

WEBVTT

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00:00:00.090 --> 00:00:02.460

Mohan Venigalla: They just said the same.

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00:00:02.460 --> 00:00:03.700

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Okay.

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00:00:04.370 --> 00:00:06.779

Solon Simmons: critical issue might require a vote, I think.

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00:00:09.180 --> 00:00:11.460

Solon Simmons: Anyway...

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00:00:11.460 --> 00:00:13.739

Mohan Venigalla: Yeah, she announced Quorum, I think.

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00:00:13.740 --> 00:00:14.140

Anna Pollack: Yeah.

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00:00:14.740 --> 00:00:28.750

Solon Simmons: Oh, okay, great. Well, I will call us into order at 3.02 PM. Welcome, everyone. So, we are... I'll start off with some comments. We don't have a special visitor, that was just a placeholder sitting in our, sitting in the, the,

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00:00:29.190 --> 00:00:43.599

Solon Simmons: in the agenda. But welcome, and as I said, I hope that those of you who were able to come to the President's soiree enjoyed that, and if you didn't, weren't able to come, please think about that next year. That's something we do each year. It gives you access to

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00:00:43.600 --> 00:00:59.800

Solon Simmons: senior leadership team figures in a way that is informal and potentially useful to you as you have, you know, various questions or need to make various kind of requests of the senior leadership team. So that's something nice to do.

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00:01:00.110 --> 00:01:05.349

Solon Simmons: What I... in terms of, My remarks today.

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00:01:05.580 --> 00:01:16.280

Solon Simmons: What I would say is that we're in an interesting time, and I've actually... this last week was important for me in terms of getting a sense of where the administration as a whole is headed at George Mason.

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00:01:16.620 --> 00:01:22.800

Solon Simmons: In the... in the sense... well, maybe this is a way to put it, and you'll have President Washington said similar things.

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00:01:23.000 --> 00:01:35.759

Solon Simmons: We've been... we went through a lot in 2025. This was a very important and difficult year. Obviously, a lot of external pressure that was unique and made us react in ways that we aren't used to.

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00:01:35.940 --> 00:01:54.699

Solon Simmons: threw us off balance, and now we're in more of a business-as-usual phase, but because we also had internal pressures, meaning board of visitors changes that were so dramatic and unprecedented, I mean, I think you all know, but we've never, as far as I understand, never had turnover in the board that... in that tumultuous a way.

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00:01:54.820 --> 00:02:11.519

Solon Simmons: that changed the administration very, very quickly. Usually it's a very slow drift, especially across partisan lines, and this would happen very, very quickly. So what that's done is that's empowered President Washington to, sort of reset his administration, as I see it.

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00:02:11.520 --> 00:02:22.150

Solon Simmons: And so I know we're not in term two necessarily, but maybe more than that, but we're in a set... we're in a new phase, I think, with the president. And you'll note, if you didn't look at the way that this played out over the summer.

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00:02:22.220 --> 00:02:25.209

Solon Simmons: His own... his own org chart changed a lot.

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00:02:25.420 --> 00:02:42.310

Solon Simmons: And the reporting structure changed a lot. And so, the figures who are directly reporting to him are fewer, as I understand, and there's new reporting structures within his team. That doesn't usually affect us all that much, but it really is a big part of how the administration is organized. We ought to be attentive to it.

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00:02:42.360 --> 00:02:57.130

Solon Simmons: and aware that that's what's happening. And so, as the administrative team has been going through this reset, it took them time

to re-engage with the faculty proper, with us, with the general Faculty as well, but even with us, and even with me.

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00:02:57.280 --> 00:03:12.629

Solon Simmons: And so I feel like this last week was very informative in the way in which that new administrative reset is going to play out over time, and so I think I have more to... at least a better sense of it now, and that's helpful. So I wanted to make sure to say that, because

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00:03:12.630 --> 00:03:17.810

Solon Simmons: There's been a little bit of a calm recently, which is good, in the sense of having business as usual.

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00:03:17.890 --> 00:03:30.840

Solon Simmons: you know, we're doing the work of the university in the way that we're supposed to do, as opposed to worrying about external forces and politics and all that business. But at the same time, it wasn't clear exactly what the administration was going to do, and therefore how we would become partners with them.

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00:03:30.960 --> 00:03:33.459

Solon Simmons: I want to reiterate something I said last time.

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00:03:33.460 --> 00:03:55.070

Solon Simmons: Which is that my vision for what we're doing here together is that we are about setting... establishing an independent partnership with the administration in service of the Board of Visitors mission. That is, this idea of an independent partnership is a weird idea for people who are used to corporate governance, which, and by that I mean most of our board members.

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00:03:55.320 --> 00:04:11.700

Solon Simmons: It's a novel idea in the sense that we bring democratic processes to bear in the governance itself. That is, this is a demonstration of a democratic process within a hierarchical institution, and so having us in this capacity not be parts of the hierarchy, but being an independent

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00:04:11.700 --> 00:04:20.489

Solon Simmons: partner with the administration seems a little bit strange, but I think that's important to emphasize, because although we don't have much power in a legal formal sense.

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00:04:20.490 --> 00:04:27.470

Solon Simmons: We always have the power to dissent. And that's maybe our final power that we would have, is we could always take and have done.

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00:04:27.470 --> 00:04:40.150

Solon Simmons: have made statements, if we disagree with the administration, that we could always make a statement, and it's up to us to do that. And there are things which we're meant, according to normative standards, to own, like the curriculum.

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00:04:40.150 --> 00:04:53.740

Solon Simmons: and frankly, the catalog as well, more or less. I mean, we... the handbook, that governs the way that we, our employment relations are structured. So, that's something I just wanted to emphasize here again, because that's going to bear on our discussion

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00:04:53.910 --> 00:05:07.789

Solon Simmons: Especially around, some of the materials that O&O is going to be putting forward today, that, that is how... which... which I think are intended to make it easier for the administration to partner with us.

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00:05:07.880 --> 00:05:13.680

Solon Simmons: And for us, frankly, to insist on ways in which the administration would partner with us.

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00:05:13.720 --> 00:05:26.999

Solon Simmons: and to make that process more streamlined and easier, because I don't... I never have sensed a feeling that the administration or various administrators, don't want to be partners, but there is a way in which

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00:05:27.000 --> 00:05:43.340

Solon Simmons: it's... in which it becomes difficult to know how we're organized if it's not clear how we're organized. And so, really, that's the spirit of this, of this new idea of an org chart and having areas that are liaison reporting areas and so on. So that's... that's the reason for all of that.

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00:05:43.480 --> 00:06:07.169

Solon Simmons: But I... it's really intended to empower the Senate, empower the faculty, and protect our independence. So that's something I would love to leave behind after I'm gone, that we have that capacity to very cleanly articulate, you know, why it is we exist, why we have the structures we do, and why you, the administrator, ought to do your best to work with those structures. And to not slow you down, to not make it so that your job is harder, or

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00:06:07.170 --> 00:06:31.149

Solon Simmons: you know, that we throw all these wrenches in there, cause trouble, but instead to really make that partnership just a better one overall and more efficient. So, that's what I wanted to make sure to highlight. I think that this is, you know, when an institution like this is always the airplane building itself as it flies, but that's the basic idea that's going on, and we don't have, and I didn't at least.

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00:06:31.150 --> 00:06:54.230

Solon Simmons: have as much to report out to you about what it is I've noticed, or who I've talked to, or what's been going on, in part because the administration has, in a way, been getting itself together. We have the new provost, Marion Underwood, obviously, who maybe... she'll be lurking on our call, perhaps, she told me, but won't be able... she's driving, so won't be able to be responsive to us today. But we do want to have a standard invitation for her to share updates with what's going on.

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00:06:54.230 --> 00:07:04.149

Solon Simmons: with the administration, especially since her role concerns us more than the COO, or the CFO, or the Chief of Staff, and so on. So, there's the four big, reports.

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00:07:04.350 --> 00:07:29.329

Solon Simmons: direct reports to the president, the provost is most important, usually, to us. But she'll be here and is a general guest, and will be, open to speak with us as well. But she's now kind of getting her legs under her, and understanding the complex organization, but it's... there's a lot to understand, and as I say, we... I think it was Kevin and I were talking last night, we don't even fully understand the whole structure, so how can we expect someone brand new to understand that whole structure? But it's our responsibility

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00:07:29.330 --> 00:07:36.589

Solon Simmons: responsibility to manage, and that's part of what the... why O&O has had such a big job, this past, this year and last year.

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00:07:36.600 --> 00:07:56.729

Solon Simmons: Okay, so, without further ado, let's move forward to the Senate Standing Committees, and one last thing I want to say about that is that, in general, the way I've come to understand my role is really as a facilitator, not someone driving the agenda. So what I encourage you all to do, especially you new senators, if you want... if you have stuff you want to get done.

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00:07:56.900 --> 00:07:59.230

Solon Simmons: Join one of the Senate Standing Committees.

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00:07:59.230 --> 00:08:22.360

Solon Simmons: And then get those Senate standing committees to do something. And they have very clear charges, and those charges are very open-ended, but I like that to have more of a pull system than a push system. I don't like to have an agenda that I push down from where I am, but I like the committees to surface things, come to the executive committee with those, and then to build the agenda from there. So that's what we're going to do today, so that you'll have the committees will have

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00:08:22.360 --> 00:08:34.849

Solon Simmons: various things that they're working on, thinking about, or people they're talking to, and so on, and this is our opportunity to, to learn from them, okay? So we'll begin in our normal order, and turn to academic policies.

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00:08:36.210 --> 00:08:37.289

Douglas Eyman: Thanks, Elan.

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00:08:37.519 --> 00:08:38.879

Solon Simmons: 24 minutes, Zach?

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00:08:39.360 --> 00:08:40.800

Zachary Schrag: Yeah, could we approve the minutes?

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00:08:41.150 --> 00:08:41.620

Zachary Schrag: Yep.

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00:08:41.620 --> 00:08:48.539

Solon Simmons: Of course, always free. First order of business is the approval of minutes. Thank you, Senator Schrag. Any additions or corrections to the minutes?

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00:08:50.260 --> 00:08:55.849

Solon Simmons: Hearing none, the minutes will... our stand is submitted. Thank you, Senator Schrag. Again, turn to academic policies.

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00:08:56.250 --> 00:08:56.940

Douglas Eyman: Alright.

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00:08:57.430 --> 00:09:09.860

Douglas Eyman: Thanks, Holan. Academic Policies doesn't have any new business, per se, but we are making a habit to report on the activities of the Graduate Council, which I sit on as a representative from Academic Policies.

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00:09:10.030 --> 00:09:27.770

Douglas Eyman: And one of the things that we are doing this semester, and it is constantly happening, actually, are updates to university policies. And university policies do not go through the Faculty Senate, but I've decided that, you know, in consultation with others, that we should make announcements about things that are happening.

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00:09:27.780 --> 00:09:43.669

Douglas Eyman: And if you go to policies.gme.edu, you can see all of the policies that we have and their updates. One that came out of Graduate Council at their last meeting that they approved is, minor changes to the policy about cross-listing. So if you cross-list undergraduate and graduate courses.

