

**DAFVM Senate Meeting
Minutes
1:30 pm. January 13, 2022**

205 Bost

<https://msstate.webex.com/msstate/j.php?MTID=mdd21d6f8d1c32d376f5c067ead92e749>

DAFVM Faculty Senate Attendees: Acharya Adhikari, Pratima; Barickman, Casey; Camp, Jason; Correa, Sandra; Grala, Robert; Hardman, Alisha; Jaffe, Michael; Knight, Patricia; Lee, JuYoung; Lemley, Caleb; Li, Tongyin; Matthews, Rahel; Nanduri, Bindu; Siegert, Courtney; Sparks, Darrell; Stone, Amanda; Street, Jason; Vance, Carrie; Yan, Lifang; Yu, Fei;

Excused:

Absent: Barnes, James; Fulford, Charles; Gholson, Drew; Grissett-Hartwick, Gretchen; Howell, Trey; Jack, Skip; Karunakaran, Ganesh; Lee, Allison; Lemus, Rocky; Lloyd, Debra; Maples, Will; Melanson, Rebecca; Morgan, Mariah; Popescu, George;

Call to Order at 1:35

Roll Call-Record via sign-in sheet and Webex

Reading and approval of minutes from November 11, 2021

Motion-Dr. Michael Jaffe

2nd-Dr. Jason Camp

-Minutes approved as presented

Standing Committee Reports:

Office of the Vice President and MAFES: Dr. Ashli Brown

-Welcome back.

-Had a call with the State Department of Health and Dr. Dobbs. Omicron is less severe, but more contagious. We will be dealing with this in classrooms. Faculty are encouraged to be flexible. Dr. Dobbs expects a downward trend in cases the first or second week of February.

-Congratulations to Dr. Scott Willard, the new MAFES Director/CALS Dean. They will be moving to fill vacancies.

-Will be visiting with the state Legislature next Tuesday and on January 24-25th. They will be asking for a 9.9% increase in funding for the Division. Dr. Keenum has been invited to attend and will be traveling with the DAFVM group.

Questions: Dr. Stone asked if travel restrictions are anticipated due to Covid? Dr. Brown responded that it would depend on destination. There is no concrete answer.

Dean, CALS/Director, MAFES: Dr. Scott Willard

-Dr. Willard expressed his thanks and appreciation for his new positions and looks forward to working with everyone in his new roles.

-It was expressed in the Dean's meeting that while there are no national travel restrictions, travel abroad for spring break may be affected. There is no final decision at this time.

-Teachers are encouraged to be flexible. There will most likely be challenges over the next five weeks. There may be large-scale absences. Consider including Covid plans in your syllabus since those have not been distributed at this point.

-Instructor promotion has gotten more complicated. They are trying to work processes out between various responsible offices. The Associate Dean's Council has reaffirmed support.

-Working to fill vacancies in MAFES and CALS including within those offices and among department heads. Some will be filled via appointments, assignments and searches. He has a plan, and will be fleshing it out and sharing in the coming days. There are currently department head vacancies at DREC, ADS, FSNHP, Ag Econ, and Dr. Beck is retiring in Poultry Science at the end of February. Some searches will occur quickly while others will be slower with feedback from various review processes taken into consideration.

Dean, CFR & FWRC: Dr. Wes Burger

-Congratulation were extended to Dr. Burger from the group regarding his new role although Dr. Burger was unable to attend.

-No report.

Extension Service: Dr. Gary Jackson

-Dr. Jackson was unable to attend.

-No report.

Holland Faculty Senate: Dr. Amanda Stone

-No meeting yet this month.

-No report.

DAFVM Executive Council: Dr. Robert Grala

-Dr. Coble presented the state of DAVM.

Extension Advisory Council: Dr. Robert Grala

-No report.

Faculty Housing Appeals Committee: Dr. Robert Grala

-Several lease extensions were requested. All were approved.

Report of the Chair and Vice Chair

-Online folder was created for Senators to sign up for committee service. If you are willing to serve as Chair, please let Dr. Grala know. If more than one person indicates interest, an election will be held.

-Still need 2-3 people for the Charters and Bylaws Committee.

-Will form an Executive Committee when the standing committees are complete.

Unfinished Business

-Still need 2-3 people for the Charters and Bylaws Committee.

New Business

-Digital Measures (Dr. Pratima Acharya Adhikari)

-Majority of the problems have been solved.

-Must still attach pdf files for some teaching documentation.

-Reach out to her if we are aware of any additional problems.

Question: Dr. Jason Camp mentioned that when faculty summary sheets have been run, the first two pages were random text. Dr. Acharya Adhikari asked Dr. Camp to send her an email outlining the issue and copy Dr. Grala.

Dr. Willard mentioned that there is concern about capturing all of the information that is needed for University reporting.

Dr. Sandra Correa mentioned that some requested fields don't print in the evaluation document. Dr. Willard indicated that is very important that field like CRIS project number or multi-state activity codes be filled out and correct because they relate to budget lines and salary as well as federal reporting. He indicated that he will follow up on training opportunities related to this. There will also be a coming Beta test on Digital Measures as it relates to electronic promotion and tenure reporting.

-Group photo

-February 10th at 1 p.m. in Bost. May need to take photo outside depending on current masking requirements.

-Website has been updated and minutes have been posted.

-Most Senators attend online. Dr. Grala will send a Doodle poll after the February meeting to determine interest in future meeting formats. DAFVM Faculty Senate website. Look at website and see if you want to suggest any improvements. Dr. Grala suggested a link with each member back to that person's home department. Also need to update minutes on the website.

-Dr. Grala will check if May meeting date conflicts with graduation activities.

Question: Dr. Pratima Acharya Adhikari asked when standing committees will begin meeting? Dr. Grala responded that it will be on an as-needed basis as business is referred to the subcommittees. There is currently none.

Floor is Open - Senator Updates

-None

Important Dates

Next meeting is February 10, 2022

March 10, 2022

April 14, 2022

May 12, 2022

Adjourn

Motion-Dr. Jason Camp

2nd-Dr. Tongyin Li

Motion approved.