

Faculty Senate Minutes
Tuesday, November 7, 2023.
3:00-5:00 p.m.
Zoom

Present: Belcher, Bethman, Bloemker, Brown, Dallas, Ferguson, Ganesh, Gottman, Hunter, Jackson, Johnson, Keeton, Leal, Likins, Lynch, Mardikes, Niemi, Olsen, Peterman, Pluta, Riggers-Piehl, Shiu, Smirnova, Smith, Torres, Turla, Weber, Wellemeyer, White-Lewis, Wooten

Excused: Mukherji

Absent: Leal, Song

Guests: Addington, Ellison, Gomez, Granade, Hankins, Holsinger, Hymer, Moffet, Popoola

1. Opening Business: Shiu

- a. Call to Order & Approval of 10/17/2023 minutes; motion passes.
- b. Approval of Agenda for 11/07/2023; motion passes.
- c. Announcements: Shiu
 - i. Meeting with the Vice Provosts Fillion, Holsinger, and Smith.
 1. The use of Canvas and Connect is strongly encouraged; around 80% of faculty currently use it for their courses.
 2. Faculty are strongly encouraged to work with their chairs when requesting/scheduling their courses.
 3. There is currently a low response rate to Administrative Attendance Surveys, and all faculty should be submitting these.

2. Carnegie Community Engagement Elective Classification: Ellison and Granade.

- a. Historical background: Carnegie Commission on Higher Education developed a system to classify colleges. As of 2023, 357 campuses hold the Community Engagement Classification in the US.
- b. UMKC received the classification in 2015. UMKC must apply for reclassification in 2026.
- c. Data Collection: AY 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-2024.
- d. Timeframe
 - i. January 2024, Framework released and applications available
 - ii. April 2025, Application Deadline
 - iii. December 2025, Campuses notified
 - iv. January 2026, Public Announcement.
- e. 2024 Framework contains 135 questions prompting:
 - i. Narrative responses explaining changes since 2015
 - ii. Institution-based data
- f. Strengths
 - i. Mission and strategy already align with this work.
 - ii. Community Engagement woven into the university DNA at every level.
- g. Weakness
 - i. Lack of necessary campus-wide structures for tracking and assessment.
- h. Next steps
 - i. Convening a Provost-appointed team from every academic unit and select administrative divisions/departments to include faculty and staff.

- ii. Identifying the lead writer for the application
- i. Looking Past 2026
 - i. Campuses will need to reclassify every 6 years.
 - ii. Finding ways to routinize data collection going forward.
- j. Value for Reclassification
 - i. National benchmarking for our institutional engagement efforts
 - ii. A process for university-wide learning and transformation
 - iii. Elevates the importance and rigor of Engaged Scholarship
 - iv. Ongoing tracking and assessment is a value add for Schools, Departments, and individual faculty members.
 - v. Reaccreditation, grant funding, P&T
- k. Q&A: Smirnova, Addington, Torres
 - Is compensation available for the person who became the lead writer?
 - Addington added they're trying to use previous information about compensation.
 - Using previous data and use it as part of the accreditation process.
 - Torres: There's a lot of time commitment required for community engagement and grant-writing, but generally work with community nonprofits generally means the funds go directly to nonprofit so faculty do not get the same level of credit as working within the university. This creates a conflict between wanting community engagement, but the system does little support this activity. Working with these organizations, means we need to develop a robust way of collecting data cohesively as a means of documenting community involvement efforts.
 - Canvas would be useful for information gathering data in terms of the projects students engage in.

3. Career Services: Boren Awards: Hymer

- a. A Nationally Competitive Awards position was created at UMKC.
- b. Externally funded through government agencies, non-profits, etc.
- c. Provide resources for educational and professional success—funding for tuition, living stipend while abroad, mentorship, etc.
- d. Great for students who are eager to do more and step out of their comfort zone.
- e. Boren Awards, Fulbright U.S. Student Program, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program.
- f. Students might find other awards and the Nationally Competitive Awards office can help them during the application process.
- g. Partnering with Writing Studio for application writing.
- h. Identify potential candidates and spread the word about these awards and the support I can provide.
- i. Encourage first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented students to see themselves as potential applicants.
- j. Articulate the value and impact of the application process and fellowship experience for student professional development.
- k. www.umkc.edu/career-services/awards. Email: mhymer@umkc.edu
- l. There's a requirement of a year of service if students receive one of these awards. Although there are many other options depending on the award.

4. Senate Committees: Volunteers and Nominations: Mardikes

a. Faculty Senate Academic Issues Committee (FSAIC): Motion to approve Alan Weber (Bloch) to this committee—Motion Passed.

c. Faculty Senate Committee for Preliminary Informal Conferences: Motion to approve Hunter and Smirnova to this committee—Motion passed.

5. Update on Accessibility: Torres and Shiu

- a. The governor announced earlier this year that he was giving UM System an opportunity to receive \$400 million from American Recovery Program Act (ARPA) funds, but we need to have matching money and it has to benefit the public besides the university.
- b. Torres contacted the Provost regarding ARPA funds; the Provost confirmed that UMKC received the funding to use toward the Health & Sciences building.
- c. We can ask for additional funds with the Provost's assistance.
- d. Torres is focusing on data gathering about buildings and other spaces on campus where there are accessibility issues. Some doors and elevators require repairs, which prevents people from accessing buildings and other spaces.
- e. Email torresth@umkc.edu about accessibility issues.
- f. Shiu mentioned Edwards suggested some software, readers, and better lighting to make information and teaching more accessible for people with disabilities.

6. FSBC Update: Olsen

- a. There will be an FSBC meeting with the Provost on 11/10 to talk about next year's budget.
- b. Faculty are given the rights in the CRRs to participate in the budgeting process.
- c. Infrastructure is a priority based on deferred maintenance.
- d. Accessibility is a good way to enter a conversation about infrastructure.
- e. More information is required from HR as to why more administrative hiring is taking place instead of faculty/academic positions.

8. Executive Session.