**Committee Name:** Executive Committee of the University Senate (ECUS)

**Meeting Date & Time:** 4 March 2016; 2:00 –3:15

**Meeting Location:** 301 Parks Administration Building

**Attendance**:

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| **Members “P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets** |
| P | Kelli Brown (Provost) | P | Lyndall Muschell (CoE, ECUS Member) |
| P | Jolene Cole (Library; ECUS Member) | P | Susan Steele (CoHS, ECUS Chair Emeritus) |
| R | Steve Dorman (University President) | R | John R. Swinton (CoB, ECUS Chair) |
| P | Chavonda Mills (CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair) | P | Craig Turner (CoAS, ECUS Secretary) |
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| Guests:Carolyn Denard (Associate Provost for Student Success and Director of the Center for Student Success)Costas Spirou (Interim Associate Provost) |
|  | *Italicized text denotes information from a previous meeting.* |  |   |
|  | \*Denotes new discussion on old business. |  |  |

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| Agenda Topic | Discussions & Conclusions | Action or Recommendations | Follow-Up{including dates/responsible person, status (pending, ongoing, completed)} |
| **I. Call to order** | As John R. Swinton had extended Regrets and was unable to attend, the meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by Chavonda Mills (Vice-Chair). |  |  |
| **II. Approval of Agenda** | A **motion** *to approve the agenda* was made and seconded. | The agenda was approved as circulated. |  |
| **III. Approval of Minutes** | A **motion** *to approve the minutes of the 5 Feb 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee* was made and seconded. A draft of these minutes had been circulated to the meeting attendees via email with no revision offered. Thus, the minutes had been posted as circulated to the minutes.gcsu.edu site. | The minutes of the 5 Feb 2016 Executive Committee meeting were approved as posted, so no additional action was required. |  |
| **IV. Reports** | The following reports were invited. |  |  |
| **Provost Report****Provost Brown** | 1. There are three Georgia school finalists in the Truman Scholarship competition – one from Emory, UGA and Georgia College.
2. Georgia College’s 4 year graduation rate has increased 25% (2008 cohort – 39%; 2011 cohort – 49%); this is a tremendous accomplishment and all should be commended in this effort.
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| **Presiding Officer Report****John R. Swinton** | **4 Mar 2016** While John R. Swinton did not provide an oral report, during the preparation of these minutes he supplied the following1. **Bookstore Innovation Group (BIG)** This meeting occurred on 15 Feb 2016. The Bookstore Innovations Group (BIG) is a focus group to help the management of the University Bookstore better serve its stakeholders. Represented at the meeting were persons from across campus (Note: Student government was not represented to my knowledge). The pressing issue of the meeting was affordability of materials for students. While the obvious issue of the Bookstore having a monopoly position on campus was brought up immediately which risked setting a negative tone for the meeting, the overall tone of the meeting turned out to be informative and productive. There were a number of areas where faculty and the bookstore can work together to reduce the cost of materials for students. These include (but are not limited to):
	1. Using back issues when possible. If instructors indicate that back issues are acceptable the Bookstore can order them and keep them in inventory. It was suggested that a check box could be added at the time of ordering books that would indicate that previous editions would be acceptable.
	2. Electronic copies could be used when available.
	3. Instructors can indicate when ancillary or bundled materials will not be used. Unless instructed otherwise, the books are typically purchased with these materials. When students purchase used or back editions, these materials are generally either missing or access codes have expired. Again, a check box may be appropriate.
	4. Instructors are encouraged to examine the availability and appropriateness of open source materials from sites such as (but not limited to) Merlot or OpenStax College.

