



KEAN

UNIVERSITY SENATE FULL SENATE MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2021
2:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.
Videoconference-Zoom

Senators in attendance:

•Ahlawat, •Anderson, •Baldwin, •Connors, •DiVirgilio, •Donovan, •Farrokh, •Filardo, •Gover, •Gubi, •Halper, •Joiner, •Knis-Matthews, •Lee, ab-Logue, •Lynch, ab-Mack, •Marks, •Moran, •Mulry, ab-Pintado-Casas, •Roebuck, •Sargent, •Schraer-Joiner, •Shebitz, •Stavola-Daly, •Webber, ab-Wetzel, •White, •Yucetepe

Student Representative:

Vacant

[•=present ex=Excused absent=ab]

Guests in attendance: Dr. Mike Salvatore

Meeting called to order by Chairman Donovan at 2:21 p.m.

I. Minutes – March 2, 2021
Motion to approve: Chris Lynch Second: Claire Mulry Minutes unanimously approved
II. Curriculum Items for Notification and/or Vote-<i>Notification and Vote</i>
A. Bachelor of Liberal Arts
1. Senators shared concerns about the resources that the program will have. 2. Senators also noted that the degree could, in future, compete for students and resources with other departments in Liberal Arts.

3. Senators pointed to programs in Liberal Arts at other universities, which do not have separate departments, but draw upon the courses throughout the university.
4. Senators suggested the possible addition of health and technology courses; others noted that these could be added in future revisions of the program.
5. Senators also highlighted the inclusion of an internship in the program, noting that this provided a potentially valuable work experience that enriches the degree offering.

Vote: Unanimously approved

III. Old Business-

A. Course caps

1. Chair Donovan explained that departments have been asked to review their courses and determine whether the course caps on the course outlines have been exceeded in the registration system.
2. Courses that are not in keeping with the course outline will be changed. Departments can notify the registrar to have these changes implemented.

IV. New Business-

A. Update on Art History – Dr. Elizabeth Hyde

1. Dr. Hyde explained that the three Art History professors – Dr. Lewis Kachur, Dr. Marguerite Mayhall, and Dr. Jacquelyn Stonberg – were slated for retrenchment in early 2020; these faculty were not considered in the negotiations following the COVID shutdown, which reinstated some faculty retrenched earlier in the year.
2. Thanks to the efforts of President Repollet, Ken Green, and the KFT, the retrenchment was delayed until May 2021, then delayed again until May 2022. It is hoped that the retrenchment may be permanently reversed.
3. The three faculty in question, Dr. Hyde noted, have been leaders in providing remote instruction, providing guidance and consultation in online learning.
4. The three faculty have also been active in collaborating with students on art and social justice and anti-racist works of art; they have also been active in scholarship both nationally and internationally with articles, books, and book chapters.
5. Senators suggested that a resolution concerning the University’s need for a vibrant Art History program would be welcome, particularly resolution that coincided with the hiring of a new Senior VPAA.
6. Senators asked questions about whether there were Art History courses in the new BLA program. It was noted that the new courses involving Art History and DEI could count toward the Social Justice requirements of the new degree.
7. Senators noted that there is a particular need for Art History in this time when questions concerning public discourse and representation are at the foreground.

B. Teaching & Learning Center – Dr. Barbara Lee

1. Senators discussed the work of the professional development committee, which is working on the creation of a new teaching and learning center for professional development.

2. Committee working on the Center is small. Senators noted that there is a need for more involvement of faculty in the development process.
3. Senators noted that ideas and agendas from previous efforts to create a mentoring program are available and could be of use to the University as a new Center is developed.
4. Chair Donovan noted that resources from previous faculty mentoring efforts will be forwarded to Mohammed Hassan who is working with Dr. Lee on development of the new center.

C. Middle States Commission on Higher Education – Dr. Fran Stavola-Daly

1. Standards Committees are working now toward a draft that will be delivered on June 4.
2. The Evidence Inventory Committee is using the Digital Learning Commons, including a program that Mohammed Hassan and Dr. Franklin Turner have created, to track progress according to Middle States standards. Senators suggested inviting them to the Senate to demonstrate how this tool is being used.
3. A series of open forums will be held as the University Community reviews the document. The narrative will be approximately 100 pages, with supporting evidence.
4. The director of the Middle States site visit team will be President Wu of Queens College (CUNY); he will visit first in Fall 2021 prior to the full site visit committee visit in Spring 2022.
5. The focus of the Committee has been on reflecting an accurate picture of the University in its current state, including the new initiatives that have been implemented since President Repollet joined the University.
6. Numerous Senators are members of the Middle States committee.
7. Dr. Stavola-Daly encouraged senators to review the Middle States self-study design and the available information concerning the Middle States report on the University web site.

D. Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (SVPASS) Search Committee

1. Chair Donovan provided background regarding concerns about Senate representation on the SVPAA. The Senate nominated Dave Joiner to serve on the SVPAA search committee; Dr. Joiner was not available, and the Board reached out to Dr. Claire Mulry, who agreed to serve. Chair Donovan requested additional Senate representation, but this request was denied.
2. Chair Donovan became aware of VP hiring guidelines that indicated 3 senators, as well as union representatives should be available. For Academic vice presidents, Chair Donovan noted, the University's hiring guidelines indicate that 8 members of the Senate should be appointed to the search committee.
3. Several Senators observed that the Senate should have greater representation on the Committee. Currently, it was noted, there are three full-time tenured faculty on the committee, Dr. James Castiglione (KFT representative), Dr. Claire Mulry, and Dr. Xurong Kong. Also, Dr. Rose Gonella, an associate Dean, is part of the Committee. Andrew Brennan, VP for Administration and Finance, is the chair of the committee. Storbeck Pimentel, the firm that conducted the search for the University President, is consulting on the current search.

4. Senators expressed concern about the reply Chair Donovan received to his request for more representation on the search Committee.
5. Senators indicated that they would like to see more Deans and professional staff on the committee.
6. Senators also raised concerns that the Committee does not include people with expertise in advisement or in student retention, which are significant concerns for the University.
7. Active researchers, it was noted, are also not represented on the Committee, despite the University's commitment to seeking R2 status. Senators noted, also, that for a Senior VPAA position there should be faculty representation from across multiple disciplines and colleges.
8. Senators asked Dr. Salvatore, the administration liaison to the Senate, for his comments. Dr. Salvatore noted that he had not known about this concern and indicated that he would convey the concerns of the Senate to the President.
9. A motion was introduced to request a meeting between Dr. Salvatore and Senate Exec to discuss faculty and staff representation on the Senior VPAA position.

Motion: Matthew Halper

Second: Holly Logue

Motion unanimously approved

E. Chair Donovan noted that he is planning to arrange the first meeting of the Constitution Committee and that additional information would be forthcoming regarding that initiative.

F. A motion to adjourn was introduced:

Motion: Fran Daly

Second: Dave Joiner

Motion approved

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 PM

V. Next Meetings

- A. Executive Committee Meeting – Tuesday, March 23, 2021 ~ Zoom Webinar at 2:15 p.m.
- B. Full Senate Meeting – Tuesday, March 30, 2021 ~ Zoom Webinar at 2:15 p.m.