

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

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023, 3:30-4:45 P.M.

MEETING LOCATION: PARKS HALL 301

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS		“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets
P	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Secretary)	
R	Cathy Cox (University President)	
P	Nicolas Creel (CoBT, ECUS Member)	
P	Jennifer Flory (CoAS, ECUS Chair)	
P	Catherine Fowler (CoHS, ECUS Chair Emerita)	
P	Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member)	
R	Costas Spirou (Provost)	
R	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
R	Sarah Myers (APC Chair)	
P	Linda Bradley (DEIPC Chair)	
P	Sabrina Hom (FAPC Chair)	
P	Damian Francis (RPIPC Chair)	
P	Greg Glotzbecker (SAPC Chair)	
GUESTS		
Benjamin “Chad” Whittle, Vice-Chair of the 2023-2023 APC		
James Trae Welborn, Vice-Chair of the 2022-2023 DEIPC		

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 Jennifer Flory (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 draft of the 6 Jan 2023 minutes of the Executive Committee with Standing Committee Chairs had been circulated to the meeting attendees via email. A **Motion** to approve the minutes was made and seconded. **The minutes were approved.**

IV. Reports

University President — President Cathy Cox

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

University Provost — Provost Costas Spirou

1. **Regrets, Electronic Report** Provost Spirou extended *Regrets* and submitted an electronic report.
2. **Offices and Programs**
 - a. **MURACE**
 - i. **Posters at the Georgia State Capitol** is organized by Georgia College and hosted by the Georgia Undergraduate Research Collective. The event is scheduled at the Capitol Rotunda and will take place on Monday, February 27, 2023, from 1-3pm. We had a record number of submissions this year (90 projects). Five Georgia College students were accepted to present their work.
 - ii. ***Undergraduate Research*** The Winter 2023 issue of *Undergraduate Research* is currently under development. We received 51 submissions from institutions across the country including NYU, McGill, Georgetown, Emory, Barnard, Boston University, and Simpson. Acceptances so far included student work from Auburn University, University of Calgary, St. Olaf College, and Cumberland University. The publication is expected to appear in late March 2023.
3. **Centers and Institutes**
 - a. **Rural Studies Institute**
 - i. **Rural Changemakers Lecture Series** The Rural Studies Institute (RSI) is launching its inaugural Rural Changemakers Lecture Series on April 11, 2023. Catherine Coleman Flowers, a MacArthur genius fellow, who is internationally recognized for her work on environmental issues will be the inaugural speaker. For more information, please contact the RSI.
4. **Initiatives and Projects**
 - a. **USG Data Dashboard** The USG is also working on a data dashboard for student access which is expected to be operational in the Fall 2023.
5. **University Committees and Task Forces**
 - a. **University Retention Task Force**
 - i. **Retention Summit** During Spring 2023, the University Retention Task Force will be developing a Retention Summit as a series of three separate (hour and half) programs spread through March and April. The retention series will engage the faculty and staff to begin thinking more about the importance of retention and identify how we can improve this metric to pre-pandemic levels.
6. **Conferences and Meetings**
 - a. **ChatGPT: Teaching and Learning in the Age of AI** In collaboration with COPLAC, Georgia College organized and delivered a successful virtual session titled “ChatGPT: Teaching and Learning in the Age of AI.” We had 731 participants registered and 469 attended the session on February 2.
 - b. **Dean, Department Chair, and Associate Provost Training** The USG organized a PTR Workshop (January 26 & 27) for all system institutions. Our department chairs, deans, and associate provosts had an opportunity to participate and engage with other colleagues.
 - c. **Governor’s Teaching Fellows Symposia** The Governor’s Teaching Fellows program is pleased to announce the 2023 Spring Symposium and the 2023 - 2024

Academic Year Symposia. The Spring Symposium will be held May 15-19, 2023, on the UGA campus, and this year, they invite faculty teaching in STEM disciplines to apply. The Academic Year Symposia will follow previous guidelines and is open to all full-time faculty. All candidate letters of support and application materials should be submitted no later than February 24, 2023, for the Spring Symposium and March 1, 2023, for the Academic Year Symposia. Please contact the Center for Teaching and Learning for more information.

