

2023-2024 UNIVERSITY SENATE
MINUTES FOR THE 28 APR 2023 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
University Senate Officers: Presiding Officer Rob Sumowski,
Presiding Officer Elect and Secretary to be determined at this meeting

ATTENDANCE

Members	P denotes Present	A denotes Absent	R denotes Regrets
Andrew Allen-P	Sayo Fakayode-A	Joyce Norris-Taylor-P	Student Senator-TBD
Alex Blazer-P	Jennifer Flory-P	Amy Pinney-P	Student Senator-TBD
Rodica Cazacu-P	Brad Fowler-A	Frank Richardson-A	Natalie Toomey-P
Mikkel Christensen-P	Catherine Fowler-P	Peter Rosado-P	Winston Tripp-P
Cathy Cox-A	Greg Glotzbecker-P	Lamonica Sanford-P	Sandra Trujillo-R
Nicholas Creel-P	Stephanie Jett-P	Marshall Smith-P	Eryn Viscarra-R
Holly Croft-P	Lee Kirven-P	Costas Spirou-A	Henry Wang-A
Paulette Cross-A	Adam Lamparello-A	Rob Sumowski-P	Talecia Warren-R
Matt Davis-P	Leng Ling-A	John Swinton-P	Trae Welborn-P
Donovan Domingue-R	Nadirah Mayweather-A	Staff Senator-TBD	Benjamin Whittle-P
Helen DuPree-P	Matthew Milnes-R	Staff Senator-TBD	Aric Wilhau-P
Josefina Endere-P	Lyndall Muschell-P	Staff Senator-TBD	
Kerry James Evans-R	Sarah Myers-P	Staff Senator-TBD	
Guests	Role on University Senate or Position at the University		
Gregory Corey Claxton	Assistant Professor of Nursing and Volunteer of the 2023-2024 APC		
Rhonda Griffin	Administrative Assistant of the 2023-2024 University Senate		
Susan Kerr	Chief Information Officer and Member of the 2023-2024 RPIPC		
Kim Muschaweck	Assistant Professor of Teacher Education and Parliamentarian of the 2023-2024 University Senate		
Carol Ward	Chief Human Resources Officer and Member of the 2023-2024 DEIPC		
David Weese	Associate Professor of Biological & Environmental Sciences and Volunteer of the 2023-2024 FAPC		
Sarah Whatley	Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Student Life and CSA Officer Designee to the 2023-2024 SAPC		

CALL TO ORDER Jennifer Flory, Presiding Officer of the 2022-2023 University Senate, called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

PASSING THE GAVEL:

- a. Jennifer Flory (Presiding Officer of the 2022-2023 University Senate) called Rob Sumowski (Presiding Officer of the 2023-2024 University Senate) to the podium.
- b. The first two questions were directed to Rob Sumowski and the third was directed to the university senate.
 - i. Will you view your role as presiding officer as an opportunity, rather than a burden?
 - ii. Will you be a faithful steward of the resources of the University Senate?
 - iii. And will you, members of the 2023-2024 University Senate, vow to support your Presiding Officer in his efforts toward effective shared governance?
- c. The answers to the first two questions were “I will” from Rob Sumowski while the answer to the third question was “We will” from the membership.
- d. Jennifer Flory transferred the role of Presiding Officer of the University Senate. She passed the gavel Susan Steele (2014-2015 Presiding Officer) had purchased to Rob Sumowski.

CONSENT AGENDA A consent agenda was available as an item of business listed on the meeting agenda and read as follows.

1. **AGENDA/MINUTES**

- a. University Senate Meeting Agenda (28 Apr 2023, 3:30 p.m.)

A **MOTION** to adopt the consent agenda was approved by voice vote with no proposed extractions, no further discussion, no dissenting voice, and only voting members of the university senate eligible to vote.

MINUTES As the previous meeting of the University Senate immediately preceded this meeting, the minutes for that meeting (2:00-3:15 p.m. on Friday 28 Apr 2023) were not yet available for review.