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00:09:43.700 --> 00:09:54.370

Douglas Eyman: When that is finally approved, you'll want to take a look at it to make sure you're following the policy correctly. And we'll have a note or, like, an appendix in the next... next month's

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00:09:54.420 --> 00:09:59.040

Douglas Eyman: agenda, so you can see what the final, change to that policy was. Thanks.

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00:09:59.530 --> 00:10:02.540

Solon Simmons: Thanks. The one point of the... that I want to...

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00:10:02.650 --> 00:10:11.910

Solon Simmons: put forward here is, you know, Academic Policies has 8 different sections. I don't know if you've, you know... could you just say a few words about how AP is organized, Doug, just so everyone is up to speed?

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00:10:13.490 --> 00:10:27.999

Douglas Eyman: Sure, I mean, like, if you look at the catalog, right, the academic policies, there are... there are 9 sections in total, AP1 through AP9. AP7, which is research, is something we don't deal with because it's not considered an academic policy.

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00:10:28.220 --> 00:10:33.339

Douglas Eyman: AP6 is graduate-level policies, and those are handled by the Graduate Council.

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00:10:33.520 --> 00:10:49.319

Douglas Eyman: All of the other sections go through academic policies for updates or changes to those policies, so if you have questions about

those policies, or if you have... see something that needs to be adjusted or updated over time, then send that... send that information to me, and we'll get it into the pipeline for academic policies to take a look at it.

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00:10:49.550 --> 00:10:50.500

Douglas Eyman: Thanks.

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00:10:51.160 --> 00:10:52.140

Solon Simmons: Tim, go ahead.

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00:10:52.710 --> 00:11:01.599

Tim Gibson: Yeah, just quick question, so... So, we don't address graduate policies in this body through the... through your committee.

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00:11:02.120 --> 00:11:04.809

Douglas Eyman: That's correct. Those are handled through Graduate Council.

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00:11:06.090 --> 00:11:06.960

Tim Gibson: That's...

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00:11:07.430 --> 00:11:20.200

Tim Gibson: That's academic, you know, it's like, just because they're grad students doesn't make it any less academic. That seems problematic. I mean, Doug, you know, you're doing a bang-up job, it's not a criticism, but I think just in terms of this whole body.

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00:11:20.200 --> 00:11:28.520

Tim Gibson: that's something that we should take back. And this thing about cross-listing also sounds like an academic policy, but apparently it's been

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00:11:28.520 --> 00:11:37.190

Tim Gibson: classified as a university policy, so... University policy, right. So who gets to define these, these, these buckets as a big source of power?

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00:11:37.380 --> 00:11:57.219

Douglas Eyman: Well, we do... we do have, I also sit on the policy management group, and we have had some pushback against some proposed policies that seem to fall further into the academic policy space than not, and we have been... we have been able to take some of those policies and switch them into catalog policies so that we have more control over them from the Faculty Senate side.

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00:11:57.440 --> 00:12:12.159

Douglas Eyman: For the Graduate Council version, the way that operates, they have a huge number of stakeholders that participate in the decision-making, and they do a lot of work, like, way more work than we could actually handle, even, and they do a lot of stuff that's both

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00:12:12.220 --> 00:12:19.880

Douglas Eyman: graduate... graduate-level policy that is academic and non-academic policies, things like hiring and GTAs and all sorts of stuff.

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00:12:20.000 --> 00:12:29.210

Douglas Eyman: And so they handle the... and it's a very robust and fairly complicated process that I am confident is

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00:12:29.340 --> 00:12:44.899

Douglas Eyman: has very good representation from the faculty on it, which is why I haven't made a big push to say, like, we need to... we need to change the way we operate, because the end result will be just adding an inefficiency, or... or a potential,

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00:12:45.040 --> 00:12:46.850

Douglas Eyman: Kind of a pro forma approach.

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00:12:46.970 --> 00:12:51.540

Douglas Eyman: That may be less beneficial than the way it's currently working.

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00:12:52.000 --> 00:12:59.340

Douglas Eyman: But that's all... that's certainly something that we have conversations about in the executive committee on a fairly regular basis, so...

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00:12:59.340 --> 00:13:00.830

Tim Gibson: I imagine. Well, thanks, Doug.

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00:13:01.070 --> 00:13:17.280

Solon Simmons: Tim, just to that point, this is one of my pet peeves, to be honest with you, and those of you on the call who are in graduate area know that, and I think that we have been... we've been... the goal has been to move toward including AP6 somehow, the Senate directly involved, because it seems that

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00:13:17.500 --> 00:13:23.589

Solon Simmons: this Faculty Senate would have more to say, in a way, about graduate education than even undergraduate education, which is more standard.

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00:13:23.590 --> 00:13:38.350

Solon Simmons: standardized, and so on, so there's reasons. So we've been moving in that direction without trying to break something that's working well. And Doug is our liaison there, and so he says it's working well, so we tend to trust him, and yet there's this general sense that

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00:13:38.350 --> 00:13:51.929

Solon Simmons: well, you know, this is an area, if it's an academic policy, and the faculty are supposed to own those things, then why don't we, you know, have a partnership on that? So, I think it's moving in that direction, we're having active discussions, and I'm pretty happy with how that's going. The other thing I want to say is.

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00:13:52.130 --> 00:14:01.190

Solon Simmons: why is AP7, you know, have nothing to do with us? If it's not... if it's not an academic policy, then why is it called academic policy? That's a question I have.

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00:14:02.300 --> 00:14:04.469

Douglas Eyman: I don't have an answer for that one either, but...

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00:14:05.600 --> 00:14:08.030

Douglas Eyman: That's a... that's a bigger... that's a bigger question, I think.

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00:14:08.680 --> 00:14:13.000

Solon Simmons: Well, it's just an area of, like, here's what it comes down to again. Are we partners or not?

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00:14:13.000 --> 00:14:37.949

Solon Simmons: You know what I mean? That's my line, it's very straightforward. And then there's... and if the answer is yes, then what kinds of partners are we? And then we simply articulate that in a way that makes sure that the process is as efficient. I mean, we don't want to harm the students, right? That's the number one goal, and I think that's how the administrators always will say, look, this is about serving the students, we're actually attentive to it, so don't get involved if you're going to harm students. No one wants to harm students. But anyway, it's just an... I think that eventually.

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00:14:37.950 --> 00:14:43.830

Solon Simmons: Anything called AP.anything probably has to have some relationship to the Senate. That's my perspective.

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00:14:43.870 --> 00:14:45.180

Solon Simmons: personal perspective.

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00:14:46.370 --> 00:14:47.660

Solon Simmons: Any questions?

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00:14:48.300 --> 00:14:49.669

Solon Simmons: for Doug

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00:14:54.190 --> 00:14:58.690

Solon Simmons: Okay, okay, well, hearing none, let's move on to budget and resources.

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00:14:59.610 --> 00:15:14.829

Delton Daigle: Thanks, Elan. Hi, everyone. Couple updates. Regarding budget and resources, there's a couple big meetings that are going to come up that I'll be able to report out for the October, DocuSanta meeting. One is tomorrow, I'm meeting with the, the Executive Committee for

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00:15:14.830 --> 00:15:34.550

Delton Daigle: for the budget model redesign phase two, so we're going to have some feedback on what happened with the first stage, and hopefully we'll make plans to move forward and tweak it. I have no idea what exactly is going to be on the agenda, and so you can ask me all the questions you want about that. I'm not going to be able to answer any of them until after tomorrow.

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00:15:34.600 --> 00:15:41.799

Delton Daigle: But, so that's coming up. Secondly, what's coming up is on September 28th, our committee is going to be meeting with,

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00:15:41.860 --> 00:15:59.289

Delton Daigle: Dan, Renata, and the finance team to look at the actuals from the last fiscal year. So, what we were struggling with in the previous fiscal year was getting them to give us reporting data based on projections, and they said that they were unable to give us projections. They said it wouldn't be helpful, but now we have actual

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00:15:59.340 --> 00:16:02.999

Delton Daigle: actuals to work from, so I think that's going to be valuable.

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00:16:04.270 --> 00:16:11.120

Delton Daigle: On another stream, because I co-chair the Technology Policy Committee, let me give you a quick update on that one while I have your attention.

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00:16:11.230 --> 00:16:20.809

Delton Daigle: First, ITS sent us, an annual report as our charge acquires, with financials. We pushed back that it was too high level.

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00:16:20.860 --> 00:16:32.160

Delton Daigle: They returned a revised version with some greater detail, but we thought it was a good faith effort, all things considered, but it's still short of what we asked for regarding personnel and procurement.

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00:16:32.330 --> 00:16:49.969

Delton Daigle: Second, and more so significant, until last week, faculty had zero presence on the university's new domain council structure, which is the bodies that actually decide how IT investment prioritizes. And that's changed. I've now been added as a non-voting faculty member to two committees,

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00:16:50.300 --> 00:16:58.139

Delton Daigle: the... and then there's a new committee that's going to be stood up by ITS, this Academic Domain Council, which is planned for the fall.

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00:16:58.190 --> 00:17:11.760

Delton Daigle: I've told ITS leadership directly that non-voting participation does not meet with the Senate's understanding of shared governance, and I've raised it separately with the new provost, since this predates her tenure, but I'll keep the...

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00:17:11.849 --> 00:17:29.429

Delton Daigle: the committee in the Senate posted, as that new Council's membership gets decided, and I've suggested that we at the Senate need to have a voice at the table, particularly as we think about, you know, IT procurement is so central to a lot of what we do, and it's, you know.

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00:17:29.680 --> 00:17:34.420

Delton Daigle: defines choices that we make about pedagogy and all kinds of other things. But,

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00:17:34.710 --> 00:17:43.090

Delton Daigle: I would also submit that as a university administration, here's a kickback, I think, that we... however we liaise with any... whatever administrative department it is.

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00:17:43.120 --> 00:18:00.769

Delton Daigle: If there were no electricity, could there be a university? Yes, there could. If there was no electricity, could there be an ITS? No, there could not, right? So, I think that we have to kind of kick back, you know, at the administration and say, you know, let's put the mission up front here, and make sure that we have the right stakeholders at these meetings. So that's kind of where that's at.

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00:18:01.720 --> 00:18:13.339

Solon Simmons: Thanks, thanks for that. Yeah, the issue came up, it became a little bit contentious, because the issue of, like, why would you have faculty on there who are non-voting? If there's a voting body, it seems a little strange not to have faculty to also have a vote.

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00:18:13.340 --> 00:18:30.789

Solon Simmons: that was the way that we formulated it, and and so that... I think that's helpful, you know, to keep that in mind, because many committees, administrative committees, don't have voting at all. You have a boss, and you've got people who work for the boss, and... but if you've got some kind of political... voting implies a political structure, so then why wouldn't we be part of the political structure? That was...

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00:18:30.860 --> 00:18:34.620

Solon Simmons: Anyway, Dell and I had a good conversation about that, and I think that makes good sense.

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00:18:35.710 --> 00:18:38.009

Solon Simmons: Any questions for budget and resources?

