item of interest (and a guest speaker as per the Agenda):

- **Open Education Resources (OER):** This Ad-Hoc Senate Committee has continued with their work, after a brief hiatus during the worst of the pandemic month. As you are all aware, the chair of this committee, Kelly Smith (Library), received a Board Innovation grant of \$25,000 to explore Alternative Textbook Resources (Free ones!). The committee has recently awarded grants to several departments and individuals on campus, with the potential of large savings for our students. Ms. Smith will have a presentation with details on this extremely important initiative.

The New Senators attended an Orientation session on Wednesday, September 9 at 3:30pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted.

Marco Ciocca, Chair of the Senate
 September 10, 2020

STANDING COMMITTEE CHARGES 2020-2021

Academic Quality Committee

The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process. The Academic Quality Committee works to ensure that faculty input is given at the earliest stages of any discussion of academic matters that affect faculty, students, and the learning environment. This should prevent situations from arising in which administrative decisions that have an impact on teaching and learning are made without adequate faculty input.

1. The Committee on Academic Quality shall provide a channel of communication among the Faculty Senate, the faculty-at-large, and the Administration on academic matters and the formulation of academic policy.
2. The Committee shall be available as an advisory agency to the President of the University, and to the Provost on academic matters. The Committee shall meet with the Provost at least once each semester to share information about academic affairs and policies.
3. The Committee shall serve as a channel of communication with the Student Government Association on matters concerning student academic responsibility and students' role within the academic community.
4. Coordinate with the Rules Committee and reassess and update your internal procedures.
5. The Committee last year reviewed best practices for teaching large classes (>100) and investigated the types of instructional resources and/or approaches, e.g., teaching practices, instructional resources, peer mentorship, teaching assistants, classroom layout, furniture. This year, due to the Pandemic, a large amount of instruction occurred on-line. A critical assessment of what worked and what did not would be very useful to the faculty, especially coming from faculty themselves. Please create a survey for the faculty exploring these two questions and summarize the results by April 2021.

Budget Committee

The purpose of the Committee on the Budget shall be to provide a channel of communication between the Faculty Senate and the Administration on matters relating to the formulation of the University budget. The committee shall be available as an advisory agency to the President of the University in those matters relating to the budget-formulation process and will meet with the President at least once each semester to receive information about budgetary matters.

The committee should work to complete the charges of the committee as received from the Senate Chair in addition to addressing matters brought to the committee by constituents and other stakeholders.

August Elect a Budget Committee Chair/Co-chair and Committee Secretary and inform the Faculty Senate Chair and Secretary. The Chair also serves on the President's Administrative Council.

September Receive charges from Faculty Senate Chair (from Chair's report or from Executive Committee's Liaison to the Budget Committee). Then monthly accept additional charges as distributed.

New charge: Work in Conjunction with VP of Finances to keep the Senate up to speed of the financial situation, in view of the Pandemic and the possible further cuts of the State appropriations.

For the Remainder of the Academic Year: Work on charges. Coordinate with the Welfare Committee and the University Benefits Advisory to determine the cost and future rate of the Health Benefits at ECU. Coordinate with the Rules Committee and reassess and update your internal procedures.

New charge: Determine how exactly the current pandemic has changed revenue and expenses in athletics. If there is a significant disruption to FCS football, will this result in cost savings with regard to travel and lodging? What is the loss of revenue to ECU due to the loss of summer programs?

Elections & University Nominations Committee

The Elections & University Nominations Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the President for General Education, Graduate Council, Intellectual Property, Library, and Research Committees (Consult committee internal procedures for detailed description of election procedures)

- Supervise part-time faculty election ASAP (2-year position) **to assure that new member is on board in time to attend the Senate meetings.**
- The committee members will stand ready to administer all Faculty Senate elections as necessary.
- Coordinate with the Rules Committee and reassess and update your internal procedures.

January: obtain from the Office of the President the updated membership list of University Standing Committees

February: contact chairs of committees that fall under the purview of the Faculty Senate Elections & University Nominations Committee (General Education, Graduate Council, Intellectual Property, Library, and Research) regarding faculty member vacancies for the following year.

March: send notice to departments asking that any areas that have reps rotating off to hold elections for new rep(s) and alternate(s) and to notify the chair and secretary of new appointments by mid-April, if possible. Also corresponds with the Office of Institutional Research for dissemination of self-nomination survey for faculty member vacancies on specified university committees. Thereafter, a ballot that includes all eligible self-nominees and their brief statements of interest and qualifications is disseminated via email to all eligible voters by the Office of Institutional Research

April: results of the elections are verified by the Faculty Senate Elections and University Nominations Committee. Those faculty with the most votes for each university committee vacancy will be recommended to the President for consideration of appointment.

