

Minutes of the Bloomington Faculty Council

January 28, 2025

Minute items correspond with their numerical designation on the meeting agenda. Each item includes a time stamp to indicate its place in the audio recording of this meeting. Recordings and other materials relevant to Bloomington Faculty Council meetings are available through the Meeting Materials links on the [council website](#).

The Bloomington Faculty Council held its regular biweekly meeting on Tuesday afternoon, January 28, 2025, in Presidents Hall. The meeting came to order at 2:30 PM with Faculty Provost Rahul Shrivastav acting as Presiding Officer and Professor Dana Anderson acting as Secretary.

1. The Council moved to approve the minutes of its January 14, 2025, meeting. The motion carried. [0:30]
2. Provost Professor Amanda Diekman read a memorial resolution for Professor Frederick R. Smith (1929–2022). Dr. Smith began his career at IU in 1960 as an Assistant Professor in the School of Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. He also served as an Associate Dean and as Director of Development for IUB and the IU Foundation, distinctions beyond the many he earned through his research on the roles of reading in education. [0:50]
3. Faculty President Danielle DeSawal presented the business of the Executive Committee. Main items included a review of the procedures and committee work that happen prior to BFC meetings; a reminder about how standing committees and their consideration of items for the agenda are key to fair and effective faculty governance; an update on ongoing meetings with the policy departments of schools and units regarding SEA 202 policies; and a reminder to vote for BFC President-Elect nomination by following the link that has been emailed to all BFC voting members. [4:22]
4. Provost Rahul Shrivastav presented the Presiding Officer’s Report, in which he encouraged faculty to follow legislative developments with the knowledge that IU is doing its best to anticipate a range of possible impacts on higher education; summarized the voluntary retirement incentive program being offered to 150 eligible faculty in three campus units (specific units within The College of Arts and Sciences, the Jacobs School of Music, and the Maurer School of Law); congratulated the recently announced recipients of several campus-wide awards; provided updates on the searches for a Dean of the Kelley School of Business and for a Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education; and provided the faculty-requested update on total faculty violations of UA-10, with no new violations to report. [10:06]
5. The meeting was opened for a question and comment period regarding matters submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. A motion was advanced at this time by Professor Emeritus Russ Skiba (attending as an alternate for Professor Emeritus Alex Tanford) “that the Bloomington Faculty Council should have a standing agenda item at every meeting of not less than 10 minutes set

aside for new business.” The motion was deemed insufficiently germane to the item under discussion, as per BFC parliamentary procedure. [16:00]

6. Dean of IU Libraries Diane Dallis–Comentale, along with BFC Libraries Co-chairs Adam Mazel and Alexis Peirce Caudell, presented the Report of the Libraries Committee. Their remarks emphasized the rising cost of access to scholarly journals; the merits of open-access publication as a response to these costs; and the availability of other Libraries programs that increase access to materials while also reducing costs for students and faculty alike. [29:00]
7. The meeting was opened to discussion of the Report of the Libraries Committee. [43:32]
8. Parliamentarian and Constitution and Rules Committee Chair Chase McCoy presented his committee’s work on proposed changes to [BL-ACA-D9](#) Bylaws of the Bloomington Faculty Council of Indiana University. Changes aim to encourage greater participation in the BFC by opening the nomination process to self-nominations. [46:18]
9. The meeting was opened to discussion of the proposed changes to BL-ACA-D9. A motion was advanced at this time by Professor Emeritus Russ Skiba (attending as an alternate for Professor Emeritus Alex Tanford) to amend the Bylaws so that “the Bloomington Faculty Council should have a standing agenda item at every meeting of not less than 10 minutes set aside for new business.” Discussion determined that this amendment will be forwarded to the Constitution and Rules Committee for additional clarification regarding its request, including the matter of where in the bylaws it could be added. A motion was then made to approve the suggested changes to BL-ACA-D9. The motion carried. [49:43]
10. Faculty Affairs Committee Co-chairs Cassie Coble and Jonathan Michaelsen presented their committee’s work on proposed changes to [BL-ACA-D22](#) Grievance and Review Procedures of Bloomington Academic Appointees. Changes aim to clarify the role and recommendations of the Faculty Review Board. [56:12]
11. The meeting was opened to discussion of the proposed changes to BL-ACA-D22. [1:01:10]
12. Healthy IU Manager Samantha Schaefer, Director of Benefits Christan Royer, and Benefits Committee Co-chair Amy Minix presented the 2024 Workplace Wellness Survey. Survey results suggest the need to address staff and faculty trends regarding mental wellness, social isolation, and burnout. [1:06:45]
13. The meeting was opened to discussion of the Workplace Wellness presentation. [1:19:06]
14. The meeting adjourned at 4:05.

The next meeting of the Bloomington Faculty Council is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2:30–4:30 PM, in Presidents Hall of the Franklin Hall building.

Materials from this meeting and all prior Council meetings, including agendas, minutes, audio recordings, and transcripts, are available on the [Faculty Council website](#).

Questions or comments regarding minutes and executive summaries may be directed to the Faculty Council Secretary at bfcsecy@iu.edu

*Dana Anderson, Secretary
Bloomington Faculty Council*