UNIVERSITY SENATOR PINS Rob Sumowski distributed university senator pins to the first-time members of the University Senate. Pin recipients were as follows.

1. **Elected Faculty Senators** Andrew Allen, Holly Croft, Helen DuPree, Lee Kirven, Joyce Norris-Taylor, John Marshall Smith, Natalie Toomie, Aric Wilhau
2. **Presidential Appointees** Winston Tripp

UNFINISHED BUSINESS There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **MOTION 2223.CON.005.O SLATE OF NOMINEES 2023-2024**, Rob Sumowski, 2022-2023 SCoN Chair, presented the motion: “To endorse the Slate of Nominees for the 2023-2024 University Senate Officers and Committees as proposed in the supporting documents.”

- a. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS** Supporting documentation was available in the online motion database: <https://senate.gcsu.edu/motions/slate-nominees-2023-2024-04242023>

- i. *Slate of Nominees 2023-2024 Summary.pdf* This pdf document contained the slate of nominees proposed by the 2022-2023 Subcommittee on Nominations to serve on the committees and as officers of the 2023-2024 University Senate.
- ii. *Senate Representatives on University Committees 2023-2024.pdf* This pdf document contained the slate of nominees proposed by the 2022-2023 Subcommittee on Nominations to serve as university senate representatives for the 2023-2024 University Senate.
- iii. *SCoN Bylaws Compliance 2023-2024.pdf* This pdf document provided verification of the slate’s compliance with university senate bylaws. This report is required as articulated in the university senate bylaws. The pertinent bylaw is quoted here.

1. V.Section1.D.2.e. **Compliance Report**. The Subcommittee shall prepare a report that demonstrates that the composition of all committees complies with the requirements of these bylaws. Such a report shall be submitted to the Executive Committee when the initial committee recommendations are made and any time that changes are proposed to committee membership.

- b. **DISCUSSION**

- i. **University Senate Members vs Standing Committee Members** Rob Sumowski explained the difference between serving on university senate

and serving on a standing committee of university senate. University Senate voting members include Elected Faculty Senators, Presidential Appointees, Selected Staff Senators, and Selected Student Senators, who also serve on standing committees. Standing committees voting members include Elected Faculty Senators, Presidential Appointees, Selected Staff Senators, and Selected Student Senators (who also serve on University Senate) as well as faculty volunteers, administrator designees, Staff Council appointees, and Student Government Association appointees.

ii. **Officers**

1. Rob Sumowski noted the 2022-2023 Subcommittee on Nominations had received four nominations to serve as the Presiding Officer Elect of the 2023-2024 University Senate, and Catherine Fowler agreed to accept the nomination. Rob Sumowski invited other nominations for this officer position from the floor. Nicolas Creel was nominated but declined the nomination. This nomination invitation is required as articulated in the university senate bylaws. The pertinent bylaw is quoted here.

a. II.Section4.A. Presiding Officer and Presiding Officer Elect.

The University Senate shall have a Presiding Officer, who presides at all meetings of the University Senate, and a Presiding Officer Elect, who shall assume the position of Presiding Officer the following year. Only elected faculty senators are eligible to serve as Presiding Officer or Presiding Officer Elect. The election of the Presiding Officer Elect shall proceed as follows. At the spring organizational meeting of the University Senate, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate one elected faculty senator from the incoming University Senate. **The Presiding Officer at the spring organizational meeting shall then call for other nominations from the floor.** Should this result in more than one nominee for Presiding Officer Elect, all members of the incoming University Senate shall vote by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Presiding Officer Elect. The terms of service for the Presiding Officer and Presiding Officer Elect shall begin with the adjournment of this spring organizational meeting, and shall end when her/his successor assumes office.

2. Rob Sumowski noted the 2023-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations had nominated Alex Blazer to serve as the Secretary of the 2022-2023 university senate. Rob Sumowski invited other nominations for this officer position from the floor. No nominations were received from the floor. This nomination invitation is required as articulated in the university senate bylaws. The pertinent bylaw is quoted here.

a. II.Section4.B. Secretary. The University Senate shall elect a Secretary at its spring organizational meeting who shall be responsible for keeping minutes at all meetings of the University Senate. Only elected faculty senators are eligible to serve as Secretary. The election of the Secretary of the University Senate shall proceed as follows. At the spring

organizational meeting of the University Senate, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate one elected faculty senator from the incoming University Senate. **The Presiding Officer at the spring organizational meeting shall then call for other nominations from the floor.** Should this result in more than one nominee for Secretary, all members of the incoming University Senate shall vote by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Secretary. The term of service of the Secretary shall begin at the call to order of the first meeting of the University Senate following the spring organizational meeting at which (s)he is elected, and shall end when her/his successor assumes office.

- c. **SCoN Report** The proposed slate of nominees to be voted on by the University Senate was described by Rob Sumowski, 2022-2023 SCoN Chair, as follows.
- i. Committee preferences and nominations for university senate officers (Presiding Officer Elect and Secretary) were invited from all elected faculty senators.
 - ii. Elected Faculty Senators were also invited to express their interest in serving as a university senate representative. The responses received allowed the 2022-2023 SCoN to fill nearly all the university senate representative positions.
 - iii. A call for volunteers to serve on university senate committees was made to the corps of instruction. Each volunteer was invited to express preference for committee service.
 - iv. Informed by these individual committee preferences and officer nominations, the 2022-2024 Subcommittee on Nominations discussed this slate of nominees at the 14 Apr 2022 ECUS with Standing Committee Chairs meeting and adopted the slate of elected faculty senators and volunteer committee assignments. Appointees, designees, selected staff senators, and selected student senators were awaiting selection by administration, Staff Council, and SGA, respectively. The slate is presented for your consideration.
 - v. Alex Blazer was the only 2022-2023 University Senate Secretary nominee, and he has accepted.
 - vi. Nicholas Creel, Catherine Fowler, Greg Glotzbecker, and Sabrina Hom were nominated for 2023-2024 University Senate Presiding Officer Elect, and only Catherine Fowler accepted.
 - vii. The two *selected student senators* and three *SGA appointees to DEIPC, RPIPC, and SAPC*; the *Admissions Director Designee for DEIPC*; the *Staff Council Appointees to DEIPC and SAPC*; and the *Presidential Appointee to DEIPC* will be identified over the summer and added to a revised slate of nominees for vote at our first fall university senate meeting.
 - viii. There is an elaborate set of requirements in the university senate bylaws with which the slate must comply.
 1. ECUS composition includes the President, Provost, Presiding Officer, Presiding Officer Elect, Past Presiding Officer, and Secretary. Additionally, ECUS must have at least one elected faculty senator from each academic unit (colleges and the library).

2. Desirable for each of the standing committees (APC, DEIPC, FAPC, RPIPC, SAPC) is corps of instruction representation from all academic units (colleges and the library), yet this requirement is not explicit in the university senate bylaws.
3. Each of APC and FAPC require no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. no fewer than nine (9) and no more than eleven (11) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least seven (7) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. a Presidential Appointee,
 - c. and a Chief Academic Officer Designee.
4. DEIPC requires exactly thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. seven (7) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least six (6) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. a Chief Diversity Officer Designee,
 - c. a Director of Human Resources Designee,
 - d. a Director of Admissions Designee,
 - e. a Staff Council Appointee,
 - f. a Student Government Association Appointee, and
 - g. a Presidential Appointee,
5. RPIPC requires no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. no fewer than four (4) and no more than eight (6) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least four (4) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. three Selected Staff Senators,
 - c. a Presidential Appointee,
 - d. a Chief Business Officer Designee,
 - e. a Chief Information Officer Designee, and
 - f. a Student Government Association Appointee.
6. SAPC requires no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows:
 - a. no fewer than four (4) and no more than six (6) members selected from the corps of instruction faculty, at least four (4) of whom are elected faculty senators,
 - b. two Selected Student Senators,
 - c. one Selected Staff Senator,
 - d. a Presidential Appointee,
 - e. a Chief Student Affairs Officer Designee,
 - f. a Staff Council Appointee, and
 - g. a Student Government Association Appointee.
7. There are thirteen highlighted positions in the slate that will be resolved in the coming months.
 - a. Admissions Director, DEIPC
 - b. Staff Council Appointee, DEIPC
 - c. Student Government Association Appointee, DEIPC
 - d. Presidential Appointee, DEIPC
 - e. Selected Staff Senator, RPIPC
 - f. Selected Staff Senator, RPIPC

