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8
9 **THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA FACULTY SENATE**

10
11 Wednesday, November 2, 2022

12 This session was held in person at the UofSC Law School Building

13 PRESIDING Chair Audrey Korsgaard

14 CHAIR AUDREY KORSGAARD called the meeting to order at 3:00pm EST.

15 **Called Meeting of the Faculty Senate**

16
17 CHAIR KORSGAARD welcomed members to the Faculty Senate.

18 **Approval of the minutes:** The minutes were approved as submitted.

19
20 PARLIAMENTARIAN BILL SUDDUTH clarified the method for speaking before Faculty
21 Senate. During the Wednesday October 5th meeting of the Faculty Senate, the Parliamentarian
22 erroneously recommended a procedure to the Chair of the Faculty Senate for the recognition for
23 speakers who are not elected Senators. This ruling was based on the Standing Rules of the
24 Faculty Senate Rule 9 visitors of Section 1 page 82 of the Faculty Manual. This states that by
25 majority vote any person may attend and address the Senate during part or all the meeting. Rule
26 9 Section 1 pertains only to members who are not members of the university faculty. However,
27 per article 2 section 4, page 73 of the bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of South
28 Carolina Columbia “any member of the University of South Carolina faculty may attend Faculty
29 Senate meetings and speak on matters before the Senate.” However, when the Chair can
30 recognize faculty non-Senators and visitors during the meeting is not made clear in the bylaws or
31 the standing rules of the Senate. When there is a question before the Senate the Chair should
32 follow the following guidelines for preference in recognition of speakers:

- 33 - The Chair holds the power to recognize who will speak,
34 - Individuals recognized should introduce themselves clearly and include name,
35 department representing, and whether they are speaking for or against the topic under
36 discussion. The Chair will then grant permission to speak.
37 - The Senator introducing the question or motion has first access to the floor. After which,
38 debate should proceed alternating between elected senators advocating against or for the
39 question or motion. Individuals that have already spoken once on the question or motion
40 must yield to a senator that has not yet spoken. Members are reminded that they are able

41 to only speak twice during a debate of a question or motion and are limited to 10 minutes
42 each time. After all elected senators have had an opportunity to speak to a question or a
43 motion the Chair may recognize members of the University faculty that may want to
44 speak to the motion or question. Once all members of the University faculty have had the
45 opportunity to speak, any visitor may be given permission to address the Senate
46 following Rule 9 Section 1 of the Standing Rule of the Faculty Senate of the University
47 of South Carolina, page 82.

48 SENATOR MARCO VALTORTA thanked the Parliamentarian for the clarification. He asked
49 for clarification regarding whether the Bylaws take preference over the Standing Rules.

50 PARLIAMENTARIAN SUDDUTH clarified that according to point 1, it is the Chair's
51 responsibility who may speak. If the debate is complicated, order should be maintained, and
52 preference should be given to elected Senators. The Chair, however, makes this decision. The
53 manual sets up the three-tiered preference as to who can speak.

54 SENATOR TAVAKOLI (nursing) asked for clarification on the 10 minutes time limit.

55 PARLIAMENTARIAN SUDDUTH stated that everyone has the right to speak twice one a
56 motion or question. Each time, the limit is 10 minutes. There is not time limit for a debate. If
57 there is a full agenda, members may consider changing the limit. If a limit is changed, it is
58 recommended to accomplish this prior to the meeting begins. This has not been a problem to
59 date.

60 **REPORT OF THE OFFICERS**

61 **President's Report**

62 PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS gave an update on the Senate Executive Committee. Members of this
63 committee were constituted a few weeks ago. This is an experiment trying to strengthen the
64 governance component at the university. It gives the President and the Senate an opportunity to
65 have discussions of critical issues on a regular basis and in more depth. President Amiridis
66 thanked the members of this committee for stepping forward and being on this committee. There
67 is one member from each College. This membership (one from each college) was purposeful so
68 every college is represented. President Amiridis encouraged the Chair of Faculty Senate to
69 provide reports of this committee to the entire Faculty Senate body.

70 In the last month, the university had several very visual and celebratory occasions. PRESIDENT
71 AMIRIDIS and the BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) revealed the design of a monument of the
72 three courageous students that almost 60 years ago (Anderson, Treadwell, and Solomon)
73 desegregated the university. The unique design, a sculpture, is in essence a synthesis of
74 sculptures developed by Basil Watson. History will always remember these three students. This
75 monument will ensure that current and future students also know about Anderson, Treadwell,
76 and Solomon.

77 Boeing funded the Clyburn Chair; a position connected to the Center for Civil Rights History
78 and Research. This strengthens USC's efforts to be one of the strongest universities in civil
79 rights area.

80 A message was sent to the new dean of libraries letting him know that USC is moving forward in
81 hiring a public historian. This was one of the key recommendations of the History Commission.
82 This hiring is very important and will be very welcoming by faculty and students.

83 Homecoming weekend was very busy. It was amazing having thousands of people coming back
84 to Columbia, the strongest advocates that we have coming to the campus; our own graduates
85 affirming the support of the university. On Friday alone, PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS had seven
86 different engagements in which he made remarks to very different groups. It was a great pleasure
87 to advertise the success of the students. This is what the audience wants to hear; they care to
88 know how students and faculty are doing; what is happening at the university.

