

**COMMITTEE NAME:** EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)  
**MEETING DATE & TIME:** FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2020, 2:00-3:15 P.M.  
**MEETING LOCATION:** PARKS HALL 301

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>MEMBERS</b>		<b>“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets</b>
<b>P</b>	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Chair Emeritus and Secretary)	
<b>P</b>	Hauke Busch (CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
<b>R</b>	Steve Dorman (University President)	
<b>P</b>	Jeff Dowdy (Library, ECUS Member)	
<b>R</b>	Catherine Fowler (CoHS, ECUS Member)	
<b>P</b>	David Johnson (CoAS, ECUS Chair)	
<b>P</b>	Lyndall Muschell (CoE, ECUS Member)	
<b>P</b>	Costas Spirou (Provost)	
<b>P</b>	John Swinton (CoB, ECUS Member)	
<b>GUESTS</b>		
None		

**Legend**

*Italicized text denotes information from a previous meeting.*

\*Denotes new discussion on old business.

**Highlighted text denotes follow-up.**

**Bold denotes action or recommendation.**

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm by David Johnson (Chair).

**II. Approval of Agenda:** A **Motion** to approve the agenda was made and seconded. **The agenda was approved.**

**III. Approval of Minutes:** A draft of the 1 Nov 2019 minutes of the Executive Committee 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**

**Presiding Officer Report — David Johnson**

1. **Hate Speech Vandalism:** On December 2, after the incident of hate-speech vandalism in one of the university dorms, President Dorman called a meeting with the members of the President’s Commission on Diversity (PCOD) and charged them to bring to him recommendations on how Georgia College could better tackle hate-speech issues and look at unexplored avenues for positive transformation for our campus culture. Since then, PCOD had three meetings in which a list of short-term and long-term goals was created. It is my understanding a list of recommendations to meet those goals was submitted to President Dorman today.

2. **Disability Services**: ECUS has confirmed with David Anderson from Disability Services that he will give a presentation at our next university senate meeting. This presentation will include best practices on interaction and accommodation for students with needs related to disability, as well as how to make class documents accessible.
3. **Staff Council**: We were recently informed that Christopher Newsome has stepped down in his role as Chair of Faculty Council, and Chair-Elect Kevin Blanch will take his place. Mr. Blanch will work to get the number of elected staff senators and appointees up to compliance with our bylaws.
4. **University Senate Budget**: The general university senate budget began the school year with \$5,000. We spent \$1,934.75 on the remaining balance for the governance retreat in August, and \$774.48 for our USG Faculty Council representatives to attend the October meeting. That leaves us with \$2,290.77, which is more than enough to cover our two remaining anticipated expenses: the USGFC April meeting trip and the deposit on next year's governance retreat.
5. **Foundation**: Our foundation account remains untouched.

#### **Presiding Officer Elect Report — Hauke Busch**

1. **At Large Senator Election**: Nominations for the At Large Senator nominations will be open from 4-14 Feb. Please ask around the departments for nominations.
2. **Faculty Senator Election**: Election Results for the colleges are due 2 Feb.
3. **Governance Retreat**: Reservations for Aubrey Lanes are being considered for 10 Aug. for the Governance Retreat and Organizational Meeting
4. **Revisions to the Slate of Nominees**
  - a. **Resources, Planning, and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC)**
    - i. The new staff council designee is: TBA
  - b. **Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC)**
    - i. The new staff council senator is: Kevin Blanch effective 3 Jan 2020
    - ii. The new staff council designee is: TBA

#### **V. Unfinished Business**

1. **2020-2021 Governance Calendar**: David Johnson reported that the draft calendar had been shared with Deans and Chairs; no concerns were raised. Jim Berger, Director of Center for Teaching and Learning, requested to move the start of New Faculty Orientation from Monday, August 3 to Tuesday, August 4. ECUS approved the change. The amended calendar will be reviewed by ECUS+SCC.
2. **Reviewing University-Wide Committees with Senate Representation**: Continuing the discussion begun during the 1 Nov 2019 meeting, the committee discussed whether or not some of the University-Wide Committees needed an elected faculty senator or if it would be enough for a faculty volunteer to serve. In order to determine whether a Senator or non-Senator is appropriate, the following questions should be asked of the university-wide committee: Does the charge of the committee require an elected faculty senator or is a non-senator volunteer sufficient? What does the Senate representative need to do? And

the following questions should be asked of University Senate: Does the representative need to report to Senate? Does the representative need input from Senate? Does the representative represent Senate? **ECUS will follow up with individual university committee chairs to seek input.**

3. **Update on Senate Website Backup:** Timothy Hasty, Unix and Windows System Administrator, reports that there is a daily off system backup of both senate.gcsu.edu and us.gcsu.edu. There is a monthly snapshot taken of senate.gcsu.edu and a biweekly snapshot taken of us.gcsu.edu.

## VI. New Business

None

## VII. Open Discussion

1. **Academic Calendar:** Faculty shared with ECUS complaints regarding the early spring semester start date. ECUS members shared information: The university-wide academic calendar committee, chaired by the University Registrar, meets every two years; and University Senate is represented by the chair of APC. The early start dates for this year and next appear to be a reaction to, or pendulum swing, of later start dates in previous years. Start date considerations include: professional conferences occurring the first week after the New Year's Day; campus closure and GIL closure (for teaching materials) during the holidays, the summer academic calendar and study abroad start dates (including College of Education summer graduate classes which have to be finished before the start of the public school in the fall when teachers go back to work).
2. **Faculty Salary Study:** It was noted that Senate should ask the administration, in approximately two months, for salary study data to be ready for next fall. It's on faculty to ask for updates from the administration. **ECUS will follow up on the annual faculty salary study data request.**
3. **25Live:** There were scattered complaints about room assignments.

## VIII. Next Meeting

### 1. Calendar

- a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, January 24, 3:30 p.m., A&S 2-72
- b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, February 14, 2:00 p.m., Parks Hall 301
- c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, February 14, 3:30 p.m., Park Hall 301

2. **Tentative Agenda:** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. **David Johnson will ensure that such items (if any) are added to the agenda of a future meeting of ECUS or ECUS-SCC.**

**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 2:46 p.m.**

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

**COMMITTEE NAME:** EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)  
**COMMITTEE OFFICERS:** DAVID JOHNSON (CHAIR), HAUKE BUSCH (VICE-CHAIR),  
 ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)  
**ACADEMIC YEAR:** 2019-2020

**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	9/6	10/4	11/1	1/10	2/14	3/6	4/10	P	R	A	
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS, ECUS Chair Emeritus, ECUS Secretary</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Hauke Busch <i>EFS, CoAS, ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Steve Dorman <i>University President</i>	R	R	R	R				0	4	0	
Jeff Dowdy <i>EFS, Library, ECUS Member</i>		P	P	P				3	0	0	
Catherine Fowler <i>EFS, CoHS, ECUS Member</i>	P	P	R	R				2	2	0	
David Johnson <i>EFS, CoAS, ECUS Chair</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Lyndall Muschell <i>EFS, CoE, ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Costas Spirou <i>Provost</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
John Swinton <i>EFS, CoB, ECUS Member</i>	P	R	P	P				3	1	0	