

Faculty Senate Minutes  
Tuesday, October 3, 2023  
3:00-5:00 p.m.  
Zoom

**Present:** Belcher, Bethman, Bloemker, Brown, Ganesh, Gottman, Hunter, Jackson, Keeton, Leal, Lynch, Mardikes, Mukherji, Niemi, Olsen, Peterman, Pluta, Riggers-Piehl, Shiu, Smirnova, Smith, Torres, Wellemeyer, White-Lewis, Wooten

**Absent:** Ferguson, Likins, Song

**Excused:** Dallas, Johnson, Weber

**Guests:** Gomez, Hankins, Hoelzel, Kreisel, McDermott, Paez, Popoola, Zimmerman

1. Opening Business: Shiu

- a. Call to Order & Approval of 09/19/2023 minutes: motion passes.
- b. Approval of Agenda for 10/03/2023: motion passes.
- c. Announcements: Shiu
  1. President Choi's Report to S&T Trustees, which includes system-wide enrollment and retention data, can be found on Canvas.

2. Introducing the Cockefair Chair: Pam Hoelzel & Alan McDermott; Discussants Wellemeyer, Brown, and White-Lewis.

- a. Brief presentation about the history of Cockefair and invitation to submit proposals about teaching different courses.
- b. Cockefair Lecture Series brings lecturers to talk about timely topics.
- c. Invitation to all Faculty Senators to spread the word about the lecture series; especially to their students.
- d. Recommendation that Cockefair courses and lectures be included in the UMKC calendar to publicize these upcoming opportunities.
- e. Announcements: Encourage faculty to invite recommend speakers and possible courses, e.g., Conservatory student dancers. Cockefair Chair Lecture: Alex Vitale: *The Politics of Public Safety: Police Reform and Alternatives*, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, Student Union 401.  
Register: <https://info.umkc.edu/cockefair/whats-new/>

3. Associated Students of the University of MO (ASUM): Kreise & Paez; Discussants Shiu, Mardikes, Smith

- a. Student organization (chapter at each of the UM System Campuses); ASUM President Lauren Kreise addressed the Intercampus Student Council (ISC) resolution concerning the Election Day Attendance Policy and requested that this resolution be added to the Faculty Handbook when published.
- b. There was a suggestion that the Election Day Attendance Policy should be added to the academic calendar in order not to create any kind of academic difficulties for faculty and students planning to prevent a scheduled exam or assignment due on election days.
- c. Recommendation that the Election Day Attendance Policy be included in the syllabus as part of academic policies.
- d. Paez addressed the importance of faculty serving as models for civic participation. She urged Senators to inform their colleagues and students about civic engagement and responsibility and to encourage faculty to discuss major elections within their classes as part of important civic responsibilities.
- e. Paez shared the Youth Voting Rights Act with the Faculty Senate and other resources.  
<https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Summary%20of%20Youth%20Voting%20Rights%20Act%20-%2006.21.22.pdf>

- f. Mardikes and Smith talked about including the Election Day Attendance Policy as a valid absence in the system.
  - g. Shiu added that there should be no problem including the resolution in the Faculty Handbook given the resolution was endorsed by the Faculty Senate in Fall 2022. However, he will address this with the Provost since the Provost's Office is working on the Faculty Handbook.
5. IFC Report: Jackson; Discussants: Shiu, Torres
- a. One of the topics discussed during President Choi's session at the October meeting was the increased cost of health insurance—and earlier disclosure of related information to IFC representatives—as well as library subscriptions to journals. There was a conversation about alternatives such as an open-access system.
    - i. Choi recommended speaking directly to Marsha Fischer, UM System VP for Human Resources, about health insurance-related disclosure issues.
    - ii. Choi was interested in the topic of open-access materials. The topic is going to be assessed by his team and there will be more conversations concerning access to materials.
  - b. The UM System has an Emergency Management office. They are working on plans and initiatives; two planned initiatives/training sessions will benefit the campus communities but require more promotion for broader campus engagement.
  - c. President Choi was asked about having access to budgeting information—especially concerning UMKC—in order to learn more about it and engage in further discussions.
  - d. Shiu asked Choi for stronger and more consistent communication with faculty about the post-Affirmative Action landscape.
  - e. Concerning the budget, President Choi mentioned there was a possibility for some money coming in given there was some unspent money coming from the state. To get this money, each university will need to have plans that can be “shovel ready,” meaning they must be organized and ready to implement.
  - f. Torres added one possible initiative could be improving accessibility across our campuses. She will ask the Disability Alliance to see if they would be willing to coordinate this task with other offices across that campus who are responsible for this project.
4. Ad-Hoc Committee: Campus, Faculty, and Student Safety
- a. Jackson, White-Lewis, Mukherji, and Peterman volunteered to be part of this committee. Jackson highlighted there was a lot of information about preparedness. FEMA would be a good partner to work with for preparedness training sessions.
  - b. Motion to establish the Ad-Hoc Campus, Faculty, and Student Safety Committee: Shiu.
    - 1. Motion to approve the committee passes (23 Yes/ 0 No)
  - c. Motion to change the name of the Ad-Hoc committee from Campus, Faculty, and Student to Campus, Employee, and Student Safety.
    - 1. Motion to change the name passes. (20 Yes/ 0 No)
  - d. Motion to approve Senators Jackson, White-Lewis, Mukherji, and Peterman as members of the Campus, Employee, and Student Safety Committee.
    - 1. Motion passes (21 Yes/ 0 No)
5. Senate Committees: Roster and Membership: Mardikes
- a. Faculty Senate Academic Issues Committee: this committee is rarely activated.
    - 1. Smith volunteered to be part of this committee.
  - b. Faculty Senate National Awards Committee: this committee needs to be repopulated.
    - 1. Motion to approve Viviana Grieco, Anthony Caruso, and John Kevern as continuing members of this committee.
    - 2. Motion passes. (19 Yes / No 0)
  - c. Faculty Senate Committee for Preliminary Informal Conferences.

1. Jackson, Hunter, and Peterman volunteered to be part of this committee.
6. Executive Session: no minutes taken. (MO Statute, 610.021. Closed Sessions are allowed for legal, real estate, personnel, and student decisions.)
7. Adjournment