Minutes of University Faculty Council Regular Meeting  
February 27, 2018  
University Hall, Room 1006  
IUPUI campus  
Minutes prepared by Alex Tanford, co-chair UFC, acting secretary

1. The meeting was called to order by President McRobbie at 1:31 pm.

2. No quorum was present initially.

3. Executive Vice-President Applegate read memorial resolutions for Kenneth Gros Louis and Bruce Cole, and the full resolutions were introduced for preservation in the records of the UFC.


5. President McRobbie gave a report and updated the UFC on recent legal events affecting the university: the interim court decision allowing DACA to remain in place, a ruling by a federal judge that Indiana’s statutory ban on fetal tissue research was unconstitutional, and the finding that the university had not discriminated in its handling of sexual assault complaints.

6. Other members having arrived, a quorum was now present.

7. Prof. Docherty, chair of the university athletics committee presented circular U13-2018, a proposal to amend intercollegiate athletics policy ACA-58. The proposal came from the Executive Committee. Prof. Tanford moved to amend by striking the last sentence in II.E, “On the regional campuses, this committee will be appointed by the campus Chancellor or designee.” The amendment passed unanimously on voice vote. The main motion to amend the athletics policy as specified in U13-2018 as amended then passed unanimously.

8. Co-chair Rachel Applegate presented circular U14-2018, a proposal to amend the bylaws to establish a budgetary affairs committee. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U14-2018 passed unanimously. Co-chair Tanford as interim parliamentarian said that initial appointments to the committee will be made to staggered terms. The consensus of the council was that members appointed to this committee should be closely aligned with their campus budgetary affairs committee but need not be their chairs.


   a. U15-2018 was a proposal to amend the quorum rules to permit business to be conducted by the executive committee in the absence of a quorum of the council. It was the understanding of the body that at least 51% of the Executive Committee would have to be present and that the bylaws should be amended to state clearly the quorum requirement for action by the Executive Committee. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U15-2018 passed unanimously.
   b. U16-2018 was a proposal to amend the bylaws to change the timeline of UFC election...
reporting to align it with actual practice. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U16-2018 passed unanimously.

c. U17-2018 was a proposal to amend the bylaws to repeal the section giving the Executive Committee the authority to determine which campus a faculty member is affiliated with because this process is handled administratively. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U17-2018 passed unanimously.

d. U18-2018 was a proposal to repeal language in the bylaws specifying how the Regional Faculty Caucus must select its ch-chair of the UFC and leave that process up to the RFC. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U18-2018 passed unanimously.

e. U19-2018 was a proposal to amend the bylaws to separate the duties of the co-chairs from the duties of the Faculty Council, move the duties of the Office to its own bylaw section, and to provide for the appointment of a secretary to take minutes. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U19-2018 passed unanimously.

f. U20-2018 was a proposal to clarify the language in the bylaws concerning the selection of the executive committee. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U20-2018 passed unanimously.

g. U21-2018 was a proposal to amend the bylaws to clarify who is entitled to attend executive sessions of the council. A motion was made to amend the proposal to change the last phrase “and special invitees may be present” to “and others agreed to by vote of the Council may be present.” The motion to amend passed unanimously, and then the main motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U21-2018 as amended passed unanimously.

h. U22-2018 was a proposal to delete a reference in the bylaws to a Nomination Committee because we have no such committee. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U22-2018 passed unanimously.

i. U23-2018 was a proposal to delete the detailed bylaws on document retention and disposition and cross-reference the university policies. Prof. Henschel moved to defer a vote on the amendment until we could consider it in light of a presentation on other university document retention policies at our first meeting in the fall, 2018. The motion to defer passed 15-2.

j. U24-2018 was a proposal to amend the bylaws by adding a procedure for amending the bylaws requiring a 2/3 vote of voting members present after a minimum seven days’ notice, and to give the Executive Committee authority to make technical corrections in the bylaws when the names of university offices, offices, or programs change. The motion to amend the bylaws as specified in U24-2018 passed unanimously.

10. Associate Vice-President Michael Rushton updated the Council on the teaching initiatives proposed by President McRobbie in his state of the university address. Concern was expressed
by some faculty that there has not been enough consistent communication with faculty governance bodies on the campuses. President McRobbie assured the Council that no policies involving academics, ranks, and promotion and tenure would move forward without full faculty involvement.

11. Prof. Zinner presented a proposal to extend the final date by which a student may withdraw from a course up to the week before final exams. There was discussion pro and con. The sense of the council was that this was an issue worth pursuing cautiously, and the executive committee should return in 2018-19 with a concrete proposal.

12. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40.