University Senate
General Assembly Meeting
Minutes
March 25, 2022

Senators Present: Minerva Ahumada, Francis Alonzo, Suzanne Bost, Anthony Deldin, Jenna Drenten, William Duffy, Yvonne El Ashmawi, Sarita Heer, Lee Hood, Leo Irakliotis, Patricia Lee, Joe Mitzenmacher, Wei Qui, Maria Wathen, Matthew Williams, Karen Cornelius, Tobyn Friar, Anne Divita Kopacz, Kevin Newman, Erla Dervishi, Matt Lorentz, Abby Abuya, Jonathan Okstad, Emily Barman, Teresa Krafcisin, Thomas Kelly, Margaret Callahan *(ex. officio),* Justyna Canning *(ex. officio),* Tavis Jules *(ex. officio)*

Absent: Laura Brentner, Eve Geroulis, Kristin Krueger, Mark Torrez, Selam Kashay, Elani Williams

Quorum (26/33): Voting members present at start of meeting; quorum is **satisfied**.

Chair Heer called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

  I.   **Review of preliminary agenda and call for motions to amend**
         No motions to amend.

  II.   **Approval of Minutes from February 25 and March 4**
         Sen. Divita Kopacz provided an updated attendance list for the February 25 minutes. Sen. Hood motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Sen. Wathen seconded.

  III.   **Presentation: Program Moves**
         Chair Heer introduced Jeanne Widen, interim dean of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) to discuss moving the Urban Affairs and Public Policy (UAPP) programs from the Graduate School to SCPS and the Masters of Arts in Public Service Leadership (MAPSL) from the School of Social Work to SCPS. In turn, Dean Widen welcomed to the Senate meeting Annette Steinacker, the director of UAPP, and James Marley, associate dean of the School of Social Work.

         Presentation:
         - SCPS is developing graduate programs as part of its strategic plan, including the new MPS in Instructional Design that will launch in fall 2022. The school was approached to take on UAPP and MAPSL.

- SCPS focuses on professional development and adult learners with an emphasis on professional education, as well as interdisciplinary programs. UAPP and MAPSL fit within this framework.
- SCPS has expertise in online programs. MAPSL is fully online; UAPP is interested in online options.
- Both programs will benefit from administrative support services from SCPS, and students will benefit from the support services SCPS provides for non-traditional students.

Discussion:
- Sen. M. Williams asked if current faculty will continue teaching in the programs. Dean Widen confirmed this for UAPP. MAPSL is a new program, so faculty are being recruited.
- Sen. Hood asked if the Senate will vote on the proposals. Dean Widen and Sen. Callahan confirmed that moving programs to a different school requires review and recommendation from the Senate.
- Sen. Hood asked about the size of the programs and if the plan is to grow the programs. Dean Widen noted that MAPSL is a new program, and UAPP may increase enrollment with the support of SCPS. Annette Steinacker said that about 15 students enter UAPP annually and foresees opportunities for expansion. According to Jim Marley, 8 or 9 students have committed to MAPSL. He anticipates 11 to 13 students by the fall.
- Sen. Krafcisin asked what budget would move to SCPS with the programs and if there was a letter of endorsement from Dean Barman as referenced in the proposal. Dean Widen said the final budget is still being negotiated. UAPP funding would move, but there is not a budget for the MAPSL, so SCPS would assume the costs and revenue for the program. She also offered to provide to Senate the letter from Dean Barman.
- Sen. Okstad asked if degrees for both programs will be conferred by SCPS. Dean Widen said that the degrees are conferred by Loyola University Chicago.
- Sen. Okstad added that the different dates, deadlines, and shared governance representation is confusing to graduate students. Dean Widen clarified that the Graduate School does not provide all graduate degrees. Each school has its own graduate programs and their own deadlines and requirements. Sen. Barman agreed that there is confusion around the MEd in the School of Education and the Graduate School. The Graduate School is meant for programs with a research-intensive component and thesis.
- Sen. M. William motioned for a vote to approve the program moves. Sen. Irakliotis seconded.

Do you approve the proposal to move the Urban Affairs and Public Policy (UAPP) Programs from the Graduate School to SCPS?

Yes 21
No 0
Abstain 1

Do you approve the proposal to move the Masters of Arts in Public Service Leadership from the School of Social Work to SCPS?
Yes 23
No 0
Abstain 1

- Dean Widen and Associate Dean Marley thanked the Senate for its support.

