COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) WITH STANDING

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (SCC)

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2021, 3:30-4:45 P.M.

MEETING LOCATION: WEBEX

ATTENDANCE:

Мемн	BERS "P" denotes Present, "A" denotes Absent, "R" denotes Regrets						
P	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Chair Secretary)						
P	Hauke Busch (CoAS, ECUS Chair Emeritus)						
R	Steve Dorman (University President)						
P	Jennifer Flory (CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair)						
P	Catherine Fowler (CoHS, ECUS Chair)						
P	Karl Manrodt (CoB, ECUS Member)						
P	Lyndall Muschell (CoE, ECUS Member)						
P	Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member)						
P	Costas Spirou (Provost)						
P	Nicholas Creel (APC Chair)						
P	Linda Bradley (DEIPC Chair)						
P	Sabrina Hom (FAPC Chair)						
P	Damian Francis (RPIPC Chair)						
P	Gail Godwin (SAPC Chair)						
GUESTS							
Shawr	Brooks (Vice President for Student Life)						
Shea Council (Administrative Assistant of the 2021-2022 University Senate)							
Rob S	Rob Sumowski (Elected Faculty Senator, CoE, APC Member)						

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold text denotes action or recommendation.

- **I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Catherine Fowler (Chair).
- II. Approval of Agenda: A <u>Motion</u> to approve the agenda was made and seconded. The agenda was approved as circulated.
- III. Approval of Minutes: As this was the first meeting of the year, there were no minutes to approve.

IV. Reports

University President — President Steve Dorman

1. **Regrets, No Report** As President Dorman had extended *Regrets* and was unable to attend this meeting, there was no President's Report.

University Provost — **Provost Costas Spirou**

- 1. <u>High Impact Practices (HIPs) Implementation Teams</u> Georgia College nominated the following faculty to be part of the second year of High Impact Practices (HIPs) Implementation Teams at scale for USG:
 - a. Damian Francis, College of Health Sciences
 - b. Joy Godin, College of Business
 - c. Angela Criscoe, College of Arts and Sciences
 - d. Olha Osobov, College of Education

Faculty chosen as Implementation Leaders will serve for the coming academic year (fall/spring) in a critical role, assisting their institution faculty and the System at large to support HIPs implementation at scale.

- 2. <u>Pathways to Georgia College</u> On August 23, 2021 Georgia College signed the Pathways to Georgia College agreement with the College of Coastal Georgia. The agreement is aimed at supporting students who did not gain admission to GC as first year applicants by providing them with an opportunity to join a USG institution and then transfer to GC. All students must meet the university admissions requirements. In 2020 Georgia College signed similar agreements with Georgia Highlands College and Gordon State College.
- 3. 2022 Faculty Research Grants Round I The call for research grant proposals for Fall 2022 Round I opened September 1, 2021 with a deadline of September 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Once the applicant has their materials ready to submit, please log into GeorgiaVIEW, click on the Self-Registration menu option, find the 2022 (Round I) Faculty Research Grant Applications course. Be sure to complete the self-registration for the course. Submission instructions and forms to upload your materials are in the course announcements.
 - a. **Grant amount**: Up to \$5,000.00
 - b. Application Open: September 1, 2021 to September 17, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m. EST
 - c. Winners Announced: October 5th, 2021
 - d. Award Lasts Until: May 1, 2022 [All funds must be expended by May 1, 2022]
- 4. 2022 Inclusive Excellence Faculty Research Grant The application period opened September 1. The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding for Georgia College faculty to conduct research on topics regarding inclusive excellence in the discipline and beyond. Faculty can address inclusive excellence in a variety of ways including: examining underserved populations; researching the effect of educational, economic, health, and environmental disparities; analyzing public policies and their impact on the social world; investigating historical events; evaluation of effective and inclusive teaching; discovering the roles specific learning outcomes includes or excludes our learners; identifying the impact the use of technology has on certain populations; and recognizing the student's agency in successfully matriculating through the coursework. The submission deadline is September 17, 2021. For assistance, contact the Center for Teaching and Learning at ctl@gcsu.edu, or call (478) 445-2520.
 - a. **Grant amount:** Up to \$4,000.00
 - b. Application Open: September 1, 2021 to September 17, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m. EST
 - c. Winners Announced: October 5th, 2021
 - d. Award Lasts Until: May 1, 2022 [All funds must be expended by May 1, 2021]

