

Minutes
Bloomington Faculty Council
February 2, 2021

1. Due the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting occurred remotely, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM by President John Walbridge presiding in place of Provost Robel, who was unable to attend. The minutes from January 19, 2021 were approved acclamation.
2. Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Eliza Pavalko offered a memorial resolution in honor of David Estell.
3. The meeting began with a report from President Walbridge regarding Executive Committee business. President Walbridge noted that the previously scheduled February 16th meeting of the Council has been moved to April 13th. He also reminded members about the new inclusive excellence award, which is being administered by the BFC standing committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He then apprised members that the Executive Committee had recently approved the formation of a task force to review campus-level policy. This task force will work with relevant BFC committees, including the Constitution and Rules Committee, to identify inconsistencies and outdated language within the corpus of campus-level policy. Finally, President Walbridge noted that the standing committee on Technology Policy will be discussing the status of online course materials as intellectual property. During the question-and-answer period, a member inquired about the origins of the BFC's practice of having the Provost preside at meetings, rather than the Council's elected President. In response, several members with long histories of service on the Council commented on their understanding of the origins of this practice. Beyond the fact that the Provost's role as presiding officer is explicitly described in the Council's Constitution, most indicated it was their sense that this practice had been beneficial to the faculty's interests because it ensures the Provost's direct and ongoing involvement with the practice of shared governance.
4. Discussed then turned to a second reading of proposed amendments to BL-ACA-A3, Bloomington Campus Policies for Non-Tenure-Track Instructional Appointments. The proposed amendments were presented by Israel Herrera and Steve Sanders, Co-Chairs of the Faculty Affairs Committee. Sanders reiterated that, substantively, all the proposed amendments do is allow for the possibility of units extending five-year rolling contracts to NTT appointees. He noted that pros of the proposed amendments include the fact that allowing five-year rolling contracts would afford some NTT appointees greater job security, that the allowance would help to underscore the value and significant contribution of NTT faculty, and perhaps aid with recruitment and retention. Cons include the fact that five-year rolling contracts are less flexible, from the perspective of units, that they might require more stringent annual evaluations, that they could limit units' ability to address expeditiously performance issues, and that IU's long-term contracts are already more generous in their terms than the long-term contracts offered by most other institutions in the Big Ten. Sanders reported that the proposed amendments

came to the BFC with the support of the Faculty Affairs Committee, but that committee vote was split. President Walbridge noted that he was receipt of a letter of support for the proposed amendments that had been signed by 243 NTT faculty. Vice Provost Pavalko expressed concern with the assumption that five-year rolling contracts would be more protective of the interests of NTT faculty might be mistaken. A motion was then made to strike the last sentence of the proposed amendments. This motion carried with 75% support. Debate then returned the proposed amendments, as amended, with specific attention to possible unintended consequences of the measure being considered. At Herrera’s request a rollcall vote was conducted and the measure carried, as amended, with the following results:

Name	Yes	No
Allen, Karen		
Ansaldo, Jim	X	
Aranyi, Rachel (had alternate)	X	
Banai, Hussein	X	
Banks, Karen	X	
Brauer, Jonathan	X	
Bullock, Daniel		
Calloway-Thomas, Carolyn	X	
Carini, John	X	
Cherry, Barbara		X
Coates, Dakota		X
Coats, Paul	X	
Cohen, Rachael	X	
Daleke, David		X
Davis, Allen (had alternate)	X	
Degner, Dee		X
Deliyannis, Constantine	X	
Duncan, J	X	
Elsner, Ann	X	
Eskew, Kelly		X
Fichman, Pnina		
Fleming, Jackie	X	
Frazier, Lessie	X	
Gales, Linda		
Gill, Brian	X	
Gold, Jason	X	
Guerra-Reyes, Lucia	X	
Gupta, Nandini		X
Henshel, Diane	X	
Herrera, Israel	X	
Hodgson, Justin	X	
Jennings, Larissa	X	
Johnson, Colin	X	

Johnson, Kari	X	
Kloosterman, Peter	X	
Kravitz, Ben	X	
Krishnan, Shanker		X
Kunzman, Robert		
Lester, Jessica (had alternate)	X	
Letsinger, Sally	X	
Levinson, Bradley	X	
Libson, Scott	X	
Lion, Margaret	X	
Loring, Annette	X	
Machado, Pedro		
McRobbie, Michael		
Milam, Heather	X	
Miller, Theodore	X	
Nicholson-Crotty, Jill	X	
Northcutt, Miriam		
Olcott, Courtney	X	
Patil, Sameer	X	
Pavalko, Eliza		X
Peters, Chuck	X	
Pisano, Linda		X
Raymond, Angie		X
Reck, Cathrine	X	
Richerme, Lauren	X	
Robel, Lauren		
Sanders, Steve		X
Shea, Elizabeth	X	
Simpson, Marietta	X	
Syed, Ruhan		
Thomassen, Lisa	X	
Tirey, Samantha	X	
Walbridge, John	X	
Willis, Erik		
Wyczynski, Stephen	X	
Zaleski, Jeffrey		
Zorn, Kurt		X

- Discussion then turned to the proposed Resolution Regarding Academic Freedom Support for Non-Tenure Track Faculty. Again, the measure was presented Israel Herrera and Steve Sanders, Co-Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee. Although not binding on units, as a policy would be, the proposed resolution would express the Council’s conviction that five-year rolling contracts are beneficial to the protection of NTT faculty’s academic freedom and promote their use. Miller noted that proposed resolution’s focus on academic freedom was intentional and characterized it as “fairly

targeted.” He also noted that long-term rolling contracts better replicate the protections of tenure. An amendment to the language of proposed resolution was suggested but not formally adopted. Rather, the measure and the language of the proposed amendment were referred back to the Faculty Affairs Committee for additional consideration. Because this was a first reading of the proposed resolution, no definitive action was expected or taken.

6. The last item of the agenda was a brief presentation by Barb Cherry and Paul Coats, Co-Chairs of the Creation, Reorganization, Elimination and Merger Committee. CREM was recently asked by the Executive Committee to consider drafting a campus-specific policy related to the financial exigency. This request comes not in response to immediate concerns about financial exigency, but rather in response to provisions in ACA-41, the university policy on financial exigency, which affords campuses the right to develop their own. Cherry and Coats noted that IUPUI has had such a policy in place for years. IUB does not. The question at hand is therefore whether it would make sense for CREM to begin drafting one. With this possibility in mind, Cherry and Coats are seeking input from members on the Council on two questions. First, what should be the composition of CREM for purposes of addressing the above questions? Second, should CREM establish a separate task force or working group? Cherry and Coats indicated they would follow-up on their initial presentation to members of the Council subsequently.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.
Colin R. Johnson, BFC Secretary