

Faculty Senate Minutes

Tuesday, 5/2/23

3-5 p.m.

Diastole

Present: Bethman, Bhat, Brown, Dallas, Ferguson, Ganesh, Grimes, Grieco, Hunt, Jackson, Kador, Keeton, Lynch, Mardikes, Olsen, Peterman, Riggers-Piehl, Shiu, Smith, Torres, Turla, Weber, Wellemeyer, Wooten, Zhu, Zhuo

Absent: Fields

Excused: Ball, Chatterjee, Hiatt

Guests: Agrawal, Bummer, Gurney, Hankins, Likins, Lundgren, Martin, Myer, Newby, Ortiz

1. Opening Business

- a. Call to Order & Approval of April 18, 2023 minutes: Mardikes
 - i. Motion passes.
- b. Approval of Agenda: Mardikes
 - i. Motion passes.

2. Chancellor Agrawal: Year-End Update

- a. Agrawal brought a card to be delivered to Ralph Yarl for senators to sign at the end of the meeting.
- b. UMKC has experienced the highest student retention and graduation rates in a decade.
- c. The all-time UMKC fundraising record was broken, with \$118 million in new donations.
- d. \$1 million was used to address salary compression, and \$9-10 million is needed overall for UMKC faculty. Administration is addressing the issue in a gradual fashion, focusing on different schools each year.
- e. Agrawal pledged to raise the minimum wage for hourly works to \$15 by the end of the quarter.
- f. Construction projects
 - i. Construction in the Heath Sciences District will be completed by Fall 2026.
 - ii. The St. Joseph medical campus will be ready in Fall 2025. UMKC will enter into a favorable lease agreement with Mosaic Life Care.
 - iii. Advising and other satellite offices will be relocated to Atterbury by Fall 2025, but the cost and sources of funding are unclear.
 - iv. UMKC is “hopeful” that the 51st Street closure will be done by Fall 2023.
 - v. In preparation for the 2025 arrival of the KC Streetcar, an RFP request was sent out for possible retail space and a small arena on Oak Street. More information may be found at

<https://www.umsystem.edu/ums/fa/procurement/bids/rfp-23102>

- vi. Agrawal noted sustainability and security initiatives for the future.
 - 1. Transition to full-campus LED lighting
 - 2. Developments with recycling programs
 - 3. Increasing the number of LED monitors on campus
 - 4. Increasing the number of EV charging stations (may take 5-10 years)
 - 5. Classroom locks
- g. Questions and comments from Bhat, Kador, Jackson, Riggers-Piehl, and Shiu clarified the following:
 - i. UMKC is “open” to a naming rights agreement with the small arena mentioned in the Oak Street RFP.
 - ii. The current EV charging stations on campus need to be repaired.
 - iii. Agrawal would like to see more “green areas” on campus. Solar panels on new construction was suggested.
 - iv. Facilities has provided the administration with a list of monitoring systems for each building in order to manage/gauge energy consumption. It was noted that an MU professor has developed a smart system for calibrating thermostats.
 - v. The School of Medicine suggests the need for emergency power sources to handle power outages. The administration will “review and see where” those places are.
- 3. UMKC Athletics Update: Dr. Brandon Martin (Vice Chancellor/Director of Athletics), Ursula Gurney (Deputy Director of Athletics/SWA), and Senator Kenneth Ferguson (Chair, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee)
 - a. Academics
 - i. In Fall 2022, UMKC student-athletes earned a 3.42 cumulative GPA, and all 14 teams have a GPA above 3.0.
 - ii. There is a 95% graduation success rate for UMKC student-athletes (NCAA avg. rate: 89%).
 - b. Student-Athlete Pay/Compensation and Donors
 - i. Donors are being channeled into a 501(3)(c) in order to pay student/athletes.
 - 1. There are currently around 700 donors.
 - 2. The Roos Excellence Collective (R.E.C.), a “third-party 501(3)(c) organization supporting Kansas City Athletics’ student-athletes” has been established to focus on Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) opportunities: <https://kcroos.com/news/2023/4/11/roos-excellence-collective-officially-launched.aspx>
 - ii. The new NCAA transfer portal has created some issues in retaining student-athletes.

1. One men's basketball student-athlete has transferred after requesting a level of funding UMKC could not provide.
 2. UMKC Athletics "want[s] to remain competitive," but will do so in "the right way."
- c. Summit League
- i. Membership has provided for stability.
 - ii. Currently working on a media rights deal and developing a strategic plan.
- d. Partnership with University Health
- i. Several cases of students being hospitalized for special care.
 - ii. Focusing on mental health issues, with two on-site medical health professionals available.
- e. Student Support
- i. In-house advising, mentoring, and tutoring is available, and on-campus resources are being used as they evolve.
 - ii. Ongoing question: How can student-athletes be connected with potential mentors on campus within their major?
 1. Possibility of CAFÉ programming
 2. Possibility of inviting faculty to games
- f. Compliance
- i. Sen. Ferguson stressed the Chancellor's "commitment to compliance" for UMKC Athletics
 - ii. Reporting takes place on an ongoing basis.
- g. Questions from Bhat, Dallas, Shiu, Smith, and Zhao clarified the following:
- i. There are currently 20-25 international student-athletes in tennis, golf, and soccer.
 - ii. Not many current UMKC student-athletes are able to take advantage of NIL benefits; most of these benefits are in men's basketball.
 - iii. Faculty are encouraged to understand that student-athletes are "heavily scheduled" and that athletics may serve as a "vehicle" for some of them. UMKC Athletics would like students to "study what they'd like."
 - iv. Increasing attendance is difficult due to "scarce external resources for marketing." A greater effort from Marketing and from faculty/staff would be needed.
 - v. If student-athletes are interested in professional programs, it may "require more conversations" about serving the student in the appropriate ways.
 - vi. All NIL compensation is funded by outside donors.
 - vii. There is a UMKC compliance officer who consults with students about entering the transfer portal.
 - viii. Cost of attendance for each student-athlete (\$6,000) comes out of UMKC Athletics' budget.

4. Certification of Senate membership allocations for AY 2024-2024: Shiu
 - a. Discussion focused on details of the new allocation system, which the Board of Curators passed earlier in the year.
 - i. Certification by Senate will occur every three years.
 - ii. The School of Medicine has chosen to remain at 2 Senators.
 - iii. The new allocation provisions have resulted in roughly the same number of Senators as the previous provisions (26 to 27), but the distribution of Senators has changed.
 - b. Motion passes
5. Proposed Amendments to Senate Standard Operating Procedure (SOP): Mardikes
 - a. Motion passes.
6. Goodbye to Senators: Shiu
 - a. Chair-Elect Shiu recognized departing Senators and joined in unanimously congratulating our hard-working colleagues.
7. Adjournment
 - a. Motion passes.