- 5. Quality Matters (QM) GC is now offering Quality Matters (QM) training in conjunction with the Digital Bootcamp course. Upon completing the QM training and the Digital Bootcamp, you will receive two completion certificates, one from Quality Matters and the other from the Center for Teaching and Learning, which verifies your readiness to develop a quality online course. Quality Matters is the global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments. It provides a scalable quality assurance system for online and blended learning used within and across organizations. QM designed the professional development to help educators deliver the promise of quality online learning opportunities to every level of learning. For more information or to register, please contact Dr. Simeco Vinson at the Center for Teaching and Learning at ctl@gcsu.edu, or call (478)445-2520.
- 6. Provost Summer Research Fellows (formerly Faculty Scholarship Support Program) provides additional support for faculty to disseminate their research, artistic work and/or teaching and learning scholarship in a peer-reviewed publication and/or juried context. The purpose is to award one of the most valuable resources of all time. This time would be used to write your scholarship or prepare your performance or exhibition. The goal is to increase the scholarly productivity of Georgia College faculty by making additional resources (i.e., time) available. By increasing our dissemination of scholarship through peer-reviewed/juried outlets, we will enhance our national reputation; and the higher education learning community will have an opportunity to learn about all the great research, creative work, teaching and learning that is occurring at Georgia College.
- 7. <u>Andalusia</u> was recently designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL). It is Georgia College's second museum to receive this prestigious status. Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion was the first campus landmark to receive this recognition in 1973.
- 8. <u>Visiting Scholars Program</u> The Provost Office is preparing to launch a new visiting scholars program. The Provost's Visiting Scholars Program, funded by the Office of the Provost, is intended to enrich the learning experiences of faculty and students within the context of an academic department/school. The initiative will allow academic departments/schools to invite domestic scholars for a week-long visit (Sunday to Friday). The Provost's Visiting Scholars Program will be a competitive, application-based program and will provide faculty and students an opportunity to engage with experts within its residency format. Academic departments are encouraged to submit an application for the Spring 2022 academic term. Applications are due October 15th, 2021.
- 9. The Georgia College Aquatic Sciences Center is a new initiative at the university. A quick review of Georgia College faculty's research and teaching interests shows that over 20 faculty and staff are involved in research or teaching courses that cover water-related topics. The Aquatic Sciences Center will leverage existing strengths, collaborations, and equipment in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences to provide a platform and structure for collaborative research, grant writing, student training, and community engagement. Pooling resources and equipment under the umbrella of the center will enhance our competitiveness for external funding opportunities, elevate the visibility of the work that we already do, and provide administrative support that will enable faculty to spend more time training and mentoring students in water-related research. The Center will reside in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences.

10. <u>COVID-19 Testing</u> GC offered a COVID-19 rapid testing clinic for employees and students on Tuesday, Aug. 31 in Magnolia Ballroom from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Plans are underway for additional testing clinics. Thank you to the College of Health Sciences for developing testing/flu shot clinics for Fall 2021:

Date	Time	Location	Service	faculty		
			offered			
Sep. 9	1-4	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	3560 faculty		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
Sep. 13 TBD				Public health/nursing		
Sep. 14	1-3	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	Fowler		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
Sep. 15	1030	HSB- skills	Flu shot	Handwerker/Chambliss		
	A-230	lab				
	PM					
Sep. 16	9 A-12	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	3560 faculty/Paramore		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
	1-4					
	PM					
Sep. 20 TBD				Public health/nursing		
Sep. 21	1-3	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	Fowler		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
Sep. 22	1030	HSB- skills	Flu shot	Handwerker/Chambliss		
	A-230	lab				
	PM					
Sep. 23	9 A-12	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	3560 faculty/Paramore		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
	1-4					
	PM					
Sep/ 28	8 A-	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	Canady/Clark		
	12 PM	sidewalk	shot			
Sep. 30	9 A-12	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	3560 faculty		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
	1-4					
	PM					
Oct. 19	8 A-12	Parks Mem	Covid test/ flu	Canady/Clark		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			
Nov. 30	9 A-12	Parks Mem	Covid test/flu	Canady/Clark		
	PM	sidewalk	shot			