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00:18:38.010 --> 00:19:02.620

Solon Simmons: Oh, and I want to say one other thing, we've got Kevin to say. I want to say one other thing. So, when we're going to be talking about a kind of a liaison structure with a number of the university standing committees, you heard what Del just did there, said, here's a committee that I also want to report on. That would be in the general domain, if you like, of budget and resources in the future, so it would make sense if any of you are on a university standing committee, you could easily then say, hey, let's go to budget and resources and say, here's what we're working on, what we're worried about, and what we're

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00:19:02.620 --> 00:19:13.810

Solon Simmons: Rob said about even, then you've got an immediate forum right here to then surface that without us, and let me also say I'm on

ITS, whatever. You know, so that's part of the thinking where we're going to get to. Kevin, go ahead.

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00:19:13.810 --> 00:19:23.710

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): I just wanted to let everybody know we're still working, or we're still waiting to hear back from ITS on the classroom issues that are affecting so many faculty when they log into a university machine.

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00:19:23.710 --> 00:19:45.260

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): and the authenticity issues that are going on with that. I just want to let everybody know, we haven't heard anything yet. We're going to continue to push and try to find out if we can get information on that, as... and hopefully we can have an answer to report back soon, to everybody. If anybody has any questions on that, I've got to do what I can to help you. But as I said before, my recommendation, until they get this.

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00:19:45.260 --> 00:19:49.530

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): This kind of situation completely solved is to bring your own machines into the classrooms.

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00:19:49.580 --> 00:19:51.419

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Just to be safe. Thank you.

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00:19:52.590 --> 00:19:56.690

Solon Simmons: And the problem is it takes 10 to 15 minutes to log in and get all your tech ready.

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00:19:56.690 --> 00:20:02.260

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): And if you have a class that starts at, ends at 10.15, another one starts at 10.30, that time crunch...

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00:20:02.380 --> 00:20:07.210

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): really puts a damper on things, and I'm hearing a lot of that from faculty, so thank you.

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00:20:07.380 --> 00:20:08.730

Solon Simmons: Thanks, Kevin.

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00:20:10.680 --> 00:20:17.439

Solon Simmons: Okay, makes sense, great, great. Thanks so much, to Budget and Resources. Let's turn to Faculty Matters.

122

00:20:20.840 --> 00:20:32.340

Mohan Venigalla: Okay, we met, and we haven't had too much to report from the Faculty Matters perspective. We expect this to be a very busy year.

123

00:20:32.970 --> 00:20:42.989

Mohan Venigalla: There is, there is one item that I want to... that's related to Faculty Matters, but it is coming from the...

124

00:20:43.260 --> 00:20:48.130

Mohan Venigalla: Faculty Roles and Rewards Committee, Faculty Roles and Rewards.

125

00:20:48.280 --> 00:20:57.750

Mohan Venigalla: As you know, I am co-chairing that one, and with the passage of the new Framework Oral Excellence Framework in March.

126

00:20:58.010 --> 00:21:08.239

Mohan Venigalla: And we are expecting this committee to be... CFRR to be very busy this year, and get engaged quite a bit, get engaged and moving.

127

00:21:08.460 --> 00:21:12.259

Mohan Venigalla: Towards implementation of that new framework.

128

00:21:12.740 --> 00:21:22.460

Mohan Venigalla: And, Provost Underwood has created an implementation group out of the provost office who's going to work with,

129

00:21:22.990 --> 00:21:29.989

Mohan Venigalla: with CFRR, and Melissa and I are co-chairing it. Melissa, I have more

130

00:21:30.140 --> 00:21:33.189

Mohan Venigalla: to say on that one, Melissa, you have...

131

00:21:34.210 --> 00:21:56.609

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: Yeah, so really excited about the Faculty Handbook revisions that you all passed last year, and we also acknowledge that there's a big lift and a lot of work ahead as we revise all of our P&T guidelines at our local unit and at our college level to match what's in the handbook. And so, in preparation for that, I think most of you know I was working on the bylaws and P&T revisit

132

00:21:56.660 --> 00:21:58.190

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: review to...

133

00:21:58.190 --> 00:22:19.620

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: to check for alignment with the Faculty Handbook, over the past year, and shared the overall report with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Earlier this week, I shared those reports, unit by unit with your deans and associate deans of Faculty Affairs. And so, I know in some colleges, those have been shared with academic units. In others, we're talking about how to best do that.

134

00:22:19.660 --> 00:22:36.170

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: But we recognize this is going to be a big lift for faculty, and so we're putting together this implementation team, and it's really folks who have different roles in helping do this work. You know, and so, Kim Ford, right, of course, works with Interfolio.

135

00:22:36.170 --> 00:22:41.529

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: Xiaomei Cai has developed the Faculty Success Framework, right? Shelley Reid is running the Starr Center.

136

00:22:41.530 --> 00:23:00.689

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: Leah Nichols is going to be joining us from the Office of Research. Many of you were part of a research impact working group last year that was making some very similar parallel recommendations to the Faculty Roles of Awards. And then Gesele, of course, is our interim vice provost for Faculty Affairs. And so, each of us has different roles to help support units.

137

00:23:00.690 --> 00:23:05.359

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: But the goal of this implementation team is to really, take some time this fall.

138

00:23:05.430 --> 00:23:24.739

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: to help build out some resources. You know, are there templates? Can we find exemplars here at Mason and other similar institutions? And then can we also build out some workshops to really help facilitate the process? We have a two-year timeline, and so the goal is to get units started working on revisions in the spring.

139

00:23:24.740 --> 00:23:33.249

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: Continuing that into the fall, and then to make sure that we actually implement the handbook-required provost approval process at the end of this.

140

00:23:33.250 --> 00:23:56.099

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: To make sure that we're really making this a faculty governance process, but also helping support some of the heavy

lifting along the way, and making sure that the handbook changes that you all voted on, actually do get implemented in our units. And so, please know we're going to be here to help and support, while this work is still happening in the local units, and Mohan and I are looking forward to, helping lead that team.

141

00:23:56.130 --> 00:24:04.380

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: And working closely with Faculty Roles and Rewards as they really think about the bigger picture and faculty and shared governance at the university level on this.

142

00:24:05.430 --> 00:24:21.199

Mohan Venigalla: So, on that note, Solon, I would like to ask if any of you have any questions on that one. I've been getting some emails on the new overall excellence framework and all. So, CFRR hasn't met yet. We are meeting this

143

00:24:21.410 --> 00:24:29.260

Mohan Venigalla: Monday, I can take any questions you might have to the committee. And the other thing, one thing I also want to say is there are a lot of moving parts.

144

00:24:29.950 --> 00:24:35.180

Mohan Venigalla: It is probably premature to share any of the interim documents.

145

00:24:35.320 --> 00:24:44.089

Mohan Venigalla: And, whenever there's something that can be published, we will share it with the Senate, so I just wanted to give you a heads up on that one. So I...

146

00:24:44.260 --> 00:24:50.680

Mohan Venigalla: I'll keep the Senate informed, about what's going on, on that space.

147

00:24:51.030 --> 00:24:54.540

Solon Simmons: break? Zach? I'll call him on. Go ahead, Zach.

148

00:24:54.540 --> 00:25:11.910

Zachary Schrag: Thanks so much. So, Melissa said that, there's a two-year timeline for this, and I don't think that's quite right, in that a faculty member who's coming up for third-year review this fall needs to be thinking about the 2028, or 2029, whatever it is,

149

00:25:11.910 --> 00:25:14.569

Zachary Schrag: Standards, for their tenure.

150

00:25:14.570 --> 00:25:38.550

Zachary Schrag: And, for that reason, we need to give that person guidance right now, like, this semester. So, I understand that some of this will take time, but I would like to suggest that anything that the Faculty Roles and Rewards Committee produced while thinking about these new standards should be made as public as possible, as soon as possible. Mohan has heard from me on this.

151

00:25:38.550 --> 00:25:41.399

Zachary Schrag: And I hope that the whole committee can consider that. Thanks.

152

00:25:41.400 --> 00:25:47.280

Mohan Venigalla: Yeah, perfect. Actually, this is an excellent point you raised. We, we were...

153

00:25:47.660 --> 00:25:54.079

Mohan Venigalla: we actually discussed about this last year, and again, I cannot make any,

154

00:25:54.300 --> 00:25:58.520

Mohan Venigalla: Definitive statement about that one, but the committee will discuss

155

00:25:58.630 --> 00:26:05.380

Mohan Venigalla: And then it will pass on to the implementation team, and then implementation team will

156

00:26:05.610 --> 00:26:20.599

Mohan Venigalla: reach out to the units and say, make it an official policy. So the hierarchy is CFRR is the brain trust, implementation team is the one that's actually doing the implementation process with all the units, going to individual

157

00:26:20.860 --> 00:26:26.200

Mohan Venigalla: So, this is, what you mentioned about the third-year renewal.

158

00:26:26.570 --> 00:26:39.140

Mohan Venigalla: it's a top priority. I think, maybe at our first meeting, it is not on the agenda, so it's an oversight on my part, but I will put it on the agenda, and then we will address that right away.

159

00:26:39.270 --> 00:26:44.520

Mohan Venigalla: So that... As a committee, he'll make a recommendation, and then provost will take it from there.

160

00:26:45.710 --> 00:26:51.000

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: And Mohan, if I can add to that to address Zach's question, the...

161

00:26:51.200 --> 00:27:16.079

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: already approved language in the Faculty Handbook that won't go into effect until 2028, that really describes that breadth and those expectations for excellence across all three categories. That is already visible in the handbook, and we did what state code does, where we have what's in effect until July 1st of 2028 in one color, and then that's there so that it's shown as going into effect, so that

162

00:27:16.080 --> 00:27:18.469

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: Anyone can go to and refer to that now.

163

00:27:18.510 --> 00:27:27.649

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: One of the other things that we'll be doing this semester on the implementation team, one of the first things is we already have provost guidance for documenting teaching excellence.

164

00:27:27.710 --> 00:27:45.759

Melissa Broeckelman-Post: We're going to be thinking about updating that to align with the handbook, but then doing the same for each of the other categories as well, so that that will be one of the resources that we have sooner rather than later. But we would love input, you know, here or elsewhere, you know, especially if you think about things later, about what kinds of things would be helpful to units in this process.

165

00:27:48.890 --> 00:27:49.390

Solon Simmons: If I'm right.

166

00:27:49.850 --> 00:28:00.449

Solon Simmons: The Faculty Handbook is basically up to date. I mean, you can direct young faculty, you know, new faculty to the handbook now, and then it's the... it's the units

167

00:28:00.600 --> 00:28:06.519

Solon Simmons: bylaws and policies and procedures that need to be updated to match the handbook, so it's not as if we don't know what

168

00:28:06.660 --> 00:28:09.880

Solon Simmons: how to... how to mentor people, I think, right? Is that fair to say?

169

00:28:10.320 --> 00:28:12.449

Solon Simmons: to Mohan or Melissa, seems to me.

170

00:28:12.450 --> 00:28:31.669

Mohan Venigalla: I think specific details. So, for instance, if I am going for the, say, renewal, the 3-year renewal, and then you sit down with the chair, sit down with the dean, and then say, okay, what is expected of it? And in that conversation, what should the chair

171

00:28:31.740 --> 00:28:47.569

Mohan Venigalla: I think, if I understand Zach's question, that's what he's asking. What should the chair say? What should they look for? So, for instance, can I go under the old rule, or can I go with the new rule, or can I be grandfathered in, or something like that? Is that...