Faculty Welfare Committee

The primary function of the Welfare Committee is to sit on the University Benefits Advisory Committee, raise appropriate questions, become knowledgeable about all benefit programs and communicate (explain) that information to the Senate in a timely manner.

- Continue to monitor and inform the Faculty Senate on matters related to compensation including but not limited to salary compression, across-the-board salary increases, and merit pay.
- Coordinate with the Budget Committee to determine the cost and future rate of the Health Benefits at EKU
- Coordinate with the Rules Committee to assess and update the internal procedure of your committee
- **New charge: Angst is high due to the Pandemic. Survey the faculty and query about the use of Mental Health activities and their use and usefulness, and the effect of Ombud furlough on the same subject. Sample questions: did you participate to any of the counseling activity, was it beneficial, did you try contacting the Ombud, was it useful? Etc. Please report by April 2021.**

NOTE: After meeting schedule is set, be sure to communicate with Director of Human Resources (or their designee) as they serve as a non-voting member on the committee.

Information Technology Committee

- Continue monitoring Blackboard issues as necessary.
- Monitor technology issues related to PC and MAC users for effective teaching and learning.
- Continue to provide IT support during Faculty Senate meetings.
- Coordinate with the Rules Committee to assess and update the internal procedure of your committee.
- **Help with the administration of Polling (votes by senators on items up for approval) during Senate meetings**

Rules Committee

- Work with the Faculty Senate Secretary to review the Faculty Handbook, Faculty Senate rules and internal practices and report any recommendations to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for possible action.
- Report on the definition of “faculty-at-large” throughout part 7 of the Faculty Handbook and
- Collaborate with the Faculty Senate Elections & University Nominations Committee.
- Should we use, due to the Pandemic and to avoid further disruption, a different method to capture votes.? Please report by December 2020
- Oversee and Coordinate with all the Senate Standing committee to assess and update the internal procedure of the committee.

Faculty Rights & Responsibilities Committee

- Continue oversight of all policies affecting faculty rights and responsibilities.
- Continue to review request for faculty organizations to have a similar infrastructure to student organizations and develop a procedure for creating such organizations.
- Coordinate with the Rules Committee and reassess and update your internal procedures.

Faculty Regent Report to Faculty Senate

September 13, 2020

Dear Senators,

Thank you for representing your departments as senators. The summer and time leading up to this September 13 meeting included a significant amount of activity by the Board of Regents. The major events since our last Senate meeting include the following:

Presidential Selection

- The Presidential Search Committee opted not to begin a search and voted to recommend to the Board of Regents that our Interim President, Dr. David McFaddin, be named President of Eastern Kentucky University and to engage various constituency groups for input.
- The video recording of that meeting remains visible on YouTube via the [EKU E-Presence video link](#), and the portion including the [approved motion can be viewed here](#).
- The agenda (and committee member list) from that meeting is [linked here](#).
- A general background leading up to the meeting was provided during the meeting. For additional information, I have drafted a [timeline of events and additional background that you can view here](#).
- The Board of Regents Chair called a special meeting of the Board of Regents for Thursday, August 20, 2020, and from that meeting, the Board of Regents voted to name Dr. McFaddin to be President.

Board of Regents Meeting – September 10, 2020

- A more comprehensive summary of the meeting will be provided to the faculty at-large in the upcoming days.
- A new student regent joined the Board to replace Madison Lipscomb. The SGA general election resulted in the selection of Eyouel Mekonnen and Nick Koenig as President and Vice President, respectively.
- Regent Alan Long of Richmond was re-appointed to a second term by Governor Andy Beshear.
- Enrollment was anticipated to decline by as much as 5% or more based upon forecasting in late 2019, early 2020; however, overall, enrollment was down 1.8%, representing the lowest decline in recent years, and a favorable scenario compared to our peer group during COVID-19.
- Enrollment numbers indicate total enrollment of 13,707. New freshmen and transfer enrollment were 2,360 and 928, respectively, totaling to 3,200 new undergraduate students.
- Freshman retention is up 5.8%, with the first-time freshman cohort of 2019-20 having an 80.2% retention, and the underrepresented minority cohort being up 15.6% for a retention rate of 80.7%. These are all-time highs for ECU.
- The residential campus population is 18% smaller this academic year.
- For 2019-20, actual revenue was \$229M and actual expenses were \$215M. Auxiliary revenue, which includes housing was \$3.1M below expenses, due to housing refunds, etc.
- Instructional costs for 2019-20 were \$79.9M in 2019-20 versus \$85.8M in 2018-19, resulting in a difference of \$5.9M being spent on instruction.
- Academic support and libraries expended \$2.1M less in 2019-20 than 2018-19.
- A substantial amount of uncertainty still remains with respect to what level of a general fund appropriation we will see for the next fiscal year and whether or not any adverse mid-year budget actions will occur. The Governor has advised state agencies, including universities to prepare for an 8% reduction in the next fiscal year. The state's financial outlook is uncertain as federal interventions could influence potential impacts.
- Many other areas of the university decreased expenditures year over year.