- 11. TREK For the Fall 2021 FYS pilot, Georgia College is offering 30 sections of TREK. Students are required to attend the Academic Expo and faculty are leading the effort. At the end of the semester we will assess the student experience and identify ways to support first year students.
- 12. <u>State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement</u> Georgia College was just approved for another year of participation in SARA. SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity

- Agreement) is an agreement among member states that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs.
- 13. <u>Colleges of Distinction</u> Georgia College has received the Colleges of Distinction designation. Please see website link.
- 14. <u>Thank You</u> to all of our faculty for your hard work and deep commitment to our students and to Georgia College! I know that this work is challenging and there are anxieties across the broader spectrum of our campus community. I would also like to thank all of those who have already taken the vaccine. We know that this is the best line of defense we can take against COVID for our colleagues and your loved ones.

Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) — Chair Jennifer Flory

- 1. <u>Revised 2021-2022 Slate of Nominees</u> Slate for University Senate 2021-22 is complete and will be emailed to ECUS and SCC. Changes since April are listed below.
 - a. DEIPC
 - i. Susan Bergeron, Staff Council appointee
 - ii. Lauren Miller, SGA appointee
 - b. RPIPC
 - i. Staff council members: Ashley Banks, John Donaldson, and John Jackson
 - ii. Appointees/designees
 - 1. Lee Fruitticher, President appointee, to replace Susan Allen
 - 2. Amber Collins, Chief Business Officer designee
 - 3. Susan Kerr, Chief Information Officer designee
 - 4. Gail Humphries, SGA appointee
 - c. SAPC
 - i. James Patrick Robertson and Molly Robbins, Student senators
 - ii. Kevin Blanch, Staff senator
 - iii. Appointees/designees
 - 1. Jack Howle, SGA appointee
 - 2. Tom Miles, Chief Student Affairs Officer designee
 - 3. Ruth Eilers, Staff Council appointee
- 2. <u>Election Oversight</u> The Corps of Instruction list was requested 8/25/21). Neil Jones email to Dr. Flory, 8/25/21: "Thank you for the note. This is on the agenda and we anticipate meeting the annual request by the prescribed September 15 due date. This approach is consistent with previous years."
 - a. Follow Up: Jennifer Flory will update the spread sheet once received and then email to ECUS for review, then send to SCC for review.
- 3. <u>COVID-19</u> Covid policy and procedure questions (see New Business, below) were sent 8/31/21. Covid testing and vaccines information was requested on 8/29/21.
 - a. Email Correspondence
 - i. I am emailing with a few questions for you in preparation for our Executive Committee of University Senate at the end of this week. I am the COVID-19 point person for ECUS. Please respond to my questions

below by EOB on Thursday, September 2. Thank you for all of your hard work and support during this difficult time.

- 1. What is our inventory on hand of COVID-19 vaccines?
- 2. What is the demand for COVID-19 vaccines?
- 3. What is the availability of COVID-19 vaccines to supplement this supply?
- 4. What is our inventory on hand of COVID-19 testing supplies?
- 5. What is the demand for COVID-19 testing supplies?
- 6. What is the availability of COVID-19 testing supplies to supplement this supply?
- ii. Going forward, I would also like to request the following information be sent to me every week.
 - 1. The number of students tested at SHS for COVID-19.
 - 2. The number of positive COVID-19 tests at SHS.
 - 3. The number of students administered COVID-19 vaccinations.
 - 4. The number of employees administered COVID-19 vaccinations.
- iii. Shawn Brooks email to Dr. Flory, 8/30/21.