IV. **Discussion: Measures to Tweak the Bylaws**
Chair Heer invited the Bylaws Committee to update the Senate on the bylaws changes and next steps.

Discussion:
- Sen. Lee stated that the two bylaws measures up for electronic vote passed.
    - Bylaws Measure 1: Changes to the University Senate Bylaws to Reconstitute the University Senate passed with 23 yes and 1 abstain.
    - Election Update: Bylaws Measure 2: Amending the Election Procedures passed with 24 yes.
- Sen. Lee said that the Bylaws Committee will continue review the bylaws to ensure that they are fully updated. She invites everyone to send any suggestions for updates to Chair Heer or her. Chair Heer gave the Senate a deadline of noon on April 1. In the April meeting, the Bylaws Committee will submit another measure with additional changes to clean up the bylaws.
- Sen. Lee said that the transition to the new Senate composition is a key question. Sen. Divita Kopacz noted that the Senate voted at a previous meeting to pursue a one-year transition. Sen. M. William added that we discussed the outlines of the transition at the previous meeting.
- Sen. Divita Kopacz asked when the new Senate composition would be approved and when the Senate could run an election against the new composition. Sen. Callahan and Sen. Kelly agreed that the bylaws changes should be approved by the president before the election toward the new composition. Chair Heer pointed out as a May meeting for Senate was approved, the Senate could push elections back slightly. Sen. Jules added that due to the pandemic, there is precedent for an August election.

V.   **Discussion: Staff Senator Recognition & Incentivizing Resolution**
Chair Heer invited Sen. Divita Kopacz to present the resolution related to staff service on the Senate.

Presentation:
- With the new Senate bylaws changes, staff will be able to serve as chair and vice chair for the first time. While faculty who serve as chair receive a course release, there is not a comparable incentive for staff to serve as chair.
- Faculty senators who are not chair use their Senate participation toward their required service to the University, and the SGLC executive board and legislative chairs receive scholarship support. Staff who serve on Senate take on the responsibilities in addition to their full-time positions which rarely include an expectation of service to the University and without any compensation.
- The resolution calls on the University to work with Senate to determine a fair and equitable way to recognize, reward, and incentivize staff participation in the Senate.

Discussion:
- Chair Heer stated that more days off would not work as an incentive, as staff struggle to use their vacation. Sen. Divita Kopacz agreed.
- Sen. Kelly clarified that faculty senators who are not chair receive recognition for their University service and no additional compensation. Chair Heer added that the vice chair does not receive additional compensation.
- Sen. Kelly asked if the resolution is asking for recognition or compensation and whether there is a difference between a leadership and participation role. Sen. Divita Kopacz said the resolution is asking the University to look at staff senator compensation because there is not an expectation of service to the University similar to faculty. The resolution does not lay out the details of what that compensation would look like but is meant to start the conversation about if and how to structure it.
- Sen. Bost said that the language in the resolution regarding "service credit" is not accurate but the resolution should acknowledge that service is part of faculty's job expectations and promotion guidelines. Sen. Ahumada suggested "faculty fulfill service expectations laid out in their job expectations."
- Sen. Bost asked how this resolution would impact non-tenure track (NTT) faculty who might not be expected to do service. Chair Heer said that NTT faculty who are on the lecturer/advanced lecturer/senior lecturer track are required to do 20% service. NTT who are on temporary one-year contracts are not required to do service.