172

00:28:47.980 --> 00:28:59.829

Mohan Venigalla: So, if you can give certain clarity on that aspect, maybe that is one of the first things we can do, is okay. Is that, is that what you're asking, Zach?

173

00:29:00.200 --> 00:29:05.530

Zachary Schrag: So, obviously this, someone in 30-year review now will, unless they...

174

00:29:05.900 --> 00:29:20.430

Zachary Schrag: come up very early, we'll have to go under the new rule. And so the question is, what should they be expecting? First of all, how should they present their third-year materials? Should they even divide it into teaching and research the way that,

175

00:29:20.540 --> 00:29:31.269

Zachary Schrag: Has traditionally been done, or should they try to be making the case that they are on their way to overall excellence based on their existing work in the probationary period?

176

00:29:31.270 --> 00:29:44.300

Zachary Schrag: But again, I think, there's a difference between what the Faculty Handbook says and some of the reasoning behind it. Mohan knows that I've been asking for faculty roles and rewards

177

00:29:44.300 --> 00:29:48.899

Zachary Schrag: Documentation, where they say, not just, here's what we're doing, but here's why we are doing it.

178

00:29:48.900 --> 00:30:04.640

Zachary Schrag: One interpretation that came out of that process, I think, was simply that we don't do tenure based on teaching anymore. Like, that's the one-line version of the change. But if there are basic, sort of.

179

00:30:04.660 --> 00:30:14.429

Zachary Schrag: approaches that are beyond that, I'd really like to hear them because, again, I'm in the position of trying to advise a junior faculty member about what these new rules mean.

180

00:30:16.710 --> 00:30:19.609

Mohan Venigalla: That's... that's helpful, yes, we'll take it to the committee.

181

00:30:21.860 --> 00:30:22.420

Solon Simmons: Yeah.

182

00:30:24.070 --> 00:30:42.909

Solon Simmons: Any other questions for... about this process? So, I have one question, actually. So, CFRR... CFRR is going to be the University Standing Committee, which is, you know, sort of in charge of this whole process, but then you'll have an implementation team that is... that you and Melissa are chairing, is that right? Is that how it works?

183

00:30:42.910 --> 00:30:52.199

Mohan Venigalla: That's correct. We coordinate, the CFRR and the implementation team will coordinate on that. Okay. So, actually, Melissa is going to sit on CFRR.

184

00:30:53.120 --> 00:30:53.790

Solon Simmons: Okay.

185

00:30:55.000 --> 00:30:59.119

Solon Simmons: And you're going to help the units basically get up to speed with the handbook in a timely way.

186

00:30:59.770 --> 00:31:00.460

Solon Simmons: Okay.

187

00:31:02.040 --> 00:31:03.000

Solon Simmons: Alright.

188

00:31:04.390 --> 00:31:06.220

Solon Simmons: Anything else from Faculty Matters?

189

00:31:06.810 --> 00:31:09.729

Mohan Venigalla: Oh... That's what we got.

190

00:31:09.980 --> 00:31:14.960

Solon Simmons: Okay, that's a lot. All right, thank you. Let's do... now we have nominations.

191

00:31:15.680 --> 00:31:29.649

Lee Black: Hi, thank you, Solon. Hello, everyone. So I'm gonna share my screen with you. We do have a few positions to vote on today, and a few for which I'm hoping to get,

192

00:31:30.190 --> 00:31:48.049

Lee Black: nominations from the floor, during this meeting. So, you should be able to see it now, the nominations slate for, for today. We have 3 committees, where we have nominees, so for Faculty Roles and Rewards, Jennifer Hathaway has agreed to nominate herself

193

00:31:48.260 --> 00:32:07.039

Lee Black: for a position being, vacated by Kathy Ramos, so, Jennifer is at the same college as Kathy. It would work out very well to have her, joining this committee. For Mason Corps, Cheryl, Osin has, volunteered to nominate herself, for serving on Mason Corps.

194

00:32:07.040 --> 00:32:14.679

Lee Black: And, we'll, we'll provide additional representation to Basin Corps from a new college, which is, CPH.

195

00:32:14.700 --> 00:32:25.599

Lee Black: And then for writing across curriculum, Matthew Scherer has graciously volunteered to join this committee, which will fill out, until somebody else resigns.

196

00:32:25.600 --> 00:32:40.899

Lee Black: or until August, when we have, more elections, we'll fill out the membership of this committee, so we'll have representation from every college. So, first I'd like to vote on, these three, committees and these nominees, and then turn to,

197

00:32:41.040 --> 00:32:53.340

Lee Black: the Grievance Committee and the University Survey Review Committee to try and draw nominations from the floor. But, first, I'd like to make a motion to, vote to approve

198

00:32:53.560 --> 00:32:57.310

Lee Black: The election of these members to these three committees.

199

00:32:57.820 --> 00:33:03.370

Solon Simmons: Okay, and I think we need a... do we need a second, or it comes from committee, so we don't need a... we don't need a second, right?

200

00:33:03.900 --> 00:33:07.739

Solon Simmons: Okay, so... you want to vote on all three of them at once?

201

00:33:07.740 --> 00:33:08.630

Lee Black: Yes.

202

00:33:08.790 --> 00:33:09.450

Solon Simmons: Okay.

203

00:33:09.450 --> 00:33:14.900

Mohan Venigalla: I mean, don't you ask for any floor nominations if you want? I mean, I don't know the procedure, I'm just asking.

204

00:33:14.900 --> 00:33:20.369

Solon Simmons: Yeah, yeah, no, I think that there are... that would be the... that would be the opportunity if someone wanted to nominate themselves from the floor on these.

205

00:33:23.120 --> 00:33:31.089

Solon Simmons: Or nominate someone else, I suppose, since you don't have to be a senator on some of these committees, like Faculty Roles and Awards looks like Denver's not a senator, right? Cheryl's not a senator, and Mason

206

00:33:33.120 --> 00:33:37.379

Solon Simmons: Hearing none... I think we've moved to a vote.

207

00:33:37.500 --> 00:33:41.119

Solon Simmons: Okay, on... and this would be on the three committees, right? So,

208

00:33:41.640 --> 00:33:44.920

Solon Simmons: Faculty Roles and Rewards, Mason core, and...

209

00:33:45.080 --> 00:33:55.950

Solon Simmons: Writing across the curriculum. So we have these three new members, so we'll be voting to appoint these three new members to these three committees. All those in favor of appointing these three new members to these three committees, please unmute and say aye.

210

00:33:56.370 --> 00:33:56.770

Kerri LaCharite: Aye.

211

00:33:56.770 --> 00:33:57.790

Daniel Walsch: Alright, goodbye.

212

00:33:58.620 --> 00:33:59.490

Alexandra Masterson: Bye.

213

00:34:00.840 --> 00:34:03.289

Solon Simmons: And those opposed, unmute and say nay.

214

00:34:04.520 --> 00:34:05.750

Solon Simmons: Okay, the ayes have it.

215

00:34:07.490 --> 00:34:22.289

Lee Black: Okay, well, thank you very much for that. Now I want to turn to the two committees where we need nominees. So, for the grievance Committee, I was made aware only a few days ago that there was going to be an opening for this committee.

216

00:34:22.440 --> 00:34:25.820

Lee Black: one of the issues that we had,

217

00:34:26.000 --> 00:34:35.190

Lee Black: before a member resigned, that we want to try to avoid is, having another member representing either COS or CHSS,

218

00:34:35.190 --> 00:34:53.819

Lee Black: As the current charge of the committee states, there should be, or actually, the Faculty Senate, bylaws, requires representation from at least 3 colleges, so we did not have that before. In the email that I sent out, or I had sent out last week.

219

00:34:53.860 --> 00:35:10.500

Lee Black: I requested, nominees, or potential nominees for the committee who were not from either of those two colleges. I did not receive responses, so we still have that need for, nominees, from colleges other than CHSS or COS.

220

00:35:10.500 --> 00:35:18.270

Lee Black: Preferably, because there is not, right now, a faculty senator on the committee, I would certainly appreciate, a Faculty Senator.

221

00:35:18.270 --> 00:35:23.600

Lee Black: nominating themselves for this, as well. And then with,

222

00:35:23.600 --> 00:35:36.420

Lee Black: the University Survey Review Committee, this is a new committee, it is not a University Standing Committee, but I was contacted by, the chair of that committee about, having a faculty senator

223

00:35:36.560 --> 00:35:56.389

Lee Black: elected to the committee. Their composition includes a faculty senator on an ad hoc basis, meaning that, that senator serving on the committee as a member would only be, consulted when there were surveys involving faculty. I included the,

224

00:35:57.000 --> 00:36:09.060

Lee Black: draft committee charge with the, agenda that went out last week as well, so you had a chance to review that. So, first I'd like to see if there are any, nominees for the grievance Committee.

225

00:36:16.170 --> 00:36:19.450

Solon Simmons: So we'd want a Faculty Senator, preferably for this.

226

00:36:19.480 --> 00:36:28.819

Lee Black: Preferably. And somebody who is not a faculty member on, NCOS or CHSS, but also, members of this committee must be tenured.

227

00:36:29.360 --> 00:36:30.230

Solon Simmons: Hmm.

228

00:36:30.230 --> 00:36:38.210

Lee Black: So, are there any tenured faculty senators, not from COS or CHSS, who would like to nominate themselves to serve on grievance Committee?

229

00:36:41.470 --> 00:36:45.380

Solon Simmons: I have an eligibility question. Can the President of the Faculty Senate serve on the Grievance Committee?

230

00:36:46.580 --> 00:36:49.450

Lee Black: As far as I know, there's nothing to prevent it.

231

00:36:49.670 --> 00:36:52.789

Lee Black: Whether you want to take that burden on yourself.

232

00:36:52.790 --> 00:36:53.550

Solon Simmons: No, no, I understand.

233

00:36:53.550 --> 00:37:04.670

Lee Black: as a question, but this is a very important committee. I've been made aware that they've been doing quite a bit of work in the last few years. They do have a set of grievances that they're going to be reviewing soon.

234

00:37:04.690 --> 00:37:20.829

Lee Black: The chair has indicated that she would like to fill the seat as soon as possible. If we don't have a nominee today, I'll probably be sitting on another call for nominations for that specifically, so we can get it filled. If not today, then by

235

00:37:20.830 --> 00:37:26.230

Lee Black: Or at the next meeting in October. So this is a very important committee, does a lot of important work.

236

00:37:26.550 --> 00:37:33.890

Lee Black: But the member has to be tenured, and not a faculty member in COS or CHSS.

237

00:37:35.380 --> 00:37:45.109

Nirup Menon: Lee, this is Nirup. I'd like to nominate myself. I just rotated off of that committee, but I don't mind serving if you allow me to serve.

238

00:37:45.110 --> 00:37:48.730

Lee Black: Oh, of course we will, if you're willing to do that again, yes.

239

00:37:49.030 --> 00:37:50.000

Nirup Menon: Yes, thank you.

240

00:37:51.660 --> 00:37:52.459

Solon Simmons: So we have another...

241

00:37:53.150 --> 00:38:07.849

Lee Black: This would only be for, one year, to complete the term of the member who resigned. So you're eligible for re-election, after the term is up, or you can decide not to, but it's just for a one-year term.

242

00:38:08.680 --> 00:38:09.440

Nirup Menon: Thank you.