In the past, instructors who have not signaled their adoption choices early have been openly hounded. Going forward, the Bookstore's management hopes to make the case of the value of early adoption to give students the chance to see what alternative sources (such as Amazon) have to offer.1. **Risk Assessment Survey** On 17 Feb 2016, I met with Julia Hann for her annual Risk Assessment talks. Topics of conversation included our continuing improvement in mechanisms to communicate with constituents (mainly the new web presence), the importance of the continued support of our administration, and the need to keep faculty members engaged in shared governance.
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| **Past Presiding Officer Report****Susan Steele** | Susan Steele indicated that she had nothing to report as Past Presiding Officer. |  |  |
| **Presiding Officer Elect Report****Chavonda Mills** | Chavonda Mills reported on the following.1. **USGFC Spring Meeting** The next meeting of the University System of Georgia Faculty Council (USGFC) is scheduled for 15 April 2016 and will be hosted by Valdosta State University. Once the tentative agenda for this meeting is shared and I will circulate it for your information.
2. **Election Oversight** To date, ECUS has received elected faculty senator election results from all five academic units (CoB, CoE, CoAS, CoHS and Library). Results were emailed to the Corps of Instruction on 29 Feb 2016 and posted on FrontPage on 1 Mar 2016.
3. **College of Arts & Sciences** *(9 out of 9 reported)*
	1. Alex Blazer
	2. Hauke Busch
	3. Rodica Cazacu
	4. Kimberly Cossey
	5. Mary Magoulick
	6. Amy Pinney
	7. Ashley Taylor
	8. Tom Toney
	9. James Winchester
4. **College of Business** *(1 out of 1 reported)*
	1. J.F. Yao
5. **College of Education** *(N/A)*
	1. No open senate seats
6. **College of Health Sciences** *(1 out of 1 reported)*
	1. Will Hobbs
7. **Library and Information Technology Center** *(N/A)*
	1. No open senate seats
8. **Selected Staff Senators** According to the university senate bylaws, election results of selected staff senators were to be submitted to ECUS by March 1. A reminder of this deadline was recently emailed to staff council chair Daniel McDonald.
9. **Selected Student Senators**
	1. On behalf of ECUS, Chavonda Mills contacted SGA President (4 Mar 2016), Juwan Jackson, and shared the relevant senate bylaws to inform the selection of selected students senators to serve on the 2016-2017 University Senate.
	2. In addition, Craig Turner has been asked to meet with the newly elected SGA President and review information regarding selected student senators to serve on the 2016-2017 US.
10. **At-Large Election Results**
	1. Jan Clark (Department of English and Rhetoric)-53 votes (39%)-**ELECTED**
	2. Mike Gleason (Biological and Environmental Sciences)-31 votes (23%)
	3. Hedwig Fraunhofer (Modern Languages and Cultures)-29 votes (21%)
	4. Alex Blazer (English and Rhetoric)-22 votes (16%).
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| **Secretary Report****Craig Turner** | Craig Turner indicated that he had nothing to report as University Senate Secretary.Craig Turner did remind attendees that Georgia College is hosting the Georgia Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) on 4 Mar 2016 (today their steering committee meets) and 5 Mar 2016 (tomorrow for the conference business meeting). The Saturday 5 Mar 2016 session in the Museum Education Room of the Library beginning at 9:30am (an 8:30-9:30 continental breakfast) with guest speaker Regent Larry Walker. Craig Turner expressed appreciation to President Dorman who was providing fiscal support for food for the meeting as well as providing face-to-face support with *Welcome to the Campus* remarks. |  |  |
| **Library Senator Report****Jolene Cole** | Jolene Cole indicated that she had nothing to report as the Library Senator. |  |  |
| **V. Information Items**Actions/Recommendations |  |  |  |
| **University Senate Budget****John R. Swinton** | ***4 Sep 2015****The university senate has an operating budget of $5000 per annum. The expenses of the 2015 governance retreat (bus transit, retreat print materials, facilities use of Rock Eagle, etc.) have been paid. The current balance is $2667.30.**A question about the existence of a foundations account in the amount of $500 per annum was posed by the previous two university senate presiding officers (Susan Steele and Lyndall Muschell). ECUS Secretary Craig Turner confirmed that a foundation account ($500) had been documented in the executive committee minutes for the two previous years. John R. Swinton indicated that Monica Starley had indicated to him that there was no foundation account for the university senate for 2015-2016. John R. Swinton was encouraged to clarify this information with Monica Starley and other appropriate budget personnel (if necessary) as the previous two university senate presiding officers recalled that such an account existed under their terms.****6 Nov 2015****The balance of the university senate budget ($5000 allocation annually) is presently holding at 2667.30. The expenditures for AAUP Redbook purchases for both the ten copies on reserve in the library and the proposed copies for ECUS members and standing committee chairs are not yet included.****4 Dec 2015****Although John R. Swinton had followed up on the matter of seeking clarification on the existence of a $500 foundation account for the university senate, there was no paper trail of its existence. Activity for the university senate budget included the processing of the purchase of AAUP Redbooks – both the ten copies for FAPC review and the yet-to-be-ordered copies for university senate leaders, and the processing of the reimbursement for USGFC (University System of Georgia Faculty Council) meeting attendance expenses submitted by Chavonda Mills. At present not all of these items had posted to the account, so the current balance was higher than the available funds. An update will be provided at the next meeting of ECUS at which time all these expenditures should have posted*.***5 Feb 2016***1. ***Foundation Account*** *John R. Swinton had followed up on the matter of seeking clarification on the existence of a $500 foundation account for the university senate, and it continues to be the case that there is no documentation (paper trail or email record) of its existence. A suggestion from the floor was that if this situation persists, it may be wise to consider inquiring about the possibility of establishing such an account going forward. While there was no resistance offered orally to this possibility, there was also no formal vote to adopt this as a recommendation.*
2. ***Budget (Operating)*** *The balance of the university senate budget ($5000 allocation annually) is presently $1691.72 and includes the recent purchases of AAUP Redbooks for the university senate leadership as well as the anticipated expenditure of a $200 deposit to secure Rock Eagle as the site for the 2016 Governance Retreat.*
 |  | ***4 Sep 2015****John R. Swinton to check with Monica Starley and other appropriate budget personnel (if necessary) on the existence of a foundation account ($500) for the university senate.****6 Nov 2015****John R. Swinton did check on the foundation account and shared information with Executive Committee members as documented in the Presiding Officer Report of the 6 Nov 2015 ECUS meeting. As is indicated in that report, John R. Swinton to seek additional clarification from relevant university personnel on the existence of a foundation account for University Senate.****5 Feb 2016****John R. Swinton did seek additional clarification on the existence of a foundation account for University Senate.* |
| **VI. Unfinished Business Review of Action & Recommendations, Provide updates (if any) to Follow-up** |  |  |  |
| **Appoint Georgia College Story Archivist****John R. Swinton** | ***4 Sep 2015****At the 2015 Governance Retreat, a proposal to appoint a Georgia College Story Archivist was made. The library representative (Jolene Cole) had indicated the library had some recommendations on this appointment. It was agreed to postpone further deliberation on this appointment to the next ECUS meeting so that the library perspective could inform the appointment.****2 Oct 2015****John R. Swinton summarized the discussion on this matter that took place at earlier ECUS meetings including the governance retreat and the 2 Sep 2015 ECUS meeting. Jolene Cole indicated that with the recent departure of the University Archivist, she had in consultation with Nancy Davis Bray learned that storyteller is a function that will be included in the qualifications desired for the new position for which a search is beginning. It was noted that Dr. Robert J. Wilson III, who is our university historian, had recently retired and would now be serving in only a 49% capacity. Jolene Cole was invited to follow up on this issue to gather more information to report back to ECUS. The plan is to continue to monitor this situation with a goal of seeing a storyteller function come to fruition. A reminder that this emerged from the observation that a storyteller was present in at least one other USG institution.****6 Nov 2015****Jolene Cole indicated that she had consulted with university archives and that the search for a position with responsibilities including a university storyteller component is ongoing. As archivist, the stories would be more likely on historical events (those in the past) and university communications might contribute more directly to telling stories of current events. Jolene Cole indicated she would continue to consult and share information with the committee as it became available. There was general consensus to have this item be a standing item on future ECUS meeting agendas and check in with Jolene at each ECUS meeting to see if there is additional information available.****4 Dec 2015****Jolene Cole had no new information to report on this matter.****5 Feb 2016****As Jolene Cole had extended regrets and was unable to attend this meeting, there was no new information on this matter.***4 Mar 2016**Jolene Cole had no new information to report on this matter*.* |  | ***4 Sep 2015****John R. Swinton to ensure that this appointment of a Georgia College Story Archivist be considered at a future meeting of ECUS.****2 Oct 2015***1. *John R. Swinton did place consideration of the appointment of a Georgia College Story Archivist on the agenda of this meeting of ECUS.*
2. *Jolene Cole to consult with appropriate university personnel to gather information to inform further deliberation on this matter at a future ECUS meeting.*

***6 Nov 2015***1. *Jolene Cole did consult with appropriate university personnel to gather information to inform further deliberation on this matter.*
2. *Jolene Cole to consult with appropriate university personnel to gather information to inform further deliberation on this matter at a future ECUS meeting.*
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| **Selected Staff Senator Oversight** | ***2 Oct 2015****It was noted that the ECUS Calendar and Checklists document lists* ***Share information on election expectations with Staff Council Leadership*** *to be completed in September. At the meeting, the task of drafting these letters was assigned to Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) Chair Chavonda Mills.**Note: Following the meeting and during the preparation of these minutes, it was clarified that this was an ECUS function not a SCoN function and so responsibility for ensuring these letters are drafted and sent shifted to ECUS Chair John R. Swinton.****6 Nov 2015****After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Staff Council Leadership (Chair Daniel McDonald) has not been contacted regarding selection of selected staff senators for the 2016-2017 University Senate. Chavonda Mills offered to contact Staff Council Chair Daniel McDonald and share the relevant university senate bylaws. Her offer was accepted*.***4 Dec 2015****In her Presiding Officer Elect Report, Chavonda Mills noted that she had shared relevant university senate bylaws with Staff Council Chair Daniel McDonald to inform the selection of selected staff senators for the 2016-2017 University Senate.****5 Feb 2016*** *In her Presiding Officer Elect Report, Chavonda Mills noted that the eligibility requirements from Staff Council governance document(s) as well as a written description of the selection procedure developed by Staff Council were submitted to the Executive Committee on 11 Dec 2015 by Staff Council Chair Daniel McDonald.***4 Mar 2016** In her Presiding Officer Elect Report, Chavonda Mills noted that election results of selected staff senators were to be submitted to ECUS by March 1. A reminder of this deadline was recently emailed to staff council chair Daniel McDonald |  | ***2 Oct 2015****John. R. Swinton to ensure that selected staff senator selection information from the university senate bylaws is shared with the Staff Council Leadership.****6 Nov 2015****Chavonda Mills to contact Daniel McDonald (Staff Council Chair) to share the relevant university senate bylaws to inform the selection of selected staff senators to serve on the 2016-2017 University Senate.****4 Dec 2015***1. *Chavonda Mills did contact Daniel McDonald (Staff Council Chair) to share the relevant university senate bylaws to inform the selection of selected staff senators to serve on the 2016-2017 University Senate.*
2. *John. R. Swinton did ensure that selected staff senator selection information from the university senate bylaws is shared with the Staff Council Leadership.*
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| **Elected Faculty Senator Oversight**  | ***2 Oct 2015****It was noted that the ECUS Calendar and Checklists document lists* ***Share information on election expectations in academic units (colleges and library) with a letter to college deans and the university librarian*** *as a recurring annual ECUS function to be completed in September. Given the reapportionment of a seat shifting from College of Education (CoE) to College of Arts and Sciences, a quick check was made to see if at least one CoE elected faculty senator had a term ending in 2016 (finding it was the case). At the meeting, the task of drafting these letters was assigned to Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) Chair Chavonda Mills*.*Note: Following the meeting and during the preparation of these minutes, it was clarified that this was an ECUS function not a SCoN function and so responsibility for ensuring these letters are drafted and sent shifted to ECUS Chair John R. Swinton.****6 Nov 2015****Ultimately, Chavonda Mills sent the letters with appropriate appendices to the deans of the academic units (colleges and library) after providing ECUS members the opportunity to review the draft letters and appendices.****4 Dec 2015****As noted by Chavonda Mills in her Presiding Officer Elect Report, the elected faculty senator election procedures have been received from each academic unit. Election results are due no later than 1 Feb 2016.****5 Feb 2016****In her Presiding Officer Elect Report at this meeting, Chavonda Mills provided an update on election results.***4 Mar 2016**In her Presiding Officer Elect Report at this meeting, Chavonda Mills provided an update on election results providing closure on this item. |  | ***2 Oct 2015****John. R. Swinton to ensure that elected faculty senator oversight letters (with the typical supporting documents) are sent to the college deans and university librarian.****6 Nov 2015****John. R. Swinton did ensure that elected faculty senator oversight letters (with the typical supporting documents) were sent to the college deans and university librarian.* |
| **At-Large Election** | ***6 Nov 2015****It was noted that a recurring ECUS function is to administer the at-large election of an elected faculty senator and that this election must be implemented during February and completed by March 1. Chavonda Mills accepted the invitation to draft an at-large election procedure for ECUS review. John R. Swinton offered to share the at-large election materials from 2014-2015 with Chavonda, an offer which she quickly accepted.****4 Dec 2015****Chavonda Mills invited Craig Turner to provide context on the proposed changes and he accepted this invitation. Most of the updates involved the timeline and mimicked the timeline used during 2014-15. The quote of University Senate Bylaw II.Section1.A.2 was corrected to cite thirty-seven (37) faculty members rather than the errant thirty-six (36) cited in 2014-15. The only other modification was to reword a sentence referencing apportionment and the corps of instruction list to cull the reference to the academic year and refer to the most recent versions so that this sentence would not require an annual update. Historically the two main points of conversation are the longstanding tie-breaker procedure (dating back to 2005-2006) of a blind draw and the even longer standing replacement procedure (dating back to 2004-2005) of the Miss America Rule. The Miss America Rule is where the first-runner up, second runner up, etc. would be invited (in order) to complete the term of service should the elected at-large senator be unable to complete the three year term of service. Following this contextual presentation, the at-large procedure was adopted as presented.***4 Mar 2016**In her Presiding Officer Elect Report at this meeting, Chavonda Mills provided an update on at-large election results providing closure on this item. |  | ***6 Nov 2015****Chavonda Mills to draft an at-large election procedure for ECUS review.****4 Dec 2015****Chavonda Mills did draft an at-large election procedure for ECUS review.* |
| **Governance Calendar for 2016-2017** | ***6 Nov 2015****It was noted that a recurring ECUS function is to prepare a governance calendar (in this case for 2016-2017) by April 1. Craig Turner, John R. Swinton and Chavonda Mills indicated their interest in assisting with the preparation of a draft of the 2016-2017 governance calendar for ECUS review.****4 Dec 2015****Concerns regarding the Governance Calendar were raised from the floor during the 20 Nov 2015 meeting of the university senate. The interested reader is directed to those minutes for details. At the conclusion of this open discussion at the 20 Nov 2015 university senate meeting, John R. Swinton had promised to ensure that the university senate has an opportunity during the spring 2016 semester to review and offer feedback on the draft governance calendar for 2016-2017.**ECUS deliberation on this topic was to consider the timeline for the development of the 2016-2017 governance calendar to ensure time for university senate review. The university senate bylaws call for a 1 April completion date. It was agreed that the governance calendar drafting committee (John R. Swinton, Chavonda Mills, and Craig Turner) would strive to complete a draft of the calendar to allow the university senate time to review the draft during at least one of its 22 Jan 2016 and 19 Feb 2016 meetings.**During the conversation, there was a reminder that the governance calendar was initially (in 2005-2006) a meeting priority calendar and claimed to indicate the meeting which would have priority for a common meeting time. At some point (specifically 2006-2007) the calendar was streamlined to include only governance (department, college, college committee, university senate, and university senate committee) meetings and became known at the governance calendar. There was an agreement to consider returning to the meeting priority calendar nomenclature at a future meeting of the Executive Committee.**A question from the floor - What is the action the University Senate would take on the calendar? - stimulated further deliberation. The possibilities for university senate action that were offered for consideration included (1) to review and advise the governance calendar development committee (2) to endorse the governance calendar as a resolution (3) to formalize the governance calendar as a motion. While no formal vote was taken, the option that garnered the most vocal support was option (2) endorsing the governance calendar as a resolution. It was agreed to continue the consideration of this matter at a future meeting of the Executive Committee.****5 Feb 2016****John R. Swinton requested and received permission from those present at this meeting to circulate the DRAFT 2016-2017 Governance Calendar to the members of the university senate and invite them to review the draft and offer feedback. Note: During the preparation of these minutes, this email was sent.***4 Mar 2016**ECUS approved routing the governance calendar to the university senate for endorsement at the upcoming (18 Mar 2016) meeting of the university senate. | It  | ***6 Nov 2015****Craig Turner, John R. Swinton, and Chavonda Mills to ensure that a draft of the 2016-17 governance calendar is prepared for ECUS review.****4 Dec 2015****John R. Swinton to ensure that this matter receives consideration at a future ECUS and/or ECUS-SCC meeting.* |
| Campus Carry**Craig Turner (Feb)****Chavonda Mills (Mar)** | ***5 Feb 2016****John R. Swinton had received an email inquiry asking what action the university senate is taking with respect to this matter. This email inquiry triggered the inclusion of this matter as an agenda item for this ECUS meeting. John R. Swinton invited Craig Turner to provide contextual information on the current proposal under consideration in the Georgia Legislature.**One supporting document circulated with this meeting’s tentative agenda was relevant to. HB 859, a house bill under consideration in the Georgia Legislature. This bill proposes the following.**To amend Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to carrying and possession of firearms, so as to authorize the carrying and possession of certain weapons by weapons carry license holders in or on certain buildings or real property owned by or leased to public institutions of postsecondary education; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:****SECTION 1****.**Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to carrying and possession of firearms, is amended in subsection (c) of Code Section 16-11-127.1, relating to carrying weapons within school safety zones, at school functions, or on a bus or other transportation furnished by a school, by deleting "or" at the end of paragraph (17), by replacing the period with "; or" at the end of paragraph (18), and by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:**(19) Any license holder when he or she is in or on any building or real property owned by or leased to any public technical school, vocational school, college, university, or other institution of postsecondary education; provided, however, that such exception shall not apply to buildings or property used for athletic sporting events or student housing, including, but not limited to, fraternity and sorority houses; and provided, further, that such exception shall only apply to the carrying of weapons which are licensed pursuant to Code Section 16-11-129."****SECTION 2****.**All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.**Bills of this type are referenced as Campus Carry in the media. This bill offers a 19th exception to the current Georgia code (state law). As examples, other exceptions include allowances for (1) school officials (principals) to authorize with respect to their own schools the use of a weapon which would otherwise be prohibited by Georgia code (2) law enforcement personnel in exercising their duties. Craig Turner indicated that he had a conversation with President Dorman (prior to this meeting) regarding this matter. Following that conversation (and prior to this meeting), President Dorman communicated with USG leadership including the Chancellor and indicated that within the next week, guidance from the USG leadership is anticipated. Craig Turner also noted that the faculty governance body of Augusta University (formerly Georgia Regents University) recently passed a resolution pertaining to this proposed legislation. There was general consensus to inform university senate activity on this matter with the guidance anticipated from the USG leadership. There was also an observation offered from the floor that university employees are of course free to contact their legislative representatives and express their opinions on this matter as Georgia citizens.***4 Mar 2016**ECUS reviewed the campus carry opposition resolution drafted by the faculty governance body at Valdosta State University and agreed that Chancellor Huckaby’s recent statement in opposition to the campus carry bill was sufficient in relaying faculty concerns on the bill. Thus, there is no need for the university senate to draft a resolution on the matter. Employees are reminded of the opportunity they have to communicate with their legislative representatives as citizens. |  |  |
| **VII. New Business**Actions/Recommendations |  |  |  |
| **Implementation of Recently Adopted Motions Sponsored by ECUS** | Craig Turner graciously volunteered to ensure proper implementation of the following motions (sponsored by ECUS), each of which has been recommended for approval to the university president by the university senate and approved by President Dorman.1. 1516.EC.001.O-Adopt the governance history as an official university senate document
2. 1516.EC.002.O-Adopt the university senator handbook as official university senate document
3. 1516.EC.003.O-Bylaws Amendment: ScoN Composition
4. 1516.EC.004.O-Bylaws Amendment: Eligibility of Elected Faculty Senators
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| **Student Opinion Survey Policy****Craig Turner** | Craig Turner provided historical background on the development of the Student Opinion Survey policy and why it is necessary to update the email notifications related to the implementation of the policy due to changes in electronic systems (UNIFY). It was noted that since electronic system changes may occur regularly, it will be best to cull these notifications out of the policy and create two separate documents, one with the policy and another with the notifications (directions for access). Craig Turner graciously agreed to revise the policy to be presented as a motion at the upcoming (18 Mar 2016) senate meeting. |  |  |
| **Priority Registration for Veterans****Provost Brown** | Provost Brown presented a proposal to grant priority registration to veterans and requested ECUS to approve the request. Following discussion, ECUS agreed that the most appropriate body to consider this request is the Priority Registration Task Force and recommended that Provost Brown request that task force to review the request. |  |  |
| **Provost’s Memo****Provost Brown** | Provost Brown shared a memo she drafted and distributed to the college deans and library director addressing process and procedures on hiring department chairs, probationary credit when hiring faculty, online teaching, faculty search ads, terminal degrees, new faculty hires without terminal degree at hire, faculty positions staff positions, and new faculty orientation. This memo is attached to these minutes as a supporting document. The following were the conversation points during the interactive presentation of this memo arranged by topic. Provost Brown indicated that the best practices articulated in the memo are intended for the future and will not be applied to any current employee.* + - 1. **Department Chairs**