89 PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS stated that he is humbled by the stories of how students and alumni
90 lives have been changed based on their experiences at USC. The class of 1972 was back on
91 campus, as 50-year anniversary of their graduation. Other students who just recently graduated
92 were back because they don't want to forget their time on campus.

93 There are two graduates from CIC, one from the 1980s and the other from 2012; they represent
94 alumni from approximately 27 years difference in graduation dates from the University of South
95 Carolina. They the same passion for the profession, the same type of love for the university, and
96 the same type of excellence. Both were recognized with the Pulitzer Prize.

97 The 50-year anniversary of UNIV 101 was celebrated. UNIV 101 has changed the national
98 approach to how we treat freshman. When a stakeholder asked, "what is the first-year
99 experience?", PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS stated that 50 years ago, a university president would tell
100 freshman "Look to the right, look to the left, one of the three of you will actually graduate."
101 UNIV 101 says "look to the right, look to the left, all three of you will be able to graduate." The
102 idea was to create a cohort experience for freshman and assist in graduation. After living outside
103 of South Carolina for seven years, it is amazing to hear what student affairs professionals are
104 saying about the USC first-year experience. It is nationally recognized; 75% of all universities in
105 the U.S. are using what is known outside of South Carolina as the South Carolina model (i.e.,
106 UNIV 101). It is wonderful but it is also a challenge to the Faculty Senate to identify what will
107 be remembered 50 years from now. President Amiridis asked Faculty Senate the following
108 questions:

- 109 • What have we done collectively for the students?
- 110 • How can we (i.e., administration and faculty) impact today's education in a similar
111 manner that UNIV 101 has done for freshmen? This impact includes the expectations we
112 have for our students and the offerings of the institution for the student population.

113
114 A few days prior to homecoming, the university changed the name from UofSC to USC. This is
115 not the most important task to complete. It is not academically important. But getting rid of the
116 "of" was important when getting ready for a capital campaign, particularly when 85% of the
117 alumni do not like how we represent ourselves. This was an easy decision.

118
119 The university is creating a small office of organizational excellence. STACY BRADLEY was in
120 student affairs for several years. Ms. Bradley will lead this group of 4-5 people. The idea is to
121 look at how we operate our services, what we do centrally, services provided (e.g., HR,
122 recruitment). The group will look at how the university can improve the effectiveness of services

123 provided. This is an attempt to create a more user-friendly university. The attitude is not to
124 “police” units but “how can this group help” units.

125
126 A mental health summit was held with student governance. Mental health is a national crisis that
127 has been exaggerated by the isolation of the pandemic. The university is trying to increase
128 resources to help students. It is extremely difficult to find and hire qualified professionals.
129 Administration is working together with student groups to make sure available resources are
130 communicated, including a recent agreement for 24/7 response.

131
132 The university wants to be voter friendly. USC wants to ensure that we have significant voter
133 turnout. This year, the initiative is a bit late. The goal is to have an early voting station on
134 campus. Other campuses in other states have demonstrated significant early voting on campus.

135
136 SENATOR TAVAKOKI (Nursing) inquired about the timeframe for changing the branding
137 (e.g., signs) from UofSC to USC. PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS stated that all digital signage is
138 changed. Road signs will take time.

139
140 SENATOR HARRIS (History) inquired about indoor air quality improvement. A survey that was
141 conducted, and an article published in the Post & Currier indicated that mold exists in some
142 university buildings. PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS stated that the Post & Currier reported higher
143 cases of mold that are in buildings. Facilities has conducted a survey regarding this issue and the
144 results will be shared. President Amiridis stated that the information from the Post & Currier is
145 concerning. It is important that we operate from the same facts. The actual identified cases were
146 less than what the newspaper reported. The numbers were approximately 400, not 800 as
147 reported. If you normalize these numbers versus the number of beds each university has in the
148 state, USC is not the “poster child of problems”. USC has the same rate of problems as other
149 institutions. This is particularly true in the case of an old campus. The problem, in essence is not
150 how we react to the requests that we get. All requests were addressed and addressed quickly. The
151 fact is that we cannot be proactive. The issue of black mold has been brought up. There hasn’t
152 been a single case in the last 10 years. The last case was in 2012-2013. That doesn’t mean that all
153 is good.

154
155 What needs to be conducted is as follows:

- 156 • Education needs to take place. The original mold is humidity in the (dorm) room. Towels
157 that are left out. Food that is left out. Another problem is the AC system. For example,
158 the dormitory rooms have AC, but the corridors do not have AC. This results in a
159 differential in terms of temperature and humidity which results in mold. Water leaks are
160 also a problem. Small water leaks occur because of the age of a building.
- 161 • Another area to be conducted is renovation. The university has some old buildings (e.g.,
162 Capstone, South Tower). Renovation takes time. The university is considering taking
163 some of the older dormitories offline. Conditions in the academic buildings (for mold) is
164 much lower. This is particularly due to humidity. There are approximately 3000 HVAC
165 systems throughout 125 buildings across campus. These systems are regularly reviewed.
166 If (or when) mold is identified in any of the academic buildings, environmental health
167 comes into the building to assess the situation.

168

169 **Provost's Report**

170 PROVOST ARNETT thanked the Faculty Senate for the invitation. Two months ago, the
171 Provost's retreat was held. