



**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
AGENDA  
October 4, 2019**

**TIME: 2:45 P.M.**

**PLACE: J. M. Smith Boardroom, HEC 2086**

- I. Call to Order**
  - A. Approval of Minutes**
    - September 6, 2019 (pp 2 – 6)
  - B. Administrative Updates**
  - C. Committee Updates**
  - D. Old Business**
- II. New Business**
  - A. Faculty Manual Update**
- III. Announcements**
- IV. Adjournment**



**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 6, 2019**

**TIME: 2:45 P.M.**

**PLACE: J.M. Smith Boardroom, HEC 2086**

**Officers Present:** Dr. Lizabeth Zack (CAHSS-SCW; Faculty Chair); Dr. Lisa Johnson (CAHSS-SCW; In-coming chair); Dr. Christa Christ (CAHSS-PSY; Recording Secretary)

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Hubbard Smalls (JCBE-EFA); Dr. Thanh Nguyen (JCBE-EFA); Daniel Davis (JCBE-MEM); Dr. Jim Kamla (HPH); Dr. Lauren Vervaecke (HPH); Dr. Kela Goodman (SOE); Dr. Karen Lounsbury (SOE); Virginia Cononie (LIB); Ann Merryman (LIB); Dr. Tracy Hudgins (MBSN); Dr. Darlene Amendolair (MBSN); Dr. Stephanie Barnhill (MBSN); Dr. Ryan Crawford (MBSN); Dr. Tamara Cook (MBSN); Dr. Warren Bareiss (CAHSS-FACS); Dr. Bridget Kirkland (CAHSS-FACS); Dr. Carolina Webber (CAHSS-FACS); Dr. Jim Griffis (CAHSS-HPPA); Dr. Nicole Richardson (CAHSS-HPPA); Dr. Polinapilinho Katina (CST-IES); Dr. Ona Egbue (CST-IES); Dr. Alex Lorenz (CAHSS-LLC); Dr. Esther Godfrey (CAHSS-LLC); Dr. Colleen O'Brien (CAHSS-LLC); Dr. Elizabeth Waddell (CST-MCS); Dr. Liang Zhao (CST-MCS); Dr. Amanda Schwartz (CST-MCS); Dr. Bridget Doyle (CST-NSE); Dr. Laura Bannan (CST-NSE); Dr. Anselm Omoike (CST-NSE); Dr. Andre Leonardi (CST-NSE); Dr. Scott Meek (CAHSS-PSYC); Dr. Susan Ruppel (CAHSS-PSYC); Dr. Tracey Woodard (CAHSS-SCW); Dr. Alex Tepperman (CAHSS-SCW)

**Ex-Officio:** Dr. Brendan Kelly, Chancellor; Dr. Clif Flynn, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor; Mary-David Fox, Registrar

**Visitors:** Dr. Yancy McDougal (IDS/PSYC); Dr. Lee Neibert (CAHSS-FACS); Dr. George Williams (CAHSS-LLC); Dr. June Carter (CAHSS-LLC); Dr. Carmen Harris (CAHSS-HPPA; Past AAC Chair); Dr. Michelle Garland (CAHSS-FACS); Dr. Jeannie Chapman (CST Dean); Dr. Tyrone Toland (CST-IES); Dr. Nolan Stolz (CAHSS-FACS)

**Absent:** Dr. Elise Harvey (JCBE-MEM); Dr. David Coberly (CAHSS-LLC); Dr. Kendra Allison (MBSN)

**I. Call to Order** - Dr. Zack called the meeting to order at 2:49PM.

**A. Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2019**

- Prior to the meeting being called to order Dr. McDougal corrected attendance to indicate she had been present at the April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Dr. Griffis moved to approve the minutes and Dr. Doyle seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

## **B. Administrative Updates**

### **• Dr. Brendan Kelly, Chancellor**

- Had no updates since University Day and thus immediately opened for questions:
  - Dr. Webber thanked Dr. Flynn and Dr. Kelly for supporting faculty in Teaching, Research, and Service. However, she wanted to bring forth concerns and feelings of a vulnerably community, particularly contingent faculty, who feel disrespected, overworked, and alienated. Some specific concerns include failure to be paid on time, being omitted from emails and mentoring programs, not being allowed to vote on issues, being disconnected from events, no faculty code of conduct, students being overridden into their course without their approval, pressure to conduct service, and lack of inclusion in the faculty manual. While proud to be at Upstate, Dr. Webber was saddened that adjuncts, who are often very committed to our students, are feeling this way.
  - Dr. Kelly responded that he and the provost hosted an event for contingent faculty the previous evening and they both meet regularly with a small group of contingent faculty. He noted that these issues are a list shared at many universities across the country. All the issues are not entirely under control of our administration (e.g., inclusion in department meetings, delayed pay is a USC system issue). It is a challenging cultural issue and they are trying to address these welfare issues, but he encouraged everyone at Upstate to make a better community for adjuncts and staff.
  - Dr. Flynn added that we can always do better with adjunct faculty. Some steps have been taken recently (e.g., New Center for Academic Innovation and Faculty Support directed by Dr. Celena Kusch is charged with supporting adjunct faculty). The issue of how to include adjuncts more formally in the manual is also under discussion currently.
  - Dr. Zack explained that the revised manual was tailored to full-time faculty, while plans are underway to produce a manual for adjunct faculty this year.
  - Dr. Lounsbury asked what consideration was given to the LGBTQ community when inviting Chick-fil-A to offer their food, which is currently available in the Food Court on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
    - Dr. Kelly noted that Sodexo controlled that specific choice, which was partly due to student demand. However, we will not be getting an official Chick-fil-A restaurant on campus. There are contingent pieces related to food options on campus leading to temporary availability of Chick-fil-A and food trucks, but again it is not expected that this will

be a permanent piece. When it comes to permanent installation we will have more control and this feedback will be considered.

