

**Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the Meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 PM via Zoom, Peter Hoffer presiding.

Members Present: Christine Albright, Adam Barb, Holly Bik, Kelly Black, Benjamin Britton, Joel Caughran, Pilar Chamorro Fernandez, Carmen Comeaux, Maduranga Dassanayake, Le Guan, Dan Hall, DeLoris Hesse, Peter Hoffer, Steve Holland, Allison Howard, Christin Huggins, Joe Kellner, Nicolás Lucero, Sandy Martin, Ro Martini Paula, Emily Mouilso, Richard Neupert, Chris Peterson, Laurie Reitsema, Amy Ross, Alexandra Shapiro, Jennifer Stull, Anne Summers, Andrea Sweigart, Justine Tinkler, Frans Weiser, Michael White, Sarah Wright

Proxies: Drew Etheridge for Vasant Muralidharan, James Naigus for Matthew Shipes

Members not present: Toyin Alli, Mark Anderson, Liming Cai, Rebecca Gose, Richard Hubbard, Imi Hwangbo, Bernd Schuttler, Hang Yin

Guests: Jean Martin-Williams, Michael Marshall, and Rodney Mauricio

Approval of the minutes of the April 18, 2023 meeting: The minutes were approved without corrections.

President Peter Hoffer's Remarks:

Dr. Hoffer took a moment to thank everyone for their attendance and welcome them to the meeting. He expressed that he has enjoyed serving as president, and would be passing this role to the new president once they were elected/confirmed later in the meeting.

Dean Anna Stenport's Remarks:

Dean Stenport thanks everyone for the opportunity to speak at this meeting, and that she looks forward to collaborating with the Faculty Senate. She reports that she will pursue a year-long listening tour during which she will meet with faculty, staff, student leadership, undergraduate and graduate coordinators, and administrators in every department and division. A related project involves an exercise to strengthen the profile and visibility of the college, contributing to strengthened recognition and significance of the arts and sciences. She welcomes all faculty the opportunity to provide feedback.

Dean Stenport has asked department heads and directors to look for opportunities for culture building and community interaction, especially in these years following COVID. She reports that there will be more opportunities within the college this for social events and meeting in person, including a welcome dinner for new Franklin faculty, an event to honor promoted faculty members, and other opportunities to engage and get to know others in the college.

Dean Stenport reports that she is in the process of creating a faculty advisory council for the Dean's office, modeled after the University Faculty council. This would be an ad hoc committee, and is advisory in nature; it is not part of shared-governance.

Dean Stenport reports the Provost and senior leadership would like to enhance efforts in recognizing the contribution of faculty in research, creative and artistic practices, and pedagogical and community public service beyond the awards that are already offered within the UGA system. She is asking all department heads and directors to work within units to increase this recognition.

Dean Stenport announces a priority to enhance multi-disciplinary collaboration across and beyond Franklin College. The college will be providing initiatives for this collaboration, which includes a designated associate Dean for research scholarship and partnership. The deadline for this position's search is September 1st and the expected start date is November 1st. On a related note, there is also a current search for Associate Dean for the division of physical and mathematical sciences. Some supplemental funding from the Dean's Excellence Fund will also be allotted to support multi-disciplinary research. These funds will be allocated to further the President's Seed grant initiative. 21 Franklin faculty were PIs on letters of intent for these funds, and more were co-PIs from other colleges.

Dean Stenport reports about faculty hiring in the areas of artificial intelligence and data sciences, and how the investment in these areas can benefit all disciplines in the college in different ways. She encourages faculty to consider how collaborations with these areas can grow over time to ensure Franklin College's interests are well-represented.

Dean Stenport reports that departments in Franklin College will be working with their respective associate deans and liaisons in development and alumni relations to help support a culture of philanthropy and resource-generation. Meredith Metcalf, the Senior Director of Development will lead this initiative.

Dean Stenport speaks about the gen-ed and core-curriculum framework presented at the faculty senate meeting on April 18, 2023. She states that this framework, should it be adopted, likely presents opportunities to generate new courses that can reach many students, especially in terms of section B2: Explore the Reasoning Behind Ethical Decisions. Dean Stenport reports that a portion of the September 6th meeting with department heads and directors will be spent on capturing feedback that the college can relay up to the university. The college is also willing to collate feedback faculty would like to send directly to the college to be made accessible to department heads and directors. This feedback should be sent by September 1st to Associate Dean Jean Martin-Williams.

Dean Stenport closes by expressing her excitement to be joining the college as Dean and extends thanks to everyone for their help, especially former Dean Allen Dorsey. Finally, she asks for future feedback on how the Faculty Senate would like to best engage with the Dean's office, and how the best collaborative relationship can be set up.

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee: The committee had nothing to report
- Academic Standards Committee: The committee had nothing to report
- Curriculum Committee: 1 new course reviewed, 6 course changes. The committee approved 3 General Education Proposals in Religion and Theatre, 1 Undergraduate

Certificate Proposal in Art, and 1 Franklin College Multicultural Proposal:
ENGL(AFAM) 3480

- Faculty Affairs Committee: The committee had nothing to report
- Planning and Evaluation Committee: The committee had nothing to report

New Business:

Election of Senate President: Benjamin Britton was elected as Senate President with a vote of 28 Yes, 0 No.

President Benjamin Britton's Remarks:

President Britton welcomes the new senators encourage everyone to check in with their respective departments about upcoming agendas in future meetings. Any proposed agenda items can be sent to Christine Albright, executive committee chair. Items not on the agenda can be added during the meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of the senator's attending. The executive committee will add any proposed agenda items to the following meeting by a majority vote.

He mentions that he will be working with the Planning and Evaluation Committee about internal senate issues such as electing a parliamentarian, and researching ways for body of senators to more accurately reflect the numbers of job classifications in college, ways to welcome new members, and improve communication with committees and home departments.

President Britton reports that the Senate needs to elect one more officer, the president-elect, and charges for a Senate-wide effort to find this officer. Members should let the executive committee chair know if anyone is interested. Descriptions of the roles of President and President-elect are listed in the senate's bylaws, Section IV.

Election of Proposed Members of Senate Committees for AY 2023-24: All proposed members of senate committees were confirmed with a vote of 28 Yes and 1 No.

Proposal for an Undergraduate Certificate in Studio Furniture Design and Fabrication - Lamar Dodd School of Art: Michael Marshall from the School of Art introduced this proposal, and pointed to the considerable number of students who are interested in this field. While most of the courses are extant in the School of Art's curriculum, there are a few in other departments that may be used as electives.

The proposal passed with a vote of 29 Yes and 0 No.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Shipes

Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for the Hugh Hodgson School of Music