243

00:38:09.700 --> 00:38:13.690

Solon Simmons: Any other nominees for this committee? We'll vote on this one, and then we'll move to the next one.

244

00:38:13.690 --> 00:38:14.240

Lee Black: Okay.

245

00:38:15.220 --> 00:38:22.879

Solon Simmons: Okay, hearing none, all those in favor of electing Senator Menon to the Grievance Committee for one year term, please unmute and say aye.

246

00:38:24.190 --> 00:38:24.800

Victoria M Grady: Yay!

247

00:38:24.800 --> 00:38:25.560

Richard T Craig: Bye.

248

00:38:27.300 --> 00:38:29.250

Solon Simmons: And all those opposed, I mean, say nay.

249

00:38:30.190 --> 00:38:32.520

Solon Simmons: Okay, congratulations, thank you for serving.

250

00:38:32.780 --> 00:38:39.210

Lee Black: Well, thank you, Nirup for serving again, and I hope you enjoy that service again.

251

00:38:41.040 --> 00:38:52.929

Lee Black: And so, I should also point out that a matter of business from O&O coming up is to change the charge for this committee as well, to try to avoid what they had a bit of last year, which was,

252

00:38:53.210 --> 00:39:11.410

Lee Black: too many members from one college who had to recuse themselves when considering a grievance against somebody in their college, which meant the committee had to find temporary replacements. So we're trying to avoid that problem in the future as well by having a third college represented, and hopefully more than that in the future.

253

00:39:11.520 --> 00:39:31.360

Lee Black: Okay, and then the other committee that we need a nomination for is the University Survey Review Committee. You should have had a chance to review the charge that appeared after the election slate and the agenda, so I'd like to open the floor up for anyone, any Faculty Senator to nominate themselves for this committee.

254

00:39:40.370 --> 00:39:43.299

Solon Simmons: You all know what this thing does, I mean, so the idea is to...

255

00:39:43.700 --> 00:39:52.630

Solon Simmons: get some sort of control over, or some sort of air traffic control, perhaps, around surveys, as I understand it. Probably pretty interesting.

256

00:39:52.630 --> 00:39:54.969

Lee Black: Yeah, so now let me just highlight the,

257

00:39:59.360 --> 00:40:03.399

Lee Black: the... yeah, the Faculty Senate representative

258

00:40:03.650 --> 00:40:23.149

Lee Black: is ad hoc, which just means that a Faculty Senate will not be involved in all the meetings, only where the surveys might involve, matters that are pertinent to the Faculty Senate or to faculty in general. So this is not a committee position that would require constant meetings, which is my understanding.

259

00:40:25.080 --> 00:40:31.779

Solon Simmons: And a Faculty Matters person might be good for this, too, by the way, just to be involved in. Kevin, go ahead.

260

00:40:31.780 --> 00:40:44.000

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Quick question is, I'm still on the SALT committee handling that, and it's a similar type of appointment, correct? Or is that... I'm not seeing it on the website anymore, so has that been discontinued?

261

00:40:45.590 --> 00:40:46.520

Lee Black: Which committee?

262

00:40:46.520 --> 00:40:47.330

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Salt.

263

00:40:48.250 --> 00:40:49.290

Solon Simmons: What's it mean?

264

00:40:49.290 --> 00:40:52.120

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Interesting. Systems, leadership team.

265

00:40:53.070 --> 00:40:54.140

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): for IT.

266

00:40:54.990 --> 00:40:58.790

Lee Black: Is that a position that's elected by the doctors in it?

267

00:40:58.790 --> 00:41:01.910

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): It has been in the past, or appointed by the Faculty Senate in the past.

268

00:41:02.220 --> 00:41:04.780

Lee Black: Yeah, I don't know,

269

00:41:04.780 --> 00:41:14.790

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Because I don't see it anymore, since it's not included, and you're looking for a member, I'm supposed to have a second committee. I could nominate myself if that's the case. If not, then I'll continue to insult.

270

00:41:17.040 --> 00:41:21.300

Lee Black: I actually, I don't know whether or not SALT is still in existence, or what the status is of.

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00:41:21.300 --> 00:41:21.620

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Okay.

272

00:41:22.290 --> 00:41:26.099

Lee Black: I haven't seen anything about it in the two years that I've been,

273

00:41:26.100 --> 00:41:33.100

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Okay, I just... I go to the meetings and watch the meetings and, you know, just to... as a representative for the Senate, so... Okay. It's just fine.

274

00:41:33.100 --> 00:41:36.349

Solon Simmons: still lurk there, I guess, is what I would do, but...

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00:41:36.350 --> 00:41:36.820

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Sure.

276

00:41:36.820 --> 00:41:37.939

Solon Simmons: Do you like it.

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00:41:39.340 --> 00:41:41.680

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): So, I mean, I guess I could nominate myself then, I guess.

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00:41:41.680 --> 00:41:44.549

Solon Simmons: Great, okay, thanks. So we have a nomination.

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00:41:48.240 --> 00:41:50.510

Solon Simmons: Anyone else want to nominate themselves for this one?

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00:41:51.080 --> 00:41:57.279

Solon Simmons: Hearing none, all those in favor of electing Senator Duner to this committee, please unmute and say aye.

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00:41:58.880 --> 00:41:59.560

Alexandra Masterson: Hi. Hi.

282

00:42:00.040 --> 00:42:00.730

Richard T Craig: Aye.

283

00:42:01.510 --> 00:42:03.509

Solon Simmons: And as opposed to them, you can say nay.

284

00:42:03.820 --> 00:42:05.479

Solon Simmons: All right, thank you very much, Kevin.

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00:42:05.480 --> 00:42:08.960

Lee Black: Thank you, Kevin. Alright, that's all for four nominations.

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00:42:09.170 --> 00:42:10.559

Solon Simmons: Fantastic, okay.

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00:42:10.720 --> 00:42:16.499

Solon Simmons: And thanks for that work, Lee. That's a... that's a lot to keep track of. Okay, so now on to O&O.

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00:42:17.940 --> 00:42:25.369

Zachary Schrag: Okay, so, we have some, major and minor things. I think the first one that we queued up was the

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00:42:25.370 --> 00:42:49.430

Zachary Schrag: revision to the grievance committee composition. In August, Nirup very kindly explained the problems they've been having. Again, with the math the way it is, you could have a committee that was three from one college and one each from each of another college's, so you'd have 3 colleges, but you could still have 3 recusals at a time, and this is not hypothetical, this has actually happened. So, Nirup had suggested that we change it.

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00:42:49.430 --> 00:43:04.090

Zachary Schrag: We at O&O thought that was a great idea, and now we put that forward as a formal motion, and with Nirup's kind service on the committee, this could go into effect immediately, because we would have the right number of

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00:43:04.090 --> 00:43:18.979

Zachary Schrag: people, no more than two from the same college, thanks to the election we just had. So I'd like to, move that we change the composition of the grievance committee, to prohibit more than two members from the same college or school.

292

00:43:19.740 --> 00:43:22.220

Solon Simmons: Okay, motion on the table. Discussion?

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00:43:22.900 --> 00:43:29.739

Solon Simmons: You got the text in your... in your agenda packet, by the way, if you're interested in looking to see it. But I think we get the gist.

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00:43:35.510 --> 00:43:38.530

Solon Simmons: Seems rather uncontroversial, right, in a sense.

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00:43:41.690 --> 00:43:42.810

Solon Simmons: Don't.

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00:43:43.540 --> 00:43:46.439

Delton Daigle: Alright, doesn't seem to be a lot of debate on this. We call a question.

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00:43:47.090 --> 00:43:47.740

Solon Simmons: Okay.

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00:43:48.600 --> 00:43:52.959

Solon Simmons: All right, do we need a second? I think we need a second on that, right? Do we have a second?

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00:43:52.960 --> 00:43:53.790

Kelly M Wentland: Second.

300

00:43:54.070 --> 00:43:57.389

Solon Simmons: Okay, all those in favor of calling the question, please unmute and say aye.

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00:43:57.390 --> 00:43:58.060

Robert Osgood: Bye.

302

00:43:58.060 --> 00:43:58.820

Victoria M Grady: Bye.

303

00:43:59.140 --> 00:44:00.350

Don Starr: Bye. Bye.

304

00:44:00.350 --> 00:44:00.790

Alexandra Masterson: Mine.

305

00:44:01.760 --> 00:44:02.870

Solon Simmons: exposed?

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00:44:03.910 --> 00:44:12.570

Solon Simmons: Okay, so we'll then vote on the text we have before us, the proposal revise the Composition of the Grievance Committee. All those in favor of this motion, please unmute and say aye.

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00:44:12.750 --> 00:44:13.440

Mohan Venigalla: Alright.

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00:44:13.440 --> 00:44:13.870

Victoria M Grady: Why?

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00:44:13.870 --> 00:44:14.810

Don Starr: Bye.

310

00:44:14.810 --> 00:44:15.760

Alexandra Masterson: Bye.

311

00:44:17.240 --> 00:44:19.210

Solon Simmons: And those opposed? Unmute, say nay.

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00:44:19.690 --> 00:44:20.850

Solon Simmons: And the ayes have it.

313

00:44:23.460 --> 00:44:43.069

Zachary Schrag: Great. So the second, motion here is... would be a standing rule. We kind of cleared out the standing rules last year, but now we have space to put some in. And, the one I've been working on for some time would be to permanently, ban secondary amendments. We did this as a temporary measure during our exciting meeting of the summer of 2025.

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00:44:43.070 --> 00:44:49.870

Zachary Schrag: We, I believe, made it through all of last year without a secondary amendment. Came perilously close at one point.

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00:44:49.870 --> 00:44:55.130

Zachary Schrag: Anan, can you put up the diagram that's showing the horror of secondary amendments?

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00:44:57.680 --> 00:45:08.039

Zachary Schrag: The basic issue is, if you've ever felt really lost, thanks to Robert's Wals, this is probably the, the reason, is that, for under...

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00:45:08.080 --> 00:45:22.510

Zachary Schrag: For no reason I can tell. Roberts asserts that people can keep track of two levels of amendment, but not three. I've seen no empirical data for this, and plenty of experience suggesting that no, one amendment at a time is plenty. So,

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00:45:22.570 --> 00:45:31.649

Zachary Schrag: Again, the various parliamentary manuals that suggest this have these horrible diagrams about how a professional

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00:45:31.800 --> 00:45:43.390

Zachary Schrag: parliamentarian might be able to keep track of this. I think this may be an employment system for professional parliamentarians. Are there any fans of secondary amendments in this body?

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00:45:44.710 --> 00:45:48.890

Solon Simmons: So we have another motion on the table, so the discussion about secondary... and this is a series.

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00:45:48.890 --> 00:45:51.409

Zachary Schrag: Oh, yes. This is how you're supposed to do it.

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00:45:51.750 --> 00:46:00.390

Zachary Schrag: And it's just really hard to do, and even worse if you're in the body trying to keep track of what's being voted on.

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00:46:00.850 --> 00:46:04.440

Solon Simmons: So this is the amendment on an amendment thing that we used to get in.

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00:46:04.440 --> 00:46:05.929

Zachary Schrag: We would... we would kill.

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00:46:09.850 --> 00:46:15.890

Solon Simmons: And so, what would be different in our process than if we allowed this to happen?

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00:46:15.890 --> 00:46:36.100

Zachary Schrag: So, basically, you would still be able to amend an amendment, but you'd do it by common consent. You would not have votes on amending amendments. If someone puts forth an amendment, there'd be some discussion, and the presiding officer would basically ask if there was any objection to amending it. So it makes it possible to...

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00:46:36.170 --> 00:46:51.910

Zachary Schrag: tinker with an amendment to cure it, as it's sometimes called, but if there's any real controversy, the best thing to do is to vote on the amendment as it stands, and if it goes down, vote on something else. So people are just keeping, one thing at a time in their heads.

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00:46:52.350 --> 00:47:01.660

Zachary Schrag: Or really, I mean, the problem with secondary amendments is you're trying to keep three things in your head at a time, and as someone who's never learned to juggle, I find this,

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00:47:01.850 --> 00:47:02.850

Zachary Schrag: beyond me.

330

00:47:03.340 --> 00:47:06.899

Solon Simmons: So we could still wordsmith, we would just do that by unanimous consent.

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00:47:06.900 --> 00:47:23.649

Zachary Schrag: For minor wordsmithing, it would be done, by, by consent of the body, and that is in the language proposed. Again, the, there are parliamentary manuals that, suggest this. They do not have, particularly.

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00:47:23.650 --> 00:47:43.440

Zachary Schrag: particular wording, but I'm taking the basic idea from Ray Kesey, Modern Parliamentary Procedure, that is a widely used manual, not as widely used as Roberts, but this is not something that I made up. This is something that I'm trying to bring in from manuals that are superior to Roberts in some ways.

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00:47:44.460 --> 00:48:01.540

Solon Simmons: That's cool. So, in other words, it seems to me like we're just trying to align this more with normal discursive behavior, rather than an arcane system that makes some people... the problem with Roberts and these kind of things is that sometimes some people can weaponize them, and you're at an advantage versus others who don't know how to use them.

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00:48:01.540 --> 00:48:08.599

Solon Simmons: And I think that the spirit of this is just to try to get this in our actual processing space, rather than...

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00:48:08.970 --> 00:48:10.780

Solon Simmons: These arcane systems.

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00:48:12.440 --> 00:48:16.770

Solon Simmons: So, any discussion of this? Any... anyone opposed to this idea? Anyone want to push back on it?

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00:48:17.620 --> 00:48:19.609

Solon Simmons: Because it is a motion, so we, you know...

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00:48:24.370 --> 00:48:25.250

Solon Simmons: No?

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00:48:26.280 --> 00:48:43.340

Solon Simmons: Okay, well, hearing no discussion, perhaps we'll just bring the motion to a vote. All those in favor... and you have it in your materials, right? So the motion to adopt as Standing Rule 2, disallowance of secondary amendments. All those in favor of the motion of striking secondary amendments, please unmute and say aye.

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00:48:43.590 --> 00:48:44.180

Kerri LaCharite: Bye.

341

00:48:44.180 --> 00:48:44.970

Don Starr: Odd.

342

00:48:44.970 --> 00:48:45.790

Alexandra Masterson: Bye.

343

00:48:46.230 --> 00:48:47.030

Lisa A Giacumo: No.

344

00:48:47.590 --> 00:48:48.889

Solon Simmons: And all those posts?

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00:48:49.160 --> 00:48:50.559

Solon Simmons: Unmute and say nay?

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00:48:51.280 --> 00:48:53.279

Solon Simmons: So the ayes have it. Congratulations, Zach.

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00:48:53.280 --> 00:48:58.229

Zachary Schrag: Great, thank you. And then, Anan, can you bring up the organization chart?

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00:48:59.570 --> 00:49:01.110

Anan Shahriar: Sure, one sec.

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00:49:04.930 --> 00:49:16.769

Zachary Schrag: So, the third order of business is not a motion. I want to give people plenty of time to digest this, because this would be the first new standing committee in 23 years, as best as I can tell.

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00:49:16.770 --> 00:49:26.730

Zachary Schrag: And, so it would be a major change, and it would be part of a larger change, that Solon has alluded to, repeatedly, where...

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00:49:26.730 --> 00:49:39.379

Zachary Schrag: all of the various university committees and working groups would have some relation with one of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees. So we already have that loosely with a number of these.

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00:49:39.380 --> 00:49:59.329

Zachary Schrag: And, this would sweep together most of the unaffiliated committees that all have to do with teaching, because we have not had a teaching committee. I'm calling it Teaching and Student Affairs because it will bring in things like Athletic Council, which is not exactly a teaching committee, but certainly student-related.

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00:49:59.330 --> 00:50:24.060

Zachary Schrag: And, there are three basic purposes here. The most positive one is coordination. We have a lot of groups doing a lot of great work on teaching. To some degree, they have liaison functions with each other. So, for example, there's a member of the Writing Cross Curriculum Committee who sits as ex-officio, I believe, on Mason Core, but there are a lot more such possible relationships are

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00:50:24.300 --> 00:50:38.059

Zachary Schrag: people in Mason Corps thinking about multilingual when they're doing their work, or people in effective teaching thinking about adult learning. And so, just by coming together once a month or so, this committee could help

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00:50:38.060 --> 00:50:45.140

Zachary Schrag: Coordinate the work of all of those various teaching committees by having the various senators on the committees talk to each other.

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00:50:45.140 --> 00:50:49.280

Zachary Schrag: A second point that came up is accountability.

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00:50:49.280 --> 00:51:01.219

Zachary Schrag: You heard Kevin asking, like, is salt still meeting? Am I still on it, right? Those are not good questions to be asking. Those are questions that, clearer coordination,

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00:51:01.220 --> 00:51:20.789

Zachary Schrag: and an org chart could solve, and so probably that SALT committee, if it is still, including faculty representation, should go under budget and resources, or some other standing committee. We like to have our committees, meeting and functioning and having the membership that is specified by their

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00:51:20.790 --> 00:51:37.320

Zachary Schrag: charges. And then the third one that also sort of came up today that's not in the memo is, simply agenda setting. As you heard from Dell, it's pretty easy for the Technology Policy Committee to get space on the agenda, because Dell of the Technology Policy Committee reports

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00:51:37.530 --> 00:52:01.770

Zachary Schrag: Dell of the Budget and Resources Committee, and in a Gilbert and Sullivan way, they coordinate and find some space on the agenda. Currently, if, say, Mason Corps has something to say to the Senate, which in fact they do, they don't actually have a number to call. They happen to call O&O, but that's not really our job, but it could be a great function for teaching and student affairs to field questions from these various committees.

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00:52:01.850 --> 00:52:12.619

Zachary Schrag: that, needs some time on the Faculty Senate agenda and, can, do some air traffic control, pardon the reference, given the current state of our system.

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00:52:12.730 --> 00:52:24.579

Zachary Schrag: So that's the basic idea of all of this. I'm happy to take questions about either the Teaching and Student Affairs proposal, or the more general idea of

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00:52:24.730 --> 00:52:30.390

Zachary Schrag: coordinating these various working groups and committees with the Senate standing committees.

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00:52:32.020 --> 00:52:33.929

Solon Simmons: And this is not a motion on the table, this is a discussion.

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00:52:33.930 --> 00:52:52.340

Zachary Schrag: Right. The expectation is we will bring this up in October, so I'd like to get any questions now, or if you can't think of one, and you think of one in the next couple weeks, that would be an opportunity for us to maybe, tinker with the motion, or at least explain it better, in the time that we have.

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00:52:52.570 --> 00:52:54.509

Solon Simmons: Great. Let's start with Kevin.

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00:52:56.040 --> 00:53:13.470

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Question does... I... and I realize, like, for example, term faculty... the term Faculty Committee is not part of this, and I... the reason I'm asking the question is because it does require Faculty Senate representation. So, when a committee requires Faculty Senate representation, and it's not part of this governance structure.

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00:53:13.550 --> 00:53:17.579

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Is there any place for that to be on here, or is that just not included?

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00:53:17.580 --> 00:53:21.050

Zachary Schrag: Yeah, I don't know why term faculty is not on there. It might go... well go...

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00:53:21.050 --> 00:53:22.899

Mohan Venigalla: Actually, we discussed about it.

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00:53:23.140 --> 00:53:25.259

Solon Simmons: It's not a standing... it's not a emergency standing committee.

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00:53:25.260 --> 00:53:26.580

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Exactly. Right, but would it...

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00:53:26.580 --> 00:53:29.320

Zachary Schrag: But would... Oh, it's not a standing committee? It's...

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00:53:29.540 --> 00:53:32.769

Solon Simmons: It's not a university standing committee. It's what we call various committees.

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00:53:32.940 --> 00:53:46.620

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): But there is a requirement that there's a Faculty Senator on it, and I think that's where I'm going with that, is that if we... if we have committees that require Faculty Senate presence, is there a place for that on this, or not? I think that's my question.

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00:53:46.980 --> 00:53:48.680

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Or should there be, I guess, I don't know.

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00:53:49.350 --> 00:54:05.069

Solon Simmons: there is not yet. So that is... so there's these... the big division right now, you'll notice, is that we have that University of Standing Committees, which is what I'm calling the gold standard governance, and then you've got all the other committees, which, by the way, the one we just voted on, which is the, the survey committee, is not the University Committee.

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00:54:05.090 --> 00:54:05.640

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Exactly.

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00:54:05.680 --> 00:54:18.720

Solon Simmons: So now, this would be a first step, and you might think of, then, those other committees might orbit these Senate standing committees eventually, but right now, we don't even have a structure for the university standing committees, which are our committees, more or less.

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00:54:18.720 --> 00:54:28.419

Kevin Dunayer (he/him): Can I then suggest maybe it's an affiliation category or something like that, where we would then list all of the potential for people to do that, if that makes any sense?

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00:54:28.420 --> 00:54:30.710

Solon Simmons: That'd be step two as well, yeah.

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00:54:31.630 --> 00:54:32.999

Solon Simmons: Burak, go ahead.

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00:54:33.920 --> 00:54:52.380

Burak Tanyu: So, this is the first time I'm seeing this, so, I will try to digest it, but do we have some sort of write-up that's going to go with this, so that we can take it to the University Standing Committee members? Like, you know, I am co-chairing the Research Advisory Committee, but I'm also a member of the Budget and Resources Committee.

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00:54:52.380 --> 00:55:02.300

Burak Tanyu: So I kind of see the potential dynamic issues that may or may not happen, but can we... before we go there, can we have a write-up

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00:55:02.310 --> 00:55:04.820

Burak Tanyu: What I'm really trying to understand is.

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00:55:05.150 --> 00:55:11.009

Burak Tanyu: Are we setting this up so that the executive committees are there to help?

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00:55:11.160 --> 00:55:30.249

Burak Tanyu: the, university standing committees to get their important things up in the food chain? Or are we setting this up in a way that the executive committees are going to start directing these university standing committees and issue their charge? Because they will go very different how this goes along.

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00:55:31.250 --> 00:55:42.590

Zachary Schrag: Yeah, that's a great question, and, right, so I, you know, I've got the memo on the teaching committee specifically, but you're right, we should absolutely have a, a memo explaining

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00:55:42.590 --> 00:55:52.150

Zachary Schrag: That, this is very much the former, well, the case where it would be top-down is if the committee is not meeting.