- d. **Momentum Summit VI** kicked off two weeks ago with participation across the USG institutions. The **Momentum Summit Capstone event, which will be held in person on the campus of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro is scheduled to take place on Friday, March 10.**
- e. **The USG Teaching & Learning Conference 2023** will take place at the University of Georgia (March 27-29, 2023). Georgia College faculty will be leading five program sessions.

7. **Faculty**

a. **Administrator and Faculty Searches**

- i. **The Dean Search for the College of Education** is moving forward. The Committee recently completed virtual interviews and plans to invite four finalists to campus sometime at the end of the month. Please participate in the Open Forums and share your observations and insights with the committee. The search for the Dean of the College of Health Sciences is still accepting applications.

8. **Curriculum**

- a. **General Education** At the recent USG Spring 2023 Provost meeting (February 7), it was announced that the System will be leading a refresh of the General Education program. The goal will be to give more meaning to the existing program and address some structural challenges (course credits vary across the USG institutions).

Academic Policy Committee (APC) — Vice-Chair Benjamin “Chad” Whittle for Chair Sarah Myers

1. **Review of Student Academic Dishonesty Policy**

- a. A motion was unanimously approved at the February 10, 2023 APC meeting to have Legal Affairs provide the Academic Policy Committee with advice regarding updating the text of the plagiarism policy to include language concerning A.I. and other forms of technology.
- b. Some members of APC wanted to know if Legal Affairs has received any information concerning A.I. and plagiarism from the USG. Also, they wanted to know if Legal Affairs is already working on the topic, so APC knows how to move forward concerning updating the plagiarism policy.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy Committee (DEIPC) — Vice-Chair James Trae Welborn for Chair Linda Bradley

1. **Required Syllabus Statement** The committee made revisions as a whole, including online revisions. By unanimous vote, the committee discussed changes and formed recommendations. The statement will be sent to APC for APC's March meeting.
2. **Bias Incident Process and Procedures** The committee is coordinating with the Office of Inclusive Excellence. Data gathering is part of the process. There will be new training, called Get Inclusive, through online programs for students, faculty, and staff.
3. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Bias Incident Process and Procedures**
 - i. Question: Will the training be online?
 - ii. Answer: Yes, there will be online bias training, which will recur so everyone will be up-to-date and on the same page.

Executive Committee of University Senate (ECUS) — Chair Jennifer Flory

1. **Presiding Officer Activities**
 - a. American Association of Colleges and Universities 2023 Annual Meeting I attended the [American Association of Colleges and Universities 2023 Annual Meeting: Reclaiming Liberal Education](#) in San Francisco, with Provost Spirou, Associate Provost Roberts, Dr. Mandy Jarriel, and Dr. Liz Speelman (January 18-21, 2023)
 - b. **Monthly Meeting with Provost Spirou**, 1/25/23
 - i. Low producing programs: report was shared with the deans.
 - ii. Budget cuts update
 - iii. Policy discussions
 1. [Amorous Relationships policy](#) (FAPC, RPIPC) – Carol Ward
 2. [Institutional Online Resource \(IOR\) Governance Policy](#) (RPIPC) – Omar or Keely
 - c. **Dean and Department Chair Training** I attended the virtual USG meeting on new BOR policies affecting annual performance and post-tenure reviews for deans and department chairs.
2. **Governance Calendar 2023-2024** is in process.
3. **University Senate Recognitions** Certificates and Senator pin order request in process
4. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
 - a. 1048105 University Senate (state account) has \$4,767.00.
 - b. F15320 University Senate (foundation) has \$263.79.
5. **Academic Innovation Task Force** The Report Summary will be presented at the next meeting of University Senate.
6. **University Senate Handbook Revisions** Revision procedure calls for the Past Presiding Officer to review the handbook in the fall.
7. **Parliamentarian 2023-2024** The committee recommends that the previous year's volunteers for Parliamentarian be contacted.

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) — Chair Sabrina Hom

1. **Amorous Relationship Policy**
 - a. FAPC met with Carol Ward to discuss the new Amorous Relationship Policy and other questions. (Readers should take the below points with a grain of salt, as there is now reason to question their accuracy; see the minutes of the RPIPC meeting from the same date.)
 - b. Carol reported to us that the policy only forbids supervisory relations (ie employer/employee, faculty/student in their class). There are some grey areas regarding other ways in which one person might directly affect the other's conditions of employment/study, but she did not emphasize this ambiguity.
 - c. Married couples on campus are covered by both the amorous relationship policy and the policy on the employment of family members, which has similar content.
 - d. Carol reports that the system for self-reporting is not yet settled, but will likely go through chair to the dean.
 - e. They have not yet determined how to address conflicts of interest, but the past "workarounds" (ie having another chair write the faculty partner's evaluation) are no longer adequate. Exceptions need to go through the USG and chancellor, and in the past, we have not always been successful in these requests.
2. **Progressive Discipline Policy**
 - a. Faculty pointed out a number of items where the existing policy is not a good fit for faculty workload and academic exigencies. Carol reports that previous attempts to rewrite the policy were interrupted by covid, but she welcomes input for an update that would be more inclusive toward faculty.
3. **Immigration Paperwork** Carol reports that there is currently ambiguity between legal and HR in terms of who handles immigration paperwork. They are working to resolve it, but legal will likely take the lead.
4. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Amorous Relationship Policy** The committee had an extended discussion comparing and contrasting, first, the language of the old policy and the language of new policy and, second, the inconsistent policy interpretations by administrators shared in FAPC and in RPIPC. Points were made about the difference between discouragement and prohibition of amorous relationships, married couples being covered by a separate policy, the difference between graduate instructors and faculty members in terms of ability to affect supervisory or academic evaluations, prior pathways for self-disclosure of amorous relationships, the distinction between the old process of self-disclosure of amorous relationships and the typical approval routes. It was noted that as yet there is no implementation process for the policy. **Follow up: The Presiding Officer Jennifer Flory, the FAPC Chair Sabrina Hom, the RPIPC Chair Damian Francis, the Chief Human Resources Officer Carol Ward, Assistant Director for Employee Relations & Benefits Services Amber Collins, and General Counsel Brett Monroy will meet to attain clarification.**

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

1. **Resolution for USG/BOR Budget Consideration** Discussed, made changes and voted on the Request for Board of Regents to Consider Bridge Funding For Enrolment Shortfall

Based on Unintended Consequence of Standardized Testing Requirement. The motion was unanimously approved and will be entered into the Senate motion database.

2. **Amorous Relationship Policy** The primary change to this policy has been an update in language to align with USG policy. The policy has changed “strongly discouraged” to “Prohibited” for graduate student/teaching assistant and student amorous relationships or faculty and student amorous relationships. Faculty and or graduate student are asked to report/disclose any such relationships to appropriate chain of command. Complaints can also be made to HR through a complaint form.
3. **Institutional Online Resource (IOR) Governance Policy** Director of University communications reported that on July 1, 2022 USG requested policy for social media use and inventory on campus. A follow-up request on September 1, 2022, required that the policy be submitted for approval by October 1, 2022. The policy was drafted but University Communications with input from the Executive Cabinet. This policy concerns the university’s ownership, control, and use of all IORs, addressing the following matters: (1) exclusive ownership and control of all IORs; (2) exclusive authority over all IORs owned or controlled by the university and the exclusive authority to acquire additional online resources in its name in the future; (3) approval of content published on an IOR; and (4) removal of content improperly published to an IOR. Once per year departments/centers, and institutes will be required to report on institutional online resources used or owned ranging from www pages to social media accounts. It was noted that stakeholder feedback was left out and that a means to include stakeholder feedback for future policy is paramount.
4. **Modified Summer Schedule** The president announced that the Executive Cabinet approved a campus-wide modified summer schedule beginning Monday, May 8 2023. RPIPC received several complaints that the ‘mandate’ does not take into considerations staff feedback and the inconvenience caused by such changes. RPIPC suggested that the staff council consolidate feedback from staff on campus and share this with RPIPC at our next meeting. These findings will be shared with the Executive Cabinet along with a request to address the need for clarity.
5. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Institutional Online Resource (IOR) Governance Policy**
 - i. Question: If we have a concern with an online platform, is there a way to address our concern?
 - ii. Answer: No, the policy has been mandated by the USG.
 - iii. Comment: The USG commonly gives policy mandates with a small timetable for institutional alignment and implementation. We need a better process for those affected by these policy revisions to be heard. Policy should not be revised without faculty, staff, and student stakeholder input. When a policy revision with a short turnaround time is mandated by the USG, a task force should be charged.
 - b. **Modified Summer Schedule**
 - i. Comment: Vice President for Finance and Administration Lee Fruitticher reports that modified summer schedule arranged have been made with the Montessori Academy.
 - ii. Comment: This is good news; however, that is only one program.

Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) — Chair Greg Glotzbecker

1. **Student Housing and Parking** SAPC is content with our investigations.
2. **Maintenance of Campus Crosswalks**
 - a. The crosswalks at Greene St. and Montgomery need painting. Old crosswalk lines have not been properly paved over; students are using old crosswalk.
 - b. There is a need for lighting at the crosswalk near Adams Hall.
 - c. There is a problem with cars (university vehicles) parking too close to crosswalks where pedestrians cannot see oncoming traffic.
3. **AI Generated Text**
 - a. SAPC supports the idea of a required syllabus statement regarding AI software.
 - b. SAPC feels this is an APC issue and will defer to that committee.
 - c. More information will be gathered from the Student Government Association.
4. **Graduate Students** Graduate student Jarred Bryant was a guest speaker at the SAPC meeting.
 - a. There is a general feeling that graduate students are not cared for in the same way that undergraduate students are.
 - b. There is a question regarding what is being done for graduate student orientation and making students aware of resources on campus.
 - c. Some programs seem to have more guidance for incoming graduate students than others. Is this a university-wide or department specific responsibility?
 - d. SAPC will invite an administrator from The Graduate School to its next meeting.
5. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
 - a. **Graduate Students**
 - i. Comment: SAPC should confer with Holley Roberts, Director of The Graduate School.

Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) — Chair Rob Sumowski

1. **Revised Slate of Nominees** COBT Senator Stephen Rutner has resigned from Senate due to the return of colleague Karl Manrodt from sabbatical, who will return to the Senate seat through the April 2023 Senate meeting. The State of Nominations will be revised to reflect this change in representation.
 - a. **ECUS-SCC Action A Motion** *to approve the revised slate of nominees was made and seconded. The motion was approved.*
2. **Election Oversight**
 - a. Each of the colleges' and University Library's January 2023 election results for those senators whose terms will begin during the 2023-2024 school year have been reported by the following educational entities and are as follows:
 - i. COAS New senators: Adam Lamparello, Eryn Viscarra, Mikkel Christensen, and Lee Kirven
 - ii. COBT New senator: Aric Wilhau
 - iii. COE New senators: Natalie Toomey and Rob Sumowski

- iv. COHS New senators: Helen DuPree, Joyce Norris-Taylor, Marshall Smith, and Talecia Warren
 - v. University Library New senator: Holly Croft
3. **At-Large Senator Election**
- a. The GC University Senate is seeking one faculty member to serve as at-large elected faculty senator for a three-year term (2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026) commencing April 21, 2023.
 - b. In preparation, the Spring 2023 faculty Corps of Instruction has been compiled with the assistance of the Deans' offices and the University Library and will be both attached to this report and uploaded to the Senate webpage. This updated version accounts for those faculty who have either departed or joined the Corps of Instruction since the Fall 2022. This will be used in soliciting nominations for the open At-Large Senate seat via an email to be issued to members of the Corps of Instruction on Monday, February 14, 2023.
 - c. Key Dates for the At-Large Senate Seat Election:
 - i. Nominations open – February 13, 2023, at 8 a.m.
 - ii. Nominations close – February 17, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
 - iii. Voting method: authenticated electronic vote – secret ballot
 - iv. Voting opens – February 20, 2023, at 8 a.m.
 - v. Voting ends – February 24, 2023, at 5 p.m.
 - vi. Election Results will be announced to the University Community no later than March 1, 2023.
 - d. **ECUS-SCC Action A Motion** to approve the at-large senator election procedures was made and seconded. **The motion was approved.**
4. **USG Faculty Council** The USG Faculty Council will meet virtually in February. A poll has been taken to determine the meeting date and time. I will brief you on all pertinent discussion following the virtual meeting.

VI. Unfinished Business

- 1. There was no unfinished business.

VII. New Business

- 1. **University Senate Agenda and Minutes Review**
 - a. **Tentative Agenda February 24, 2023**
 - i. Motions
 - 1. SCoN: Revised Slate of Nominees
 - 2. RPIPC: USG/BOR Budget Resolution
 - ii. Reports: Administrative reports and committee reports will also be agenda items.
 - 1. The Academic Innovation Task Force Summary Report will be an agenda item.
 - i. Supplemental Items of Business: None.

- b. **University Senate Minutes Review A Motion** that the *DRAFT minutes of the 20 Jan 2023 meeting of the 2022-2023 University Senate* be circulated for university senator review was made and seconded. **The motion to circulate the minutes was approved.**

VIII. Open Discussion

1. **License Plates** In light of the recent parking enforcement change from hanging tags to license plate readers, it was noted that cars with front license plates, which are available for purchase from the DMV, can pull through parking spaces and have their front license plate scanned by the readers.

IX. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, February 24, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, March 3, 2:00 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, March 3, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, March 24, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
2. **Tentative Agenda** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. **Jennifer Flory 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 **Motion to adjourn the meeting** was made and seconded. **The motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.**

XI. Supporting Documents

1. There are four supporting documents.
 - a. *Supporting_AcademicInnovationTaskForceReportSummary_2023-02-10.pdf* The Academic Innovation Task Force Report Summary supplements the New Business item of Academic Innovation Task Force.
 - b. *Supporting_DeanDepartmentChairTraining_Day1_2023-01-27.docx* The Dean and Department Chair APR/PTR Training document supplements the Presiding Officer Report item of Presiding Officer Activities.
 - c. *Supporting_DeanDepartmentChairTraining_Day2_2023-01-27.docx* The Dean and Department Chair APR/PTR Training document supplements the Presiding Officer Report item of Presiding Officer Activities.
 - d. *Supporting_DeanDepartmentChairTraining_FAQ_2023-01-27.docx* The Dean and Department Chair APR/PTR Training document supplements the Presiding Officer Report item of Presiding Officer Activities.

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: JENNIFER FLORY (CHAIR), ROB SUMOWSKI (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2022-2023

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

Acronyms	EFS = Elected Faculty Senator CoAS = College of Arts and Sciences; CoB = College of Business; CoE = College of Education; CoHS = College of Health Sciences										
Meeting Dates	9/2	10/7	11/4	1/6	2/10	3/3	4/14	P	R	A	
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Secretary</i>	P	P	P	P	P			5	0	0	
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>	R	R	R	R	R			0	5	0	
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P	P	P			5	0	0	
Jennifer Flory <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Chair</i>	P	P	P	P	P			5	0	0	
Catherine Fowler <i>EFS, CoHS, ECUS Chair Emerita</i>	P	R	P	P	P			4	1	0	
Lamonica Sanford <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P	P	P			5	0	0	
Costas Spirou <i>Provost</i>	P	P	P	P	R			4	1	0	
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	R	P	P	R			3	2	0	
Sarah Myers <i>APC Chair</i>	P	R	P	P	R			3	2	0	
Linda Bradley <i>DEIPC Chair</i>	P	P	P	P	P			5	0	0	
Sabrina Hom <i>FAPC Chair</i>	P	P	P	P	P			5	0	0	
Damian Francis <i>RPIPC Chair</i>	P	R	P	P	P			4	1	0	
Greg Glotbecker <i>SAPC Chair</i>	P	P	R	P	P			4	1	0	