Dr. Childre has forwarded your request for information. Please be advised that we are working with both the USG System Office and the Department of Public Health to ensure that we have access to all of the COVID-19 tests and vaccines to meet the demands of our campus community. Moving forward, we also anticipate having access to sufficient supplies for both COVID testing and vaccinations for our campus. Please note that the only data we publish related to COVID on campus can be found on our web page at GC COVID-19 Reporting & Confirmed Cases | Georgia College & State University (gcsu.edu). This information is published every Monday.

Executive Committee of University Senate (ECUS) — Chair Catherine Fowler

1. Presiding Officer Activities

- a. <u>President and Provost</u> I held two summer meetings with the Provost in which we discussed Covid, plagiarism policy, and SRIS. Plagiarism and SRIS were sent to APC for discussion. I held one meeting with President Dorman. I had multiple August phone meetings with the provost. I had email communication with Dr. Dorman, thanking him for his presence at the retreat; he sends his regrets for September ECUS and Senate meetings.
- b. **Senators** I held virtual Webex meetings with new senators and other senators I did not know.
- c. Academic Leadership Team: Attended Academic Leaders meeting on August 4
- d. <u>Governance Retreat</u> The Senate Governance retreat, on August 9, was moved to virtual format, per member Qualtrics survey request.
- e. **Presiding Officer Elect Training** started in June and is on-going.
- f. Senator Pins were delivered.

- 2. <u>COVID Testing Clinics</u> I am setting up and coordinating covid testing and flu shot clinics as part of the MRC activation and CoHS initiative (Dr. Fowler and Dr. Kaninjing). Clinics are being coordinated with Drs. MacMillan, Brooks, Czech, and Childre.
- 3. <u>2021-2022 Governance Calendar</u> A first draft of the calendar has been completed.
- 4. 2021-2022 ECUS Operating Procedures ECUS adopted operating procedures.
- 5. **COVID-19 Discussion** ECUS held an open discussion of COVID-19 issues.
- 6. ECUS-SCC Discussion

a. 2021-2022 Governance Calender

i. Comment: Contact Associate Provost Holley Roberts and Administrative Assistant Shannon Gardner, who are knowledgeable about curriculum calendars, in the drafting process. Follow Up: Catherine Fowler will contact Roberts and Gardner.

Academic Policy Committee (APC) — Chair Nicholas Creel

1. Academic Freedom

- a. We discussed how another committee (FAPC) has explicit jurisdiction over this and that we should contact them to see what, if anything, they are doing on this front.
- b. Follow Up: Nicholas Creel volunteered to speak to FAPC to provide a legal analysis of the issue and to provide recommendations given the state of the law.

2. Self-Plagiarism

a. We noted that the Bobcat Code, Rule 10, specifically, already covers this activity. We will inquire why this is insufficient and perhaps recommend renaming, or even just add the words "self-plagiarism" to the code.

3. Increasing SRIS Completion Rates

- a. We discussed the flaws of the current SRI system and identified questions to ask of the Provost on the matter such as when the current contract with the company that handles SRIs ends.
- b. Recommendations we discussed included:
 - i. Give SRIS in person, in class
 - ii. Work on messaging to students about the importance of SRIS
 - iii. Lack of consistency in SRIS should be addresses, perhaps we should give them for each class
 - iv. Could we write SRIS at the department level?

4. Campus COVID Policies

- a. Faculty thoughts were shared widely on this, expressing a high level of dissatisfaction with the status quo.
- b. Given the increased teaching load on many faculty that is a result of COVID infecting our colleagues, we sought clarity on the compensation faculty can expect for this extra work
- c. We expressed desire for regular testing on campus for faculty/staff.
- d. We expressed a desire to formulate a program to disseminate information on covid for students.

5. ECUS-SCC Discussion

a. Academic Freedom

i. ECUS-SCC steers this issue to FAPC.

b. Self-Plagiarism

- i. Comment: Self-plagiarism is also included in the Student Academic Dishonest policy (http://catalog.gcsu.edu/en/2019-2021/Undergraduate-Catalog/Academic-Policies/Student-Code-of-Conduct/Student-Academic-Dishonesty).
- c. <u>Increasing SRIS Completion Rates</u>
 - i. Follow Up: ECUS steers this issue to FAPC.
- d. Campus COVID Policies
 - i. Comment: Colleges have dealt with extra compensation before, but it is uncertain whether a university-wide policy exists.
 - 1. Follow Up: Provost Spirou will look into the compensation issue. [After the meeting Provost Spirou reported that All of the colleges have procedures in place to compensate faculty if there is a need to provide instruction past the quarantine/isolation period.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy Committee (DEIPC) — Chair Linda Bradley

- 1. <u>Committee Scope</u> The committee looked at its scope; and the committee considered how to best communicate with other officers and committees charged with diversity issues.
- 2. <u>Diversity Action Plan</u> The committee looked at the Diversity Action Plan and plans to take make a recommendation regarding Reporting Bias at a later date.
- 3. <u>Diversity Training</u> The committee is exploring a diversity training policy with the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) — Chair Sabrina Hom

- 1. <u>COVID Decision Path</u> The committee met with Carol Ward from HR to discuss the COVID decision path, which is based on DPH guidance. The decision path says that vaccinated direct contacts do not *need* to isolate. Since faculty members are not permitted to change modality unless they are *ordered* to isolate, this means that vaccinated direct contacts are in practice not *allowed* to isolate. We discussed this difficulty, and the frequency of breakthrough infections, with Ms. Ward and she has promised to take this under consideration.
- 2. <u>COVID Testing Access</u> There is concern that local sources are running out of tests and the county only offers testing two mornings per week. Ms. Ward reassured us that the campus will provide more testing for faculty/staff in the future, on specific dates. We emphasized that daily, walk-in access is needed, since cancelling classes while waiting on a future test date is disruptive.
- 3. <u>COVID Statement</u> The committee discussed suggested language for a statement, either from the committee or as a motion to the Senate, expressing concern over the lack of public health precautions on campus. A number of proposals were made, and the chair was instructed to seek input from ECUS on the most viable language for a motion.

Resources, Planning and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC) — Chair Damian Francis

- 1. <u>Student Disability Resource Center</u> The committee decided to invite Shea Grobener and David Anderson to our next meeting to discuss improving accessibility to buildings on campus. The focus would be on making restroom entrance and use disability friendly.
- **2.** <u>COVID Mitigation Messaging</u> The committee agreed to have Dr Francis draft a recommendation for their consideration for submission to ECUS and senate on the consistent and university wide messaging for encouraging students to get vaccinated, wear masks and sanitize hands and personal space.
- 3. <u>25Live</u> To include as an agenda item for discussion at our next meeting the current issues related to 25 live and workflow for staff in departments affected by recent retirement. The committee shared that institutional memory may be affected which results in issues such as being experienced with 25 live.

Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) — Chair Gail Godwin

- 1. **2021-2022 Operating Procedures** The committee adopted operating procedures.
- 2. <u>SGA</u> President James Robertson relayed SGA goals, including SGA services and initiatives to increase diversity in the student body.
- 3. <u>COVID and Mental Health</u> The committee is concerned about student mental health during the COVID pandemic, particular student social activities.

VI. Unfinished Business

1. **None**

VII. New Business

- 1. <u>COVID Procedures</u> Provost Spirou spoke in general about the Executive Cabinet's response to University Senate questions regarding COVID procedures. The response is included in these minutes as a supporting document.
 - a. <u>Faculty Questions and Concerns</u> I share your questions with the USG. The USG is aware of the concerns on our campus.
 - b. Governance Structure In an effort to frame the questions, which cover similar topics, we need to be aware that GC is part of a public system of 26 institutions with its own particular guidelines. For instance, the USG is different from other state public systems (i.e., Illinois recently announced required vaccinations at institutions). Further, GC is not a private institution; we receive guidance from the system, which is informed by the CDC and DPH. The USG continues to monitor local circumstances and gives system-wide guidance. Several of the questions ask about the organization structure of GC and why we can't do something different. We receive our guidance from the University System of Georgia, which in turn is informed by the recommendations from the DPH and the CDC. Please also know that our leadership have open and ongoing communications with the system office and that we hear and share many of the

- concerns that so many of you have expressed. While the USG continues to monitor local circumstances, no institution may operate outside of the guidance we have received. Several of the questions presented relate to the organizational structure of Georgia College and its relationship within the USG. We are directly linked to the USG, which in turn is directly connected to state government. As such we are aligned with the Governor's Office and the COVID-19 policies that emanate from his administration.
- c. <u>Symptoms and Contact Tracing</u> In terms of general observations, we encourage anyone (faculty, student, staff) who feels sick to not come to campus. DPH has expertise and is specifically funded to do contact tracing. Faculty and administration cannot transmit health information regarding specific students; doing so may constitute a HIPPA violation.
- d. <u>USG Guidance</u> My goal is to communicate the system guidance and to support our faculty, staff, and students, not my personal opinions. GC administration has open and ongoing conversation with the chancellor and other institutions in system. When the Pfizer vaccine received regular approval, a department chair asked if the BOR will change vaccine policy. I reached out to the system and inquired if the BOR intended to change their guidance. I then shared that information with the inquiring department chair.
- e. <u>Testing</u> We appreciate the need for more regular testing for faculty and thank you to the COHS colleagues for their assistance with holding testing opportunities. Faculty can provide documentation to seek ADA accommodation.
- f. <u>CARES Act</u> Regarding CARES Act spending, GC has a CARES act webpage, the <u>link</u> to which will be provided in my report.
- g. <u>Employee Meetings</u> GC provides flexibility in terms of the way we conduct meetings.
- h. <u>Vaccine Incentives</u> Federal dollars are limited to those who are unvaccinated; therefore, we can't incentivize those who were vaccinated earlier. We are considering other means of appreciation, such as t-shirts, that we might give to those who are already vaccinated.
- i. <u>Employee Decision Path</u> GC HR follows directives from system HR. If HR determines that the faculty member must isolate or quarantine, then the department chair submits a fixed-length request for alternate work accommodations, which is then reviewed by the dean's office and finally by the provost's office.
- j. <u>Faculty Misconduct</u> The Misconduct and Progressive Discipline document recently released by the system does not apply to quarantine and isolation; it only applies if faculty members take their courses online without permission.
- k. <u>Faculty Review System</u> This year, like last year, our approach to annual faculty performance review will be to take COVID challenges into account when looking at teaching evaluations. I shared that consideration with department chairs last year.
- 1. <u>COVID Mitigation Messaging</u> Shawn Brooks, VP of Student Life: Student Life is sending out social media posts encouraging masks and vaccines. We can never do too much. Part of the communication challenge involves students tuning out when we message too much on a particular platform. We are looking at ways to

blanket campus. Our messaging is starting to work. Yesterday, 40 people were vaccinated and today 20 were vaccinated. There is a vaccine walk in cline at Student Health Services.

m. <u>Final Thoughts</u> If you have an idea, please reach out. If you have a question, I'll get you an answer. I convey your sentiments and information to the system; they are familiar with the expressed concerns.

n. ECUS-SCC Action

i. A <u>Motion</u> to extend the meeting 10 minutes was made and seconded. The motion to extend the meeting was approved.

o. ECUS-SCC Discussion

i. Vaccine Incentives

1. Comment: If you show proof of vaccination to our health insurance provider, Blue Cross Blue Shield, you can receive \$200.

ii. Employee Decision Path

- 1. Comment: If a faculty member is vaccinated, then HR says that the faculty member is not allowed to quarantine.
- 2. Comment: It is clear that the USG is not following DPH and CDC guidance. The campus needs a visible, ubiquitous campaign encouraging masks and vaccines. My teaching evaluations will be affected because I specifically encourage masks while there is no consistent message across campus. The administration also needs to encourage masks and not leave it up to individual faculty members.

iii. COVID Mitigation Messaging

- 1. Comment: DPH and hospitals report COVID cases and vaccine clinics.
- 2. Question: What can we do within the limitations of USG guidance?
- 3. Comment: We could continue to use plastic dividers.
- 4. Comment: We could use the digital message boards to encourage masks.
- 5. Comment: We need to put the same messaging effort as last year's mask mandate into this year's mask encouragement policy. There should be signs outside every single building and inside every single classroom. One student told me that if the university encourage masks, I would wear it, but it's just you. Other professors do not encourage masks because of fear of student pushback.
- 6. Comment: I teach core classes; I show students pictures of my unvaccinated children; I show them pictures of the overrun hospital; and only about 20% wear masks.
- 7. Comment: We have a new initiative on Tik Tok called "This is why I vax/mask" in which a student holds up a picture of a loved one.
- 8. Comment: Vaccinations are not enough; masks are necessary to further protect against breakthrough cases.