				1. For the issue of all chair positions requiring a national search. While in some cases – particularly for high-profile departments – a national search may be advisable, it has been my experience that some departments function very well when the chair is selected from among the active faculty members in the department. I have a philosophical preference for everyone in a department assuming that they are responsible in part for their own governance and may be called upon to lead at some point. In fact, to go one step further, it might be healthy in some cases that the chair’s position rotate on a regular schedule through a department. In cases of departments that are not functioning well either due to internal strife or a lack of leadership an external chair is probably advisable. My opinion is that it should be a Dean’s call as to whether or not a department is functioning well enough that it can be trusted to select its leadership from within.
				2. While I respect the position of promoting a rotating chair, I have been witness to a bad implementation of this practice wherein all faculty in a department were to serve as chair in alphabetical order by surname. This did not work well in that department.
				3. This statement is setting a best practice. In particular, tenure and full professor rank at appointment for a department chair is mainstream best practice. Having tenure is important when making tough decisions. Department Chairs should not be subject to review (for tenure or promotion) by the faculty they supervise.
				4. Going forward, it is important to have clarity in an administrative contracts with the inclusion of a step down provision. This provision indicates the administrative stipend and the salary that would be applied if the administrator stepped down into the faculty and resigned the administrative responsibilities to a successor.
			2. **Probationary Credit**
				1. Important to formalize in writing and document this clearly at the time of appointment.
			3. **Online Teaching**
				1. None
			4. **Faculty Search Ads**
				1. This statement is to promote clarity in expectations and is indeed mission appropriate.
			5. **Terminal Degrees**
				1. Regarding the requirement that all new faculty positions be filled with people with terminal degrees. In an ideal world, all of our students would be taught by people with terminal degrees in their field. In many disciplines, however, the introductory levels can be taught more than adequately by a dedicated lecturer with a Master’s degree (in disciplines where the PhD is the terminal degree). And the practicality of filling every position with people who have earned a terminal degree can create serious constraints. One constraint is the hiring of new faculty with spouses in academia. Given the limited number of professional opportunities in our geographical area, having a policy that precludes the hiring of spouses without terminal degrees in lecturer roles could further complicate our efforts to bring the best possible people to our campus. Perhaps a policy where such hires are evaluated on a case-by-case basis would be more appropriate.
				2. Hiring only faculty candidates with a terminal degree is standard practice in Nursing.
				3. This can’t be done in Accounting as we can’t afford a terminal degree applicant in a lecturer slot.
			6. **New Faculty Hires without Terminal Degree at Hire**
				1. Reduced faculty salary for faculty member without a terminal degree with promise to complete the terminal degree. This reduction can be prorated if the completion date occurs during the term of the contract.
			7. **Faculty Positions**
				1. This is a best practice. This will allow review of a position that becomes vacant (resignation or retirement or dismissal) to ensure it still fits our mission. This also affords the consideraton of shifting the position to other areas for which there are mission critical needs.
			8. **Faculty/Staff Positions**
				1. Pooling permanent lapses can fund new positions.
			9. **New Faculty Orientation**
				1. None.
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| **Procedures for Information Items that Require Subsequent Actions****Chavonda Mills** | A motion to postpone adjournment and extend the meeting by up to ten minutes (allowing adjournment as late as 3:25pm) was made, seconded, and approved.Costas Spirou provided background on the MMIS online program request that was not properly routed through the university senate due to an oversight by the standing committee reviewing the request. It was noted that the routing process not being followed was an isolated event and, if standing committee chairs follow the procedures already in place for routing information items, such errors won’t occur. ECUS suggested no changes to the current procedures for sharing information items. The only action will be to remind standing committee chairs to include information items in reports to university senate. |  |  |
| VIII. Next Meeting(Tentative Agenda, Calendar) |  |  |  |
| **1. Calendar** | 18 Mar 2016 @ 2:00pm Univ. Senate in A&S 2-721 Apr 2016 @ 2:00pm ECUS in 301 Parks1 Apr 2016 @ 3:30pm ECUS-SCC in 301 Parks |  |  |
| **2. Tentative Agenda** | Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for future ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. |  | John R. Swinton to ensure that such items (if any) are added to agendas of an ECUS and/or ECUS-SCC meeting in the future. |
| **IX. Adjournment** | As there was no further business to consider, a **motion** *to adjourn* *the meeting* was made and seconded. | The motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm (note the motion to extend the meeting in Procedures for Information Items that Require Subsequent Actions) |  |