- g. Selected Staff Senator, RPIPC
 - h. Student Government Association Appointee, RPIPC
 - i. Selected Student Senator, SAPC
 - j. Selected Student Senator, SAPC
 - k. Selected Staff Senator, SAPC
 - l. Staff Council Appointee, SAPC
 - m. Student Government Association Appointee, SAPC
- d. **SENATE ACTION** Motion 2223.CON.005.O was **APPROVED** via voice vote with no further discussion, no dissenting voice, and only voting members of the university senate eligible to vote.

COMMITTEE REPORT This being an organizational meeting, there was only one additional committee report.

1. **GOVERNANCE RETREAT PLANNING COMMITTEE — ROB SUMOWSKI, CHAIR**

- a. **PLANNING IN PROGRESS** The following 2023 governance retreat information was shared.
 - i. **LOCATION** The retreat will take place at the First United Methodist Church (366 Log Cabin Rd NE, Milledgeville, GA 31061).
 - ii. **DATE** The retreat date is Monday, 14 Aug 2023.
 - iii. **SCHEDULE**
 - 1) Arrival and Registration 8:45am to 9:00am
 - 2) Call to Order 9:00am
 - 3) Adjourn 2:00pm
 - iv. **INVITEES** All members of the committees of the 2023-2024 University Senate – university senators, appointees, designees, volunteers – are invited to attend the retreat.
 - v. **PLANNING COMMITTEE** Rob Sumowski is chairing the committee with members to be determined. Rob Sumowski invited any of those present who were interested in assisting with retreat planning to contact her.
 - vi. **SURVEY** A survey will be circulated requesting dietary preferences, confirmation of intent to attend, and preferences on proposed retreat agenda items. It is requested that this survey be completed in a timely manner.
 - vii. **STAY TUNED** More information about the governance retreat will be disseminated by email as it becomes available.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. **2023-2024 UNIVERSITY SENATE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS — ROB SUOMOWSKI, PRESIDING OFFICER**

- a. After adjournment, proceed to breakout rooms for Standing Committee Organizational meetings and election of committee officers. Rooms for committee breakout sessions with facilitators in parentheses: APC: A&S 2-42 (Nicholas Creel); DEIPC: A&S 2-46 (Jen Flory); FAPC: A&S 2-70 (Alex Blazer); RPIPC: A&S 2-74 (Cat Fowler); SAPC: A&S 2-75 (Lamonica Sanford).
- b. All committee organizational meetings will occur directly after University Senate adjourns. All committee organizational and committee officer training meetings not accomplished on 28 Apr 2023 will be completed during the committee breakout

sessions of the Governance Retreat on 14 Aug 2023 at First United Methodist Church (366 Log Cabin Rd Ne, Milledgeville, GA 31061).

OPEN DISCUSSION Rob Sumowski invited open discussion from the floor. There was none.

ADJOURN

1. **STANDING COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS** Rob Sumowski reminded members to proceed to breakout rooms after adjournment for committee organizational meetings, including election of committee officers.
2. **ATTENDANCE AND SIGN-IN SHEET** Rob Sumowski requested that each individual present at the meeting sign the university senator attendance sheet or guest sign-in sheet on their way out if they hadn't already signed in.
3. **NEXT UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING** is scheduled for Friday, 15 Sep 2023 at 3:30 p.m. in Arts & Sciences 272.
4. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** As there was no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. There are no supporting documents.