9. [Follow Up: After the meeting, Provost Spirou reported that University Communications is currently working with Facilities to print and install more signs across campus.]

2. Steering of Items to Committees

- a. Academic Freedom was steered to FAPC.
- b. Increasing SRIS Completion Rates was steered to FAPC.

3. <u>University Senate Agenda and Minutes Review</u>

- a. Tentative Agenda 17 Sep 2021
 - i. Motions
 - 1. ScoN: Revised Slate of Nominees
 - ii. Reports: Administrative reports and committee reports will also be agenda items.
 - i. Supplemental Items of Business: None.
- b. <u>University Senate Minutes Review</u> A <u>Motion</u> that the DRAFT minutes of the 23 Apr 2021 meeting of the 2020-2021 University Senate be circulated for university senator review was made and seconded. The motion to circulate the minutes was approved.
- c. <u>University Senate Minutes Review</u> A <u>Motion</u> that the DRAFT minutes of the 23 Apr 2021 organization meeting of the 2020-2021 University Senate be circulated for university senator review was made and seconded. The motion to circulate the minutes was approved.

VIII. Open Discussion

1. **None**

IX. Next Meeting

1. Calendar

- a. University Senate Meeting Friday, September 17, 3:30 p.m., Webex
- b. ECUS Meeting Friday, October 1, 2:00 p.m., Webex
- c. ECUS+SCC Meeting Friday, October 1, 3:30 p.m., Webex
- d. University Senate Meeting Friday, October 15, 3:30 p.m., Webex
- 2. <u>Tentative Agenda</u> Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. Catherine Fowler will ensure that such items (if any) are added to the agenda of a future meeting of ECUS or ECUS-SCC.

X. Adjournment

1. As there was no further business to consider, a <u>Motion</u> to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

XI. Supporting Documents

1. There is one supporting document.

a. Supporting ExecutiveCabinetCOVIDQuestionResponses2021-09-03.docx

Distribution: First, these minutes will be sent to committee members for review; second, they will be posted to the Senate website.

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) WITH STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (SCC)

COMMITTEE OFFICERS: CATHERINE FOWLER (CHAIR), JENNIFER FLORY (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX

BLAZER (SECRETARY)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2021-2022

AGGREGATE MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR: "P" denotes Present, "R" denotes Regrets, "A" denotes Absent

EFS = Elected Faculty Senator Acronyms CoAS = College of Arts and Sciences; CoB = College of Business; CoE = College of Education; CoHS = College of Health Sciences 9/3 | 10/1 | 11/5 | 2/11 Meeting Dates 1/7 3/4 4/8 R A Alex Blazer P EFS, CoAS, ECUS 1 0 0 Secretary Hauke Busch P EFS. CoAS. ECUS 1 0 0 Chair Emeritus Steve Dorman R 0 1 0 University President Jennifery Flory EFS, CoAS P 1 0 0 ECUS Vice-Chair Catherine Fowler P EFS. CoHS 1 0 0 ECUS Chair Karl Manrodt P EFS, CoB 1 0 0 ECUS Member Lyndall Muschell EFS, CoE P 1 0 0 ECUS Member Lamonica Sanford P 0 0 EFS, Library 1 ECUS Member Costas Spirou P 1 0 0 Provost Nicholas Creel P 1 0 0 APC Chair Linda Bradley P 1 0 0 DEIPC Chair Sabrina Hom P 1 0 0 FAPC Chair **Damian Francis** P 1 0 0 RPIPC Chair

Gail Godwin	п				1	0	0
SAPC Chair	P				1	U	U