- Sen. Dervishi noted that because the current student senators from SGLC do not serve on the SGLC executive board or as legislative chairs, they do not receive scholarships. They do not receive scholarships for their service to Senate. The resolution brings up a larger conversation on recognition and compensation among all students, staff, and faculty.
- Sen. Krafcisin said that Human Resources will need to be involved to work through compensation and recognition of exempt and non-exempt staff.
- Sen. Okstad said that the GPAC and GSAC student leaders are not compensated but that there is some conversation around this. It has been difficult to recruit graduate student leaders in part because of this.
- Sen. Canning added the Staff Council Executive Council is not compensated either.
- Sen. M. Williams asked staff senators for a sense of the extent of their service to the Senate to help determine fair compensation. Sen. Divita Kopacz said that she is delighted to serve on the Senate and contribute to the University as a staff senator. She also commends the Senate for its concerted effort in the past to involve staff on the Executive Committee by electing them to be secretary and secretary pro tem as they could not serve as chair or vice chair. However, being secretary is a time-intensive role. It is an addition to a staff member's full-time responsibilities and is not part of the job responsibilities.
- Sen. Jules suggested putting together a committee to look into equitable and fair compensation across all the shared governance bodies (faculty, staff, students). This was not addressed in the Shared Governance Report beyond stating that all the shared governance bodies are to be given the same resources. He added that this is the first year that Faculty Council had a student worker, while the Senate has had one in the past.
- Sen. Ahumada said that in her NTT job description she is expected to do service. She added if that is not in the job description of staff, then the University needs to start looking at the job descriptions and making it equitable. Staff members take on work that serves the University but it is not expected.
- Sen. M. Williams said that the Senate can vote on the resolution and also put together the committee that Sen. Jules recommended.
- Sen. Friar noted that Sen. Divita Kopacz worked with the rest of the staff senators, as well as conferred with student senators, to put together the resolution under discussion. He enjoys his service to the University on Senate and other committees and acknowledges the great amount of work that shared governance leadership takes. He has seen an arguable decline in staff participation in shared governance over the years because staff are busy and less likely to volunteer. He believes that acknowledge the work in some capacity can help engage staff in critical conversations and critical

processes like shared governance. He expressed his appreciation of Sen. Divita Kopacz moving the conversation forward.

- Sen. Divita Kopacz noted that the resolution is not about one senator, but about creating a more equitable system for all and how pleased she is that the conversation has expanded beyond only staff to all groups.
- Sen. Irakliotis motioned to vote on the resolution. Sen. M. Williams seconded the motion.

  Do you approve the Staff Senator Recognition & Incentivizing Resolution?
  Yes 24
  No 0
  Abstain 1

- Sen. Jules suggested that the chairs of the shared governance bodies serve on the committee exploring equitable and fair compensation. He added that the group should present a proposal to the provost and president before the end of the semester. Chair Heer and Sen. Canning agreed to serve on the committee.

VI.   **Presentation: Paper-Limited Classroom**
Chair Heer invited Sen. Dervishi to present on the paper-limited classroom proposal. Sen. Lorentz joined her in the presentation.

Presentation
- Paper Limited Classrooms seeks to create a more sustainable and financially equitable environment at Loyola.
- The initiative shifts the financial burden of printing away from students and to the University and does not seek to completely remove paper from the classroom.
- As context on Loyola's environmental footprint, in fall 2021, 142,670 pages were printed on 11 printers in the Information Commons on the Lake Shore Campus.
- Some professors require students to print and bring to class 20-35 pages per week, which students need to pay for. This raises an equity concern as students have varying economic means.
- Paper-Limited Classrooms seeks to lessen the burden of printing, decrease Loyola's carbon footprint, and encourage the use of digital alternatives.

Discussion:
- Sen. Bost appreciates the open-ended recommendation on decreasing paper and the push to consider the justice issues. She notes that in the English Department, many readings are on paper because there is no digital equivalent as the authors live off the royalties.

- Sen. Jules said that he wishes this had come to Faculty Council first. Faculty Council is discussing this currently and has deep concerns around assessment, testing, and students being distracted on their computers in class. Faculty are asking for a deeper and more extensive conversation about why faculty use paper in the classroom. He has also seen data that suggests that the electricity being consumed by digital devices is worse for the environment than paper. Sen. Dervishi said that she has been reaching out to Faculty Council since November and has not felt a willingness to work with students. Sen. Jules said that it takes time for issues to go through Faculty Council committees.
- Sen. Jules asked if staff have been consulted, as they would likely be doing most of the printing for the faculty.
- Sen. M. Williams sees the benefit of students not printing assignments, including being able to use plagiarism checkers on digital assignments.
- Sen. Iraliotis asked how to support students who do not have equitable access to digital devices, which may prevent them from bringing laptops to class. Sen. Lorentz suggested options such as renting computers from Information Commons or the faculty providing class readings on paper. Sen. Dervishi said that her understanding is that most students have access to digital devices, but that she would love to get more data on student device ownership to determine if there is an equity issue.
- Sen. Ahumada echoed the earlier points about the equitable use of technology and called on the University to continue to consider the technology needs of its students.
- Sen. Hood asked if the Paper Limited Classroom is meant to raise awareness rather than requiring faculty to limit paper. Sen. Dervishi agrees that the initiative is meant to increase consideration of the equity issues and costs.
- In discussing if the resolution should be brought to vote, Sen. Hood asked if a Senate vote would strain the relationship with Faculty Council. Sen. Jules said that the Faculty Council would discuss the resolution in April. Later in the meeting, Sen. Jules reported that the discussion was moved to the March Faculty Council meeting. Sen. Bost asked if there was any issue related to the Rainbow Chart of Academic Approvals if Senate votes before Faculty Council. Chair Heer said it is a matter of respecting lanes.
- Sen. Irakliotis noted that faculty will not change their classes this semester, so the Senate does not need to vote today. Sen. Dervishi expressed her desire to have the resolution voted on before she transitions off the Senate. Sen. Duffy advocated for voting while Sen. Dervishi and Lorentz can participate.
- Sen. Krafcisin asked if the results of the Faculty Council vote will be shared with Senate. Sen. Jules agreed to share. Sen. Dervishi asked to be able to