- Dr. Dannie Moore, attended his first meeting as Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, and he will have support in the office through two other professionals, one of which will be Dr. Roger Cleveland as Director of Faculty Diversity & Development. The other position, will be the Director of Strategic Initiatives for Inclusive Excellence, Training and Campus Engagement (posted).
- Strategic Planning: The process for the next strategic plan is starting and for fall 2020, a strengths assessment, stakeholder listening sessions, and forming a strategic planning action team (or advisory committee) are on the agenda.
- The Board approved six administrative policies and repealed three administrative policies. One of the repeals pertained to the Retirement Transition Program.
 - a. **RTP:** University Counsel indicated to me that the reasoning for the policy being repealed is due to a change in the Kentucky Administrative Regulations that now requires a “Bona fide retirement” that results in a complete cessation of all employment relationships, and that “no prearranged agreement prior to retirement” that leads to reemployment is possible. The regulation University Counsel referred me to is 102 KAR 1:032, which I [viewed here](#). Upon inquiry about future policies that recognize the experience and expertise of persons who may have retired from the university, the Board Chair and others in attendance indicated that a future policy or process may be possible for those types of scenarios.

Over the last several months, I have been able to communicate one-on-one with many of our faculty colleagues, and my sincerest appreciation goes out to each of them, including many of you, who have provided me with helpful perspective. As a faculty, the opinions and insights of our colleagues vary, but when taken together, these viewpoints and institutional wisdom are helpful to me in fulfilling my duties. To close, please know that beyond the Senate meetings, you may reach out to me by email or phone (513-317-9508) at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason W. Marion, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Environmental Health Science
Faculty Regent, ECU Board of Regents

Provost Report to Faculty Senate September 14, 2020

It is my pleasure to welcome everyone back to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 20-21 Academic Year. I want to thank all of you for your dedication and willingness to serve as faculty leaders during what is certainly going to be another challenging year.

Launch of Fall 2020 Fall Semester

As I reported to the Board last week, I'm very pleased to report that we have had a remarkably successful launch of the Fall 2020 term. This semester, approximately 70% of our courses that had been originally scheduled as face-to-face when the calendar was first approved last spring include some or all face-to-face components. Coordinating schedules, while taking into account the priority needs of 1st and 2nd year students and the social distancing requirements in our classrooms has been a monumental task. I'd like to formally recognize Dean Sara Zeigler and her Academic team, and the Office of the Registrar for their outstanding work.

I especially want to commend all the faculty for their flexibility and creativity in adapting their courses to provide the best possible learning experience for our students. They have truly gone above and beyond to serve our students. One indication of the commitment from our faculty is reflected in our record high retention rates that we achieved this year – to have done this in the midst of the covid pandemic has been nothing short of remarkable.

Assurance of Learning Day

This year's Assurance of Learning Day is scheduled for Friday, October 2. At this stage, it looks almost certain that our methods of course delivery for the Spring term will look similar to what we are doing this Fall. I would encourage departments and faculty to commit some time during the day to focus on using the Fall 2020 experience, including any preliminary data you might have that is indicative of student performance, to implement further design improvements into Spring 2021 courses.

General Education Revisions

Work on revisions to our General Education Curriculum are moving forward. We have established three separate subgroups to consider different aspects of General Education. Julie Duckart is serving as Coordinator of the Mission and Goals Recommitment and Outreach Task Force, Rusty Carpenter is coordinating the Teaching Certification Task Force and Matt Winslow is coordinating the Skills Alignment Task Force. The Committees are meeting regularly with a goal of putting forward recommendations in early December. My thanks to these faculty and members of their respective teams, and to Jennifer Wies, in moving this initiative forward.

Strategic Planning Process

In the next few weeks, we will begin the formal process for drafting EKU's new strategic plan that will begin in Fall of 2022. Jennifer Wies and Bethany Miller will be serving as co-chairs of the Committee. Priorities for the new plan are expected to include Opportunities for achievement and growth, alignment of budget and resources to strategic priorities and collaboration among internal and external stakeholders. Phase I of the process will take place this Fall and will focus on Strength Assessment, the formation of the Advisory Committee and stakeholder listening sessions.

Digital P&T

Finally, this semester we are piloting an electronic process for submitting and reviewing documents for the P&T process. While not all departments and colleges will choose to participate in this for the coming year, we hope that this will lead to a simpler and more efficient process for the submission & review of P&T documents.

Again, my thanks to all of you for your service and commitment to EKU. I look forward to working with all of you in the year ahead.

Jerry