• **Dr. Clif Flynn, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor**

- Dr. Flynn highlighted that the Washington Monthly magazine ranks us 9<sup>th</sup> among nations top undergraduate institutions (out of 216) based on social mobility, research, and service. We were also ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> out of 276 for “best bang for buck” in the Southeast partly due to doing a good job promoting social mobility. Dr. Flynn noted we should congratulate ourselves and colleagues for this achievement. Additionally, the Chronicle of Higher Education announced we have the 7<sup>th</sup> highest enrollment among public baccalaureate institutions in the nation.
  - Dr. Kelly added that for most of the last decade U.S. News & World Report has ranked our institution as the #2 public college in the south, with USC-Aiken as #1.
- He also congratulated Dr. Joshua Ruppel in Chemistry for having published research in the European Journal of Organic Chemistry with 6 of our undergraduate students from the last 3 years. Dr. Flynn noted congratulations to other faculty mentoring students in this way.
- Opened for questions, but there were none.

**C. Committee Updates - none**

**D. Old Business - none**

**II. New Business**

**A. Program, Curriculum, Catalog, and Course Changes – Dr. Stolz**

1. Proposed Changes to forms –
  - a. Academic Affairs Committee Memo & Revised Forms
    - Dr. Stolz thanked Dr. Zack & Dr. Harris who led the charge on changing the forms. He highlighted that several signatures have been removed and cosmetic changes were made (e.g., adding lines, changing words). He then opened for questions.
      - Dr. Zack added context that the effort to revise these forms was part of an ongoing effort to make them more instructive and user friendly. They are also part of the broader effort to streamline some of the bureaucratic issues. The intention was for senate to provide feedback and then vote to approve form changes. Dr. Harris added that the change in academic regulations form has the most substantial edits, which were to make clear that you can submit a proposal, but it is ultimately the committee that makes the global approvals, which means the committee may request edits before they approve it and a failure to make edits might result in no committee approval.
      - Dr. Williams clarified that if a unit submits a change, will the AAC make changes under the unit’s name? Dr. Harris responded that that will not occur.

- Dr. Kamla requested a fillable PDF for these forms to avoid errors created by the Word document (e.g., columns cut short, typing doesn't match throughout). Dr. Harris indicated she can make them into fillable PDFs.
- Dr. Zack added that these form changes are in conjuncture with website changes; there is now a table on the AAC webpage to make it easier and that they are working to get the whole process completely online/digitized. Dr. Harris added that there are instructions online for filling out these forms (e.g., cannot reuse a course number for 7 years).
- Dr. Meek motioned to approve the forms and Dr. Amendolair seconded. Form changes were approved unanimously.

#### **B. Intercollegiate Athletics Committee – Dr. Jim Griffis**

- Voting was held to elect a committee member to this ad-hoc advisory committee from nominations submitted via email. There was no clear majority from the initial vote on the 7 nominees so there was a run-off between the top 2 that resulted in the final selection of Dr. Michelle Garland. The other nominees will be given to the Chancellor who must also appoint one additional member.

#### **C. Provost Search Committee**

- Dr. Zack announced that the 3 elected faculty for this committee are Dr. Hubbard Smalls (JCBE-EFA), Dr. Stefanie Keen (CAHSS-PSYC Chair), and Dr. Sarah Hunt-Barren (SOE).
- Dr. Kelly shared that with the elected faculty and his appointments, 8 of the 9 positions for this committee have been decided. The appointed positions include Dr. Lizabeth Zack, Chair of Faculty Senate; Donette Stewart, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services; Dr. Toshua Kennedy (MBSN); Dr. Joshua Ruppel (CST-NSE); and Dr. Andre Fortune, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. One more external appointment will be made next week and once the committee is official, the faculty will be informed. Dr. Kelly will also be appointing more external members to an advisory council.
- Dr. Zack noted that the goal for the general timeline is to have the search completed by January.

#### **D. Faculty Manual Update**

- Dr. Zack confirmed that faculty manual changes will definitely be on Board of Trustees' agenda next Friday, and if the board approves the changes we can put the changes into effect immediately. Dr. Zack will share the outcome of the vote with the faculty as soon as possible. She also reminded everyone that an email was sent out this week to indicate the adjusted/extended deadlines for pre-tenure peer reviews.

### **III. Announcements**

- A. Dr. Godfrey announced that for the Preface program first year students are reading *Border Child*, which is written by a local author who will come to speak on campus in October, and there are 13 events overall connected to the book (first one is next week on Thursday and is a discussion of different types of borders and barriers) and she would like us to encourage students and faculty to attend these events.
- B. Dr. Johnson invited us to Dr. Godfrey's talk on Tuesday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm in the CLC ballroom. Her talk is titled "Lost in Space: Feminist Resistance to Spatial Privilege in Public Confrontations."

#### **IV. Adjournment**

- At 3:37pm Dr. Webber moved to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Ruppel seconded. Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.