

Minutes

Bloomington Faculty Council Minutes for April 5, 2022

1. The Bloomington Faculty Council held its regular biweekly meeting on Tuesday afternoon, April 5, 2022 in Presidents Hall. With Provost Rahul Shrivastav as Presiding Officer in the chair and Professor Rebecca Spang acting as secretary, the meeting convened at 2:30 p.m.
2. The Council voted unanimously to approve the [minutes](#) of its March 1, 2022 meeting.
3. Vice-Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Eliza Pavalko read a [memorial resolution](#) for Distinguished Professor Emeritus Mark Louis Musa (1934-2014).
4. Vice-Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Eliza Pavalko offered a [memorial resolution](#) Professor Emeritus Edley Wainwright Martin, Jr. (1927-2018).
5. Faculty President Marietta Simpson announced the creation of a faculty taskforce to evaluate Vice-President Cate's proposed restructuring of research administration and budgets. The BFC through its Executive Committee charges the taskforce as follows:

We charge the Bloomington taskforce on research restructuring with identifying existing constraints on research productivity (including, but not limited to, levels of external grant funding) and with determining if those are properly addressed by Vice-President Cate's proposal. We expect the taskforce to collect data in order to answer some or all of the following questions:

- What factors currently impede research growth on the Bloomington campus? Does this proposal respond to those challenges?
- In addition to external grant income, what metrics factor prominently in IU's research ranking?
- What impact would this proposal have on the full range of research-excellence indicators including faculty awards and citations, numbers of graduate students and post-doctoral researchers, space allocated for research, etc.?
- What faculty governance procedures would need to be modified if research funding decisions were to be moved to the vice-president's level?
- What is needed to build community and trust between researchers on this campus and the administrative structures that exist to support them?

The Executive Committee also calls on UFC to use its authority under ACA-10 to begin the process for reviewing Vice-President Cate and any other Vice-Presidents who have been in post for more than four years.

President Simpson also announced that Professors Colin Johnson and Danielle DeSawal would be this year's President-Elect candidates.

6. Provost Rahul Shrivastav updated the Council on numerous administrative searches and outlined [his response](#) to graduate-student concerns and unionization efforts. He announced the pending creation of an "expert committee to develop a blueprint for the future of graduate education at IU Bloomington."

7. Council members Israel Herrera, Colin Johnson, and Miriam Northcutt Bohmert all raised questions related to graduate students and the possibility of a strike. Parliamentarian Rachael Cohen announced the allotted time had expired before the final question could be answered.

8. On behalf of the Committee on Creation, Reorganization, Elimination, and Merger, co-chair Brian Gill introduced a new policy on [BFC Faculty Selection for University Financial Exigency Committee](#) for a *second reading* and a vote. No discussion followed.

9. The Council voted unanimously and by show of hands to approve the policy.

10. On behalf of the Committee on Creation, Reorganization, Elimination, and Merger, co-chair Brian Gill presented a new policy on [Faculty Participation in Campus-Level Budget Decisions on Financial Difficulties](#) for a *second reading* and a vote. Brief discussion followed.

11. The Council voted unanimously and by show of hands to approve the policy.

12. On behalf of the Committee on Creation, Reorganization, Elimination, and Merger, co-chair Brian Gill presented [amendments](#) to BL-ACA-D-16 for a *second reading* and a vote. These amendments resulted from the creation of two independent policies previously voted upon. No discussion followed.

13. The Council voted unanimously and by show of hands to amend the policy.

14. Co-Chairs of the Student Affairs Committee Danielle DeSawal and Katie Metz introduced [amendments](#) to the personal misconduct procedures in the Student Code of Conduct for a *second reading* and a vote. Brief discussion followed.

15. The Council voted unanimously and by show of hands to approve the amended procedures.

16. On behalf of the Constitution and Rules Committee, Rachael Cohen introduced a [new policy](#) on BFC Committees and [amendments](#) to the BFC Bylaws for a *first reading*. Brief discussion followed.

17. Kelly Eskew, Co-Chair of the Educational Policies Committee, introduced Acting Vice-Provost for Undergraduate Education Kurt Zorn and Senior Assistant Vice-Provost for Undergraduate

Education Michael Lundell who presented [proposed changes](#) to the STGEC/ICC requirements at IU Bloomington for a *first reading*. Discussion followed.

18. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.