**Distribution:**

First; To Committee Membership for Review

Second: Posted to the Minutes Website

**Approved by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Committee Chairperson (Including this Approval by chair at committee discretion)

**Committee Name:** Executive Committee of the University Senate (ECUS)

**Committee Officers:** John R. Swinton (Chair), Chavonda Mills (Vice-Chair), Craig Turner (Secretary**)**

**Academic Year:** 2015-2016

**Aggregate Member Attendance at Committee Meetings for the Academic Year:**

**“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets**

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| Acronyms |  |  EFS = Elected Faculty Senator; CoAS = College of Arts & Sciences, CoB = College of Business; CoE = College of Education; CoHS = College of Health Sciences |
| Meeting Dates | 09-04-15 | 10-02-15 | 11-06-15 | 12-04-15 | 02-05-16 | 03-04-16 | 04-01-16 | Present | Regrets | Absent |
| Kelli Brown*Provost* | R | P | P | R | R | P |  | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Jolene Cole*EFS; Library, ECUS Member*  | R | P | P | P | R | P |  | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| Steve Dorman*University President* | P | R | R | R | R | R |  | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Chavonda Mills*EFS; CoAS; ECUS Vice-Chair* | P | P | P | P | P | P |  | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Lyndall Muschell*EFS; CoE; ECUS Member*  | P | P | P | P | P | P |  | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Susan Steele*EFS; CoHS; ECUS Chair Emeritus* | P | P | P | P | P | P |  | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| John R. Swinton*EFS; CoB; ECUS Chair*  | P | P | P | P | P | R |  | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| Craig Turner*EFS; CoAS; ECUS Secretary*  | P | P | P | P | P | P |  | 6 | 0 | 0 |