

FAS Senate

AN ELECTED BODY OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
YALE UNIVERSITY

Minutes for the FAS Senate Meeting

Thursday, September 8, 2016

HGS 211, 320 York Street

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

APPROVED

In attendance: Chair Emily Greenwood, Deputy Chair/Secretary Doug Rogers, David Bercovici, Jill Campbell, Beverly Gage, John Geanakoplos, Shiri Goren, Matthew Jacobson, John Harris, Ruth Koizim, Christina Kraus, Kathryn Lofton, Reina Maruyama, Yair Minsky, Mark Mooseker, William Rankin, Charles Schmuttenmaer, Katie Trumpener, Vesla Weaver, Karen Wynn

Staff: Rose Rita Riccitelli

Absent: Ian Shapiro

Guests: Closed meeting – no guests present

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences Senate (FASS) meeting was called to order by Chair Emily Greenwood at 4:05 PM. Ms. Greenwood noted that the first three agenda items will have full minutes recorded and anything after item three will only have action items recorded in the minutes. Also, because this is a closed meeting, the minutes of the FASS May 19, 2016 meeting will not be considered and will be presented for approval at the next open meeting of the FASS.

Ms. Greenwood congratulated the FASS members for their amazing work under the leadership of Beverly Gage, and for the manner in which the Senate played a constructive role on campus last year. She remarked that the FASS has proven itself as an authentic voice for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), especially in the work of the *Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Conduct Standards and Procedures*, the *College Expansion Committee* and the *Committee on Diversity and Inclusivity*. She noted that we want to keep doing this type of work, follow up on all of the reports that were issued, make sure that more items originate with us, and develop ways in which we are able to address as many of the concerns put before us as possible. She thanked all for responding to the renaming issue during the summer and said that she believes that the FAS faculty are grateful that the *Committee to Establish Principles on Renaming* has been formed. With respect to FASTAP reforms, Ms. Greenwood reported that she and Deputy Chair/Secretary Doug Rogers had been in consultation with the Senate Faculty Advancement Committee, Executive Committee, and FASTAP Committee over the summer and noted that Dean Gendler has circulated the final version of the FASTAP '16 report for review before the final vote is taken on September 15th. She noted that the FASS has been asked to encourage FAS faculty to attend this meeting. She noted that the September 22nd presentation by President Salovey on the "State of the FAS" is being rescheduled by request from President Salovey. A new date will be announced as soon as we have it. She said that she would like to use the date of September 22nd as the first open meeting of the FASS and asked if there were any objections. There were two Senators that are not available, however there still would be a quorum so the date for the first FASS open meeting is set for September 22nd instead of October 13th. Ms. Greenwood then referred to the copyright issue that arose about the use of CANVAS and noted that Scott Strobel, Vice President for West Campus Planning & Program

Development has been most responsive and his investigation continues on the concerns that have been mentioned by various faculty on the use of this system. She mentioned that Rose Rita Riccitelli has created a Box site on the FASS's web site that contains two folders – one to share reports with FASS senators only and another to share documents with all of the FAS faculty. One of the documents in the FASS senators-only folder contains three files created by Bill Rankin on how to create a FASS report – including a template for Senators to use when creating a Senate report to ensure continuity in the way reports are formatted. Ms. Greenwood and Mr. Rankin encouraged senators to use this template as soon as they begin creating any document for the FASS. Ms. Greenwood mentioned that there is a major issue that was not included on the agenda – labor issues and the upcoming contract with the Local 34 Union that represents Yale administrative positions. The FASS Executive Council (EC) has been informed of issues that are of concern to Local 34 members. Minutes of the meeting that Ms. Greenwood and Ms. Riccitelli had with Local 34 representatives are in the FASS senators-only Box file for review. Ms. Greenwood reported that Dean Gendler is still looking for a chair for *Committee on the Economic Status of Faculty* (CESOF) and hopes to have this committee working soon. Ms. Greenwood said that the updated membership lists for each FASS committee are on the FASS web site and that all the committee lists are complete except for the *Committee on Elections and Nominations*, which needs one more member. She then introduced the updates from each FASS committee, beginning with Bill Nordhaus presenting an update on the *Committee on Budget and Finance*.

Mr. Nordhaus reported that this committee has still not received financial information that they have requested for some time from the administration. His hope is that they will be receiving this information sooner rather than later.

