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Indiana State University

Faculty Senate, 2021-2022

September 9, 2021

3:30 p.m. via Zoom

Members present: S. Ahmad, A. Akgul, S. Anderson, A. Arrington-Sirois, A. Arrington-Slocum, S. Arvin, A. Badar, C. Ball, L. Brown, A. Czyzewski, T. Dean, C. Drew, L. Eberman, S. Ferng, J. Finnie, A. French, J. Frost, R. Guell, J. Gustafson, T. Hawkins, K. Hinton, D. Israel, A. Jay, D. Knaebel, J. Liu, J. McKirahan, L. McQuiston, T. Nesser, R. Peters, D. Selman, E. Southard, L. Walters, K. Yousif

Absent Members: A. Kummerow

Ex-Officio Present: President D. Curtis, Provost C. Olsen

Guests: N. Alp, C. Ball, D. Collins, R. Crumrin, T. London, J. Osborne, S. Powers, C. Spicer, J. Trainer

1) Slates for Provost Search Committee

Instructions: Exec approved two slates. We must vote on one against the other.
Motion to call a vote on Slate 1 vs Slate 2. L. Eberman/L. Brown: 11-22.

K Yousif: President asked AAC to revisit the convoluted process for creating slates.

B. Guell: Requests AAUP liaison discuss the construction of slates as part of this process. Wanted to ensure each slate had significant Faculty governance experience, and these slates do not.

A. Arrington-Slocum: Not a formal requirement, so they did not consider faculty governance experience. Instead favored balance of colleges, gender, rank. However, no ethnicity data provided.

L. Eberman: People can self-disclose if they are part of a minoritized group.

L. Brown: Self-disclosure prevents speculation and assumptions.

2) Fifteen Minute Open Discussion

a. Vaccination Data

D. Selman: Receiving questions from students about vaccination rates and community spread. Is there something they can do beyond reaching out to Dean of Students?

K. Yousif: Dean of Students is a good place to start, but we can share these with the Provost as well. Receive relatively few comments from students.

b. Proposed Faculty Senate Resolution Endorsing a Vaccine Mandate:

T. Hawkins: Would like Senate to consider endorsing the following statement.

Given the continuing threat of the pandemic to lives, careers, and educational opportunities among members of the ISU and wider community

Given the existence and availability of safe and effective vaccines

Given the decision made by hundreds of colleges and universities to mandate vaccines as an essential part of a comprehensive strategy to stop the spread of the Covid virus and resume normal operations

Therefore, we the Faculty Senate of Indiana State University urge the Administration to mandate vaccination for faculty, staff, and students by the end of Fall 2021

K. Yousif: Inquires if T. Hawkins is making a motion for this meeting or for September 30.

T. Hawkins: Interested in knowing first if the Senate is inclined to do this.

K. Yousif: Timing may not be realistic. ISU has a good test case in place now with experiential learning vaccination requirement.

T. Hawkins: Time frame is the least important piece of this, vaccine mandate is key.

B. Guell: We should only speak for faculty; ask SGA and Staff Council to take up their own statements. This would require 2/3 vote because it did not go through a standing committee.

T. Hawkins: No, this is a simple resolution, not a piece of policy.

B. Guell: To simplify, K. Butwin could call us federal contractors and then we'd have to do it.

J. Finnie: Breaking it down between faculty, staff, and students is problematic if one of the other bodies doesn't want to require it. It should be required of everyone. Always slow to do things out of deference to the political process, but we need to get this done even if they say no.

B. Guell: This statement has an audience of one and President Curtis does not like it when faculty attempts to speak for other groups.

D. Israel: Still unclear on applying current guidelines for experiential learning. How can we get 72 hour turnaround on testing and/or vaccinations locally?

L. Brown: Advocate for vaccinations for everyone. We are all in the same environment, interacting with one another. Need to get everyone on this.

C. Ball: Not all faculty and staff are on campus. Should this apply to all?

S. Anderson: We need to make a statement. Senate cannot put this off.

L. Eberman: As faculty, we are training students to be good citizens. We need to ensure all of our students are doing what they need to do to protect the community. Even distance students are actively executing activities related to the university within their space. They are an extension of our community.

K. Yousif: Officers can put this statement into Exec discussion on Tuesday.

T. Hawkins: Not necessary.

J. Gustafson: At Exec, we can at least make it known to the President and Provost that this is coming down the line.

3) Adjournment 4:36pm.