attend the Faculty Council meeting and speak on behalf of the resolution. Sen. Jules agreed.

- Chair Heer motioned to vote. Sen. M. Williams seconded the motion.

Do you support voting on the Paper-Limited Classrooms Resolution after Faculty Council's April meeting?
Yes 22
No 1
Abstain 0

VII. Presentation: Wellness App Corporate Subscription

Chair Heer invited Sen. Dervishi to present on a corporate subscription of a wellness app. Nabhan Rafiq, the chief health and wellness officer of SGLC, joined her in the presentation.

Presentation
- SGLC would like to bring a mindfulness app to all students at Loyola.
- A working group of students, Wellness Center staff, and administrators is drafting a proposal to bring the Headspace app to Loyola by funding licenses for 20-30% of students.
- They are presenting to Senate to see if there is interest in bringing the app to staff and faculty.
- They are also calling on the University Senate to create an ad hoc committee dedicated toward various health and wellness initiatives. They are not calling for a bylaws change given the work of the Bylaws Committee on other issues at this time.
- The ad hoc Health and Wellness Committee would consider how to bring health and wellness into Loyola, embed it into the Loyola experience, and emphasize preventative wellness. It would be a sign of the institutional commitment to health and wellness.

Discussion
- Chair Heer suggested that the Senate hold off on a vote to consider a bylaws change.

VIII. Presentation: Data Support Center

Chair Heer invited Sen. Wathen to give the presentation.

Presentation:
- The Academic Affairs and Research Committee of the Senate is running a survey to see if there is a need among faculty and doctoral students for a data center. It also sought feedback and ideas from people who already help others with statistics as consultants.

- The study is still being distributed among faculty and doctoral students, and has 74 responses to date. Seven respondents indicated that they have strong statistical skills. Of the 67 respondents who indicated that they do not have strong statistical skills, 61 said that a data and statistics center would be helpful to them personally in their research. The statisticians were also supportive of the center.
- The committee is working to increase distribution of the survey.
- Sen. Wathen thanked former Sen. Bill Adams for his help with the survey even after he stepped off the Senate.

Discussion
- Sen. Irakliotis asked how participation as a statistics consultant would impact faculty members' workload. Sen. Wathen agreed that that is a key issue to resolve.
- Sen. M. Williams asked if the goal of the center is to centralize the efforts of current faculty who help others with statistics or to hire experts to help faculty. Sen. Wathen said that the committee is focusing on collecting data on the need for such a center and how the current system works. The form of the center has not yet been determined. Sen. Qiu added that the needs have not yet been defined.
- Sen. Barman noted that often in centers like these, graduate students in relevant programs take on the projects for credit.
- Chair Heer invited senators to email any questions or comments to Sen. Wathen.

IX.   Other
Sen. Abuya motioned for adjournment; Sen. M. Williams seconded.

General Assembly meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM.
Respectfully Submitted ADK 4/8/22

Senate Meeting Schedule for Academic Year 2021-22

General Assembly Meetings

- ~~September 10~~ ~~3:00-5:30PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~October 15~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~November 19~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~January 28~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~February 25~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~March 25~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- April 22 3:00-5:00PM Zoom

Executive Committee Meetings

- ~~August 26~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~October 1~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~November 5~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~January 14~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~February 11~~ ~~3:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- ~~March 15~~ ~~4:00-5:00PM~~ ~~Zoom~~
- April 8 3:00-4:00PM Zoom