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00:55:52.150 --> 00:56:09.620

Zachary Schrag: And we've had that. We have that every year, that, you know, of the many, many faculty, you know, university bodies, some... there's some, turnover in an office, someone doesn't get a memo, and a committee goes dormant.

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00:56:09.620 --> 00:56:25.940

Zachary Schrag: It happens. It's part of, probably, a lot of organizations. And so in that case, there would be some top-down saying, hey, you guys need to meet. You haven't met in a year. But other than that, I think the intent is much more the bottom-up.

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00:56:25.940 --> 00:56:35.770

Zachary Schrag: Let's flag some issues and get it onto people's screens. But you're entirely right, we should have a memo to that effect.

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00:56:35.880 --> 00:56:44.609

Burak Tanyu: Yeah, thank you very much, and if that's... if you could share that with us, then we go back and share with the university standing committee that we represent. That would be wonderful.

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00:56:45.400 --> 00:56:53.349

Solon Simmons: Yeah, I think the intent was not to undermine the independence of these committees, but to provide a liaison format and some, really, a structure to surface issues.

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00:56:53.350 --> 00:56:54.330

Burak Tanyu: Yeah, thank you.

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00:56:54.330 --> 00:56:55.370

Solon Simmons: Mohan, go ahead.

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00:56:55.640 --> 00:56:57.719

Mohan Venigalla: I actually...

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00:56:57.840 --> 00:57:11.330

Mohan Venigalla: wanted to ask you a question, but I also have some answer to what Burak was asked. What do you want me to say? Ask the question, or answer Burak's... address some of the Burak's points?

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00:57:11.710 --> 00:57:13.419

Solon Simmons: You can go ahead, if you have.

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00:57:13.420 --> 00:57:25.800

Mohan Venigalla: Okay, so quickly, I want to say this. As a Faculty Matter co-chair, and if you look at all the five boxes underneath, the University Promotion, Tenure, and Renewal, and Appeal Up Track.

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00:57:25.920 --> 00:57:35.710

Mohan Venigalla: And, reimagining Faculty Roles and Rewards. These two, either I co-chaired or chaired, and also served on a very active role in the grievance committee.

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00:57:35.900 --> 00:57:45.230

Mohan Venigalla: But I can tell you, all three of these, except Reimagining Faculty Rolescent Awards, which has a Senate answering... that answers to the Senate.

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00:57:45.440 --> 00:57:47.040

Mohan Venigalla: as... I mean, as a...

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00:57:47.150 --> 00:57:54.789

Mohan Venigalla: co-chair of the Faculty Matters, I answer to the Senate, which you have seen me do that earlier. But the grievance Committee and UPTRAC,

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00:57:55.020 --> 00:58:05.040

Mohan Venigalla: They're independent in their deliberations, and there is a level of, not secrecy, what do you call, confidentiality requirements in those things.

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00:58:05.220 --> 00:58:20.659

Mohan Venigalla: So, there is nothing Faculty Matters can dictate to those two committees, and like, you shall do this, or you shall not do this, other than structuring them in a way, and then let them be. That's... that's the only...

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00:58:20.660 --> 00:58:27.490

Mohan Venigalla: thing I can think about. So there is some back and forth in the other committees. For instance, Faculty Matters also

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00:58:27.690 --> 00:58:31.689

Mohan Venigalla: had, a role in the Tom Faculty earlier.

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00:58:31.850 --> 00:58:48.679

Mohan Venigalla: And because it has... after it became a committee of its own, we kind of, like, we let that committee act more independently than Faculty Matters doing the Tom Faculty. I mean, the Tom Faculty Committee is, what, 5 years old, or something like that?

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00:58:49.300 --> 00:58:50.060

Mohan Venigalla: So...

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00:58:50.450 --> 00:59:00.979

Solon Simmons: And could always become a university standing committee, too. I mean, that's the other issue, is that we can add... existing committees that would like to have this level of shared governance could become university standing committees and find a home.

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00:59:01.220 --> 00:59:04.370

Mohan Venigalla: Yeah, actually, that is my question to you, so can we do that?

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00:59:04.370 --> 00:59:05.540

Solon Simmons: We can, why not?

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00:59:05.750 --> 00:59:12.530

Mohan Venigalla: So that may be something that is... that will solve that problem, which, Kevin identified, maybe that's...

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00:59:12.530 --> 00:59:37.520

Solon Simmons: Yeah, and would empower committees of that kind that might find themselves somewhat adrift, maybe having left, the charismatic leader was the main channel to get that, to surface issues. Well, this would be a way to surface issues. It would be part of your responsibility, Mohan and Kerri, to then say, is there anything coming out of the Faculty Committee, in that sense? And so then you'd also, as standing committees of the Senate, you'd know what your business

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00:59:37.520 --> 00:59:39.769

Solon Simmons: More broadly, you know, in that way.

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00:59:40.270 --> 00:59:40.930

Mohan Venigalla: Yep.

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00:59:42.250 --> 00:59:43.309

Solon Simmons: Okay, Dale.

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00:59:46.270 --> 00:59:47.490

Delton Daigle: Thanks,

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00:59:47.760 --> 00:59:59.420

Delton Daigle: I just want to respond to Burak and maybe Zach and Solon here a little bit. So, as I understood, when we... when this was being discussed at Faculty Senate Exec.

421

00:59:59.440 --> 01:00:16.549

Delton Daigle: The goal is to coordinate across a number of committees so that we can improve, you know, communication, reporting, etc. And I mean, you know, I clearly don't want my role on technology policy to be dictated by my role on budget and resource. I mean, those two are very separate things.

422

01:00:16.680 --> 01:00:35.960

Delton Daigle: But I do think it's important that when we participate in committees, which I think is critical to what we do in Faculty Senate, that we try and systematically report back to the Senate, and it just kind of creates, like, a chain where someone could say, you know, send an email. Rather than one person trying to contact 25 different communities, you know, it's...

423

01:00:35.960 --> 01:00:54.260

Delton Daigle: you say, I've got these three committees that I can reach out to and say, hey, do you have something that you want to get on the agenda for, you know, this month's meeting? Do you have a report that's... how's your annual report coming? You know, so it's kind of more that kind of thing, so we can kind of standardize a lot of our procedures. Does that make sense to you, Burak?

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01:00:54.980 --> 01:01:05.049

Burak Tanyu: Well, yes and no, Del. I mean, yes, that if it's coming from the bottom up, where, let's say, the research advisory has

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01:01:05.050 --> 01:01:29.729

Burak Tanyu: the ears and the eyes of the faculty, as well as the upper administration, that we want to escalate that, and we go to Budget Resources Committee and say, hey, look, we really need you to take this seriously. Can you take this to the upper level? Yes, that kind of... that makes a lot of sense. But if you're asking, like, the budget resources to be the, hey, I'm going to keep traps of what research advisories committee is doing.

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01:01:29.850 --> 01:01:38.189

Burak Tanyu: No, that doesn't make sense, because with the wrong leadership at the Budget and Resources Committee, this can go in a very wrong way. So that's why.

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01:01:38.190 --> 01:01:39.910

Delton Daigle: Well, I think the second part is.

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01:01:39.910 --> 01:01:43.040

Burak Tanyu: cognizant about that. So,

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01:01:43.040 --> 01:01:47.309

Delton Daigle: I don't think anyone wants that, though, like, you know, no one wants to be workload.

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01:01:47.310 --> 01:01:59.880

Burak Tanyu: these in a writing, and then we disseminate that to the faculty, and let the standing committees, you know, digest this, and talk among themselves, and then bring it back up, because

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01:01:59.920 --> 01:02:16.540

Burak Tanyu: I just want to make sure that we're not unintentionally creating some gatekeeping here. But on the other hand, I see a major

benefit that I realize that the Faculty Senate's Executive Committee has access to a lot of stuff that the other committees may or may not have.

432

01:02:16.540 --> 01:02:21.230

Burak Tanyu: And so, if they play a liaison role in that fashion, it could be very powerful.

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01:02:21.280 --> 01:02:35.959

Burak Tanyu: So, you know, I'm not opposed to the whole idea, I'm just saying, can we make this very clear that it doesn't become a different implementation if you get a different chair on one of these executive committees, or one of these, you know, faculty?

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01:02:35.960 --> 01:02:45.449

Solon Simmons: We have to be jealous of the prerogatives of each of these levels, right? That's one of the things. And by the way, it could be a good standing rule. I mean, we can put that in the standing rule, seems to me, that this is how we do it, you know, and it shouldn't be written down.

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01:02:45.690 --> 01:02:50.189

Solon Simmons: I'll put that forward for Zach to think about. Nirup, go ahead.

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01:02:50.190 --> 01:02:56.280

Nirup Menon: Yeah, so I have a clarification question about advisory bodies. What are those, and how are they different from committees?

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01:02:57.270 --> 01:03:00.040

Solon Simmons: You mean, like, undergraduate council, grad counsel?

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01:03:00.040 --> 01:03:02.469

Nirup Menon: Yeah, yeah, I see 3 of them in dotted lines.

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01:03:02.470 --> 01:03:13.979

Solon Simmons: Yeah, so those are... well, they... we already heard that these don't... they work... for example, Undergraduate Council, I think, has to pass some of its rules or policies through us, whereas we just talked about how Grad Council does not.

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01:03:14.060 --> 01:03:30.900

Solon Simmons: But there would still be... but the natural liaison is academic policies as it stands now. But the... they... those are... I guess the way I would put it, those are more independent of us than the others, in

the sense that a university standing committee is a... I call it a creature of the Senate.

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01:03:30.970 --> 01:03:52.139

Solon Simmons: We can create and destroy them and change them and what have you, and we might need to write that down, as has been surfaced in a more explicit way, but that has been the practice of the Senate to do that. Whereas these others, we can't just say, we're going to get rid of Grad Council, as I understand. You know, that's something we can't do. And so... but, you know, we'd like to move

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01:03:52.140 --> 01:04:01.249

Solon Simmons: forward toward making those relationships more explicit and tight, as I understand it. That's at least the... having... having worked on this, that's how I thought about it. Burak, go ahead.

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01:04:02.550 --> 01:04:13.579

Burak Tanyu: Sorry, and the reason I start asking these questions is because when I look at this chart, on the top left, from where I see, it says, structure of the Faculty Senate Committee Reporting Chart.

444

01:04:13.580 --> 01:04:14.100

Solon Simmons: Fair enough.

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01:04:14.100 --> 01:04:18.660

Burak Tanyu: And that word is... kind of got me into these questions.

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01:04:18.660 --> 01:04:20.020

Solon Simmons: Yeah, yeah, good point.

447

01:04:22.650 --> 01:04:23.760

Solon Simmons: Lisa.

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01:04:25.630 --> 01:04:38.459

Lisa Billingham: So, I'm going to address that last comment. In exact one of the reasons we've been talking about this is so that if there are committees... there's been a de facto

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01:04:39.300 --> 01:04:45.009

Lisa Billingham: processed this for a very long time, where when people don't know where to go, they run to O&L.

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01:04:45.270 --> 01:05:03.610

Lisa Billingham: And that's right, and it's the committee that helps us with designing our own standing rules and making sure that we help the facilitation. So, what I see at... in this org chart is an opportunity for people to have a straight way to ask for help.

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01:05:04.140 --> 01:05:11.920

Lisa Billingham: this is something that I've hoped we would have had, you know, a long time ago, and it's... it takes time to build structure, and

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01:05:12.460 --> 01:05:28.220

Lisa Billingham: it's my understanding, in exec at least, and someone can correct me if I'm improper here, but we were talking about trying to ask for... to not wait until an annual report, but to ask for some form of a simple

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01:05:28.330 --> 01:05:44.399

Lisa Billingham: end of semester report from committees, so if nothing else, we would know if a committee has gone 4 months without meeting, instead of waiting until we get a report that a committee's not met for a year. So,

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01:05:45.590 --> 01:05:54.720

Lisa Billingham: Zach, you can correct me if there's anything that we've... that we've changed about that, but I know that's something that we had talked about in exec and in, as a member of O&O.

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01:05:54.900 --> 01:06:01.459

Lisa Billingham: So, I think this is a great... I think this is a great thing for us to consider, and I don't see it top-down at all.

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01:06:01.890 --> 01:06:04.760

Lisa Billingham: Just to give you someone else's perspective. Thank you.

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01:06:04.760 --> 01:06:09.820

Solon Simmons: And your former deep experience in O&O as well, so you understand how things can go. Zach, go ahead.

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01:06:09.990 --> 01:06:27.389

Zachary Schrag: So, I will say this is, like, a reporting function, and we've had that for a long time. I'm looking at... I think, Burak, you were talking about, the Research Advisory Committee, which filed a beautiful 22-page annual report in the spring. Like, that's,

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01:06:27.390 --> 01:06:35.230

Zachary Schrag: Yes, that's what we need. I think this is an important part of shared governance, is to document what's going on in,

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01:06:35.230 --> 01:06:44.029

Zachary Schrag: various parts of the university, to say, you know, this is what's happening with, the offers of sponsored programs, that kind of thing. So,

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01:06:44.030 --> 01:06:54.859

Zachary Schrag: I do want to just ask if there are any questions about the teaching committee, because, you know, that's actually what I want to bring up in October. The,

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01:06:55.090 --> 01:07:03.150

Zachary Schrag: The reporting function would probably not be a standing rule, that'd probably be a bylaws issue for later in the year, so...

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01:07:05.790 --> 01:07:12.979

Zachary Schrag: If I could ask, are there any, like, high-level concerns about spinning up a Teaching and Student Affairs Committee?

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01:07:20.100 --> 01:07:32.029

Zachary Schrag: Okay. I will say I did a lot of homework, like, calling all the senators who would be drafted into this, and I tried to get the buy-in before this, so it's good that we're not getting too much comment here.

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01:07:33.060 --> 01:07:34.300

Solon Simmons: Good. Burak.

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01:07:35.020 --> 01:07:56.779

Burak Tanyu: Sorry, I just, thank you, Zach. I totally agree with you that, yes, every committee should be reporting all these activities, so I'm totally on game with that. I just want to respond back to Lisa. I think what she's saying, I totally understand, it makes sense, as long as it's, again, two-way stream, that these, you know, university standing committees do a lot of stuff.

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01:07:56.800 --> 01:08:14.100

Burak Tanyu: And the executive committee may not be aware of it, that they may be seeking for help. So that's why, again, if we're talking about reporting on both ways in just an informational way, no problem. But if we're asking the executive committee to come back and say, hey, can you report to me what you've done this month?

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01:08:14.100 --> 01:08:20.689

Burak Tanyu: Again, no problem, as long as it goes both ways. The executive committee then says, hey, we've done this this month.

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01:08:20.689 --> 01:08:26.879

Burak Tanyu: and we're reporting back to you, can you report back? That's a healthy relationship on both ways, going up and down.

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01:08:26.880 --> 01:08:35.910

Burak Tanyu: So, just want to make sure that it's... it's never one way. It's always both ways. And then it's very healthy, because we're all connected to each other.

471

01:08:36.200 --> 01:08:36.750

Solon Simmons: Yep.

472

01:08:37.800 --> 01:08:38.550

Solon Simmons: Nim.

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01:08:39.760 --> 01:08:47.059

Solon Simmons: Would, Burak, do you object to the committee reporting chart in this table? Would you like a different word?

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01:08:47.640 --> 01:08:54.000

Burak Tanyu: Yeah, I think we... I would humbly recommend we use a different wording than reporting.

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01:08:54.000 --> 01:09:13.719

Burak Tanyu: Because what I... somebody... I think Del or somebody mentioned it to me the other day, and it just kind of dawned on me that what's happening... I mean, I've been here for 16 years, I've only been active in Senate for the last couple of years, but... but I think we lose institutional knowledge over the years that we, as a body of people, come up with all these good intentions, and so on and so forth.

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01:09:13.720 --> 01:09:23.330

Burak Tanyu: And then we rotate off, we rotate on, and the words matter. You know, like, for me, if we use the word reporting, that just means from top... from bottom up.

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01:09:23.340 --> 01:09:31.390

Burak Tanyu: So if we can, like, if we can make this in a way that it cannot be misunderstood with the write-ups, I think that that works really well.

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01:09:31.600 --> 01:09:32.040

Solon Simmons: Okay.

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01:09:32.040 --> 01:09:33.269

Burak Tanyu: That's my humble opinion.

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01:09:33.279 --> 01:09:34.569

Solon Simmons: Great, great.

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01:09:34.809 --> 01:09:40.589

Solon Simmons: We're getting short, and we're actually scheduled only to 4.15 today, so we're getting a little short of time. Anything else, Rono?

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01:09:41.009 --> 01:09:42.549

Solon Simmons: Or do you need anything else, Zach?

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01:09:42.719 --> 01:09:46.469

Solon Simmons: No? Okay. Any updates from the Faculty Handbook?

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01:09:47.990 --> 01:09:52.419

Lisa Billingham: Yes, I will let you know the committee has already met, and we have...

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01:09:52.600 --> 01:09:57.039

Lisa Billingham: Five motions that we will be planning to bring forward in October.

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01:09:57.480 --> 01:10:14.050

Lisa Billingham: And I would ask you, as soon as your agenda is out, please make sure you are reading it. In the 2 minutes I have left, what I'd like to suggest, one of the discussion points in talking about 2.7.3.2 in dealing with

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01:10:18.130 --> 01:10:25.430

Lisa Billingham: hierarchy's the wrong word. The idea that if you are... if you are up for... if you are going up for

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01:10:25.660 --> 01:10:26.540

Lisa Billingham: Full.

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01:10:27.180 --> 01:10:28.310

Lisa Billingham: Professor.

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01:10:28.760 --> 01:10:35.260

Lisa Billingham: That the committees The commit... the container of the committee would be...

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01:10:35.490 --> 01:10:46.269

Lisa Billingham: With faculty that are already full professor members, whether it be for term promotion or for a tenure line.

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01:10:46.590 --> 01:10:52.059

Lisa Billingham: And right now, we don't have that clarification of language, and we do know

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01:10:52.500 --> 01:11:08.580

Lisa Billingham: and Melissa, I'm sure she may... I may ask her to speak to this a little bit from a report that she's provided in looking at different units' bylaws, that we have one unit, at least, that is using...

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01:11:08.580 --> 01:11:18.219

Lisa Billingham: someone for full, that members of their committee may not be full professors. So, I think this may be something that will be a large

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01:11:18.220 --> 01:11:37.600

Lisa Billingham: discussion point next... next month, so I wanted to bring that forward. We have a few simple grammatical things, simply saying that when the Board of Visitors approves tenure, that it's actually not just approving faculty or professor, but approving tenured.

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01:11:37.710 --> 01:11:43.460

Lisa Billingham: Faculty. So I'm going to leave it at that simple place there. I'm just going to encourage...

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01:11:43.460 --> 01:11:46.690

Solon Simmons: We'll have motions next month, right? Yeah, good, thank you.

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01:11:46.690 --> 01:11:50.060

Lisa Billingham: We'll have lots of time to talk about it, and thank you very much.

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01:11:50.060 --> 01:11:59.359

Solon Simmons: Serious Faculty Handbook. Remember, we're doing it along the way now, not just at the last meeting, so thanks, Elise. I think we have an announcement for the good of the faculty as well. Senator Letik?

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01:12:00.630 --> 01:12:05.299

Bethany Letiecq: Oh, thank you, thank you so much, I appreciate the time. I'll be brief,

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01:12:05.440 --> 01:12:18.799

Bethany Letiecq: But there are a couple of issues that, we're working on, over at the AUP, GMU AUP, and I just wanted to invite folks, if they're... if they know of

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01:12:18.820 --> 01:12:24.890

Bethany Letiecq: People who might be interested in speaking or dealing with some of these issues to reach out.

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01:12:24.890 --> 01:12:41.569

Bethany Letiecq: One thing is that the legislature, as you probably know, is considering, once again, collective bargaining rights for all public sector workers to include higher ed workers, and we're fighting really hard right now to

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01:12:41.570 --> 01:12:45.619

Bethany Letiecq: Ensure that higher ed workers are included in the bills.

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01:12:45.660 --> 01:12:56.820

Bethany Letiecq: And so, if you're interested in learning more about that, please contact us. Secondly, we're hearing about a lot of staff concerns

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01:12:56.860 --> 01:13:01.869

Bethany Letiecq: With regard to reorganizations happening in several colleges.

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01:13:01.870 --> 01:13:18.960

Bethany Letiecq: And the GMU AUP, now a wall-to-wall union representing staff as well as faculty, we just... we want to dig in on these issues, so if there are any... if there are issues that people want to make us aware of, please contact us, and I'll give you my email in just a minute.

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01:13:18.960 --> 01:13:27.870

Bethany Letiecq: And, lastly, there are, there is a campaign around, removing flock cameras.

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01:13:27.870 --> 01:13:33.710

Bethany Letiecq: from campus, and, students are driving that issue, and, and again,

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01:13:33.710 --> 01:13:52.129

Bethany Letiecq: on these matters, if you want to reach out to aupmason at gmail.com, I'm happy to plug you in to any of this work, or you can refer your colleagues to me. Thank you so much, appreciate your time.

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01:13:52.750 --> 01:13:57.209

Solon Simmons: Thank you. So we are at time, so do we have a motion to adjourn?

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01:13:58.090 --> 01:13:59.680

Bethany Letiecq: Some won't.

513

01:13:59.880 --> 01:14:00.700

Solon Simmons: Second.

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01:14:00.700 --> 01:14:01.210

Burak Tanyu: Right.

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01:14:01.370 --> 01:14:01.970

Robert Osgood: Excellent.

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01:14:01.970 --> 01:14:04.649

Solon Simmons: All those in favor of adjournment, please unmute and say aye.

517

01:14:04.650 --> 01:14:05.200

Caroline J Sutter: Aye.

518

01:14:06.600 --> 01:14:07.290

Niki Maria Vlastara: I...

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01:14:07.700 --> 01:14:12.209

Solon Simmons: All those opposed? The ayes have it. Thank you very much for an efficient meeting, and we'll see you next month.

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01:14:12.210 --> 01:14:12.790

Burak Tanyu: Bye.

521

01:14:12.790 --> 01:14:14.080

Nirup Menon: Thank you, buddy.