Vesla Weaver spoke on the *Committee on Elections and Nominations* and said that the committee did not meet over the summer. She noted that this year there will be a first, formal FAS Senate election and this committee will be busy organizing the spring elections.

Ms. Greenwood reported on the *Committee on Yale Committees* and said that the committee had a request this summer to put forward names for the *Committee on Teaching and Learning for the 21st Century*. Also they were asked for nominations for the Faculty Resource Committee and two of those nominees were taken. She then mentioned that the committee resent names that Mark Mooseker sent last year for the CESOF Committee.

Ruth Koizim reported on the *Committee on Yale College Expansion* and commented that obtaining information of any variety from the administration has not been successful. Ms. Lofton said that draft response to the FASS's report does exist, however the report is still being reviewed and will be forthcoming. Beverly Gage said that at the last meeting she attended with Dean Gendler, Dean Holloway, and Dean Cooley, it was promised that there would be a web site that would be broadly informative, reporting on what was coming with regards to the expansion.

Ms. Greenwood said that, in a recent phone conversation with Dean Gendler, the Dean had acknowledged the delay in responding to Senate reports and had asked her to convey to the Senate that she is trying to expedite responses on the reports that fall under the purview of the FAS Dean's office. Shiri Goren asked if the EC has met with the Provost and Ms. Greenwood responded that they have not.

Jill Campbell reported on the *Peer Advisory Committee* and asked if there is a way that the FASS can encourage greater faculty involvement in Senate activities. The committee was involved in a range of issues last year and was able to offer advising that led to mediation on some of the issues. They were successful on some and not so much on others. They still have a problem obtaining information due to

confidentiality issues, so were not given pertinent information on certain situations.

Ms. Lofton spoke on the *Ad-hoc Committee on Faculty Conduct Standards and Procedures*. She reported that a new ad hoc committee will soon be formed by the Provost to rethink the Faculty Standards and Procedures set forth by the University. Ms. Lofton herself will chair this committee. She asked that the FASS Committee on Faculty Standards and Procedures review the new Provost-appointed committee's work (with a new chair).

Yair Minsky reported on the *Committee on Faculty Advancement*, which is meeting next week to set their agenda for the year. His understanding is that there will be a meeting scheduled with Dean Gendler and Deputy Dean Lofton to discuss the *Parental Policy*. Dave Bercovici noted that administrative response about the Parenting Report has been poor. Bill Rankin said that when the committee heard from Deputy Provost Rick Bribiescas in the late spring, Rick said that there was nothing in the FASS Report that he didn't agree with.

Ms. Greenwood said that Dean Gendler requested to speak to the Senate at a Fall Senate meeting as a follow-up to her spring "State of the FAS" report given in April, and so one of the issues we can ask her to address is how we can expect responses to FASS reports as they are presented and received by the administration. Ms. Greenwood also noted that in reviewing the By-laws, the Graduate Dean is supposed to address the FASS once a year. She also suggested asking the Graduate Dean and the Provost to address the FASS in order to encourage greater transparency and sharing of information.

Charles Schmuttenmaer reported on the *Ad-hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusivity*. He said that the committee met two days ago. He reported that the committee feels that it should change from an ad hoc committee to a standing committee. In addition to any new business, the goals of the committee include reminding the administration of the various recommendations that were in the report issued in May, which the administration has not yet responded to. They plan to prioritize the 19 recommendations so that the ones that are most doable get attention first. He pointed to the fact that data does not exist on why faculty choose to leave Yale, so they would like to get this type of information. He also pointed out that the University does not have a "diversity statement" and most major universities have them and they are easily found. If Yale does indeed have such a statement, it is not evident. The committee also would like to coordinate with Deputy Dean for Diversity and Faculty Development Kathryn Lofton.

Katie Trumpener offered concerns about how reports are perceived by the administration and pointed to the Parenting Report as an example of the perception that this is a concern for a small number of faculty and therefore not important.

The second half of the meeting was closed for a discussion of Senate priorities during Academic Year 2016-17. In addition to possible projects and initiatives, Senators discussed a variety of strategies for managing Senate workload and for assuring optimal consultation with FAS faculty and with members of the administration. No action items were voted on and discussion of priorities for the year will be continued in the next open session of the Faculty Senate.