

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS)
MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2020, 2:00-3:15 P.M.
MEETING LOCATION: WEBEX

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS		“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets
P	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Secretary)	
P	Hauke Busch (CoAS, ECUS Chair)	
R	Steve Dorman (University President)	
P	Catherine Fowler (CoHS, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
P	David Johnson (CoAS, ECUS Chair Emeritus)	
A	Karl Manrodt (CoB, ECUS Member)	
P	Lyndall Muschell (CoE, ECUS Member)	
P	Costas Spirou (Provost)	
P	Jennifer Townes (Library, ECUS Member)	
GUESTS		
Shea Council (Administrative Assistant of the 2020-2021 University Senate)		
Carolyn Denard (Associate Vice President/Chief Diversity Officer)		

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 2:01 pm by Hauke Busch (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 4 Sep 2020 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 — Hauke Busch

- 1. Spring 2021 Calendar:** No decision has been made for the governance calendar for spring semester. The academic calendar is still being finalized with the USG.
- 2. Standing Committee Operating Procedures:** All operating procedures have been submitted.
- 3. Budget:** No spending is anticipated for the university budget at the present time.

Presiding Officer Elect Report — Catherine Fowler

1. **2021-2022 Elections**
 - a. **Corps of Instruction**: The list was approved by ECUS-SCC.
 - b. **Apportionment**: The worksheet was approved by ECUS-SCC.
 - c. **Election Oversight Materials**: The letters to the college deans and library director, as well as supporting documents, are ready for review by ECUS-SCC.
 - d. **At-Large Election**: Presiding Officer Elect Dr. Catherine Fowler will run for re-election as at-large senator.
2. **COVID Question and Answer**: President Dorman and Provost Spirou's answers to senator questions regarding the university's COVID-19 have been emailed to senators.
3. **Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee**: Dr. David Johnson has volunteered to serve as the second elected faculty senator on PTAC.

V. Unfinished Business

1. **2021-2022 Governance Calendar**: The University Senate aspect of the calendar is complete. A problem exists with the curriculum side of the calendar. There are two Graduate Council meetings in the same month. The State of the University Address disrupts the monthly cycle. Meetings during the final exam period might solve the problem. David Johnson will work with Provost Spirou and Lyndall Muschell (Chair, University Curriculum Committee) to finalize the curriculum committee meetings.
2. **2020-2021 Apportionment**: The worksheet was approved by ECUS-SCC.

VI. New Business

1. **Feedback on Faculty Senator Elections Oversight Materials**: The letters to the college deans and library director, as well as supporting documents, are ready for review by ECUS-SCC.
2. **Establish an Inclusive Excellence Policy Committee**
 - a. Dr. Carolyn Denard, Chief Diversity Officer, asked the committee to consider proposing a standing committee devoted to diversity issues. The purpose of the committee would be to send a message that the institution takes diversity issues seriously. Other state universities senates have similar committees. Example issues include the official use student and employee's preferred gender pronouns and the capitalization of Black in official university communications. The committee would review and recommend policy related to diversity and inclusive excellence.
 - b. ECUS Discussion with Guest
 - i. Question: If the bylaws changed, when would they go into effect? Answer (ECUS Member): The 2021-2022 University Senate.
 - ii. Question: Are there functions in the proposed committee that are being done in current committees? I like to think all of our committees are inclusive excellence committees. Answer (ECUS Member): The standing committee charges do not contain inclusive excellence. Answer (ECUS Member): The committees are already dealing with these issues but there is no explicit charge.

- iii.** Question: I'd hope that inclusive excellence is practiced throughout Senate rather than in a specific committee. Answer: I understand what you're saying, but we need intentional focus. The issue of religious holidays was recently addressed on Academic Policy Committee but the discussion did not include inclusive excellence. Separation allows specific attention to be paid to these issues. The new committee would not be in conflict with what the standing committees already do. A standing committee devoted to diversity and inclusive excellence shows intentionality and creates accountability.
- iv.** Question: The university already has a university-wide body charged with these issues, the President's Commission on Diversity (PCOD). Would that be discontinued, or merge with the proposed committee? Or could this proposed committee be a university-wide committee? Answer: PCOD is a commission rather than a committee. It reads Diversity Action Plan reports and recommends actions to the President. A recent example is recommending actions regarding the swastika incident. PCOD is not structurally embedded in the University Senate as a policy recommending body.
- v.** Comment: Academic Fees, Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee, and so forth are special purpose committees.
- vi.** Comment: This committee would be recommending policy; those committees are following procedures.
- vii.** Comment: We want to avoid duplication of work.
- viii.** Question: Could there be a university-wide committee, which has broadest representation possible, perhaps broader than Senate, and meets with and works with Senate? What is the best way to achieve what we want accomplished regarding diversity and inclusive excellence? Answer: University Senate includes faculty, students, and staff. Most senates with diversity committees stipulate, for example, that graduate students must serve on the committee. The goal is to have more robust engagement with diversity at a structural level. Having a standing committee, rather than an ad hoc committee, says something about who we are and what we value.
- ix.** Comment: We want to look into this more and confer with committee chairs.
- c. ECUS Discussion**

 - i.** Comment: We need to consider whether this committee will have work.
 - ii.** Comment: The committee composition has to be carefully considered.
 - iii.** Comment: The current standing committee charges need diversity and inclusive excellence language.
 - iv.** Follow Up: Hauke Busch will ask standing committee chairs for preliminary feedback at the ECUS-SCC meeting. David Johnson will gather additional information and insights from the President's Commission on Diversity Co-Chair Veronica Womack and former Presiding Officer and Secretary Craig Turner and lead Alex Blazer and Catherine Fowler in a diversity committee workgroup.

VII. Open Discussion

1. None

VIII. Next Meeting

1. Calendar

- a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, October 16, 3:30 p.m., Webex
- b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, November 6, 2:00 p.m., Webex
- c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, November 6, 3:30 p.m., Webex

2. **Tentative Agenda:** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. **Hauke Busch 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 3:19 p.m.**

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)

COMMITTEE OFFICERS: HAUKE BUSCH (CHAIR), CATHERINE FOWLER (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2020-2021

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	9/4	10/2	11/6	1/8	2/12	3/5	4/9	P	R	A	
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS</i> <i>ECUS Secretary</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Hauke Busch <i>EFS, CoAS</i> <i>ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Steve Dorman <i>University President</i>	R	R						0	2	0	
Catherine Fowler <i>EFS, CoHS</i> <i>ECUS Member</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
David Johnson <i>EFS, CoAS</i> <i>ECUS Chair Emer.</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Karl Manrodt <i>EFS, CoB</i> <i>ECUS Member</i>	P	A						1	0	1	
Lyndall Muschell <i>EFS, CoE</i> <i>ECUS Member</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Costas Spirou <i>Provost</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Jennifer Townes <i>EFS, Library</i> <i>ECUS Member</i>	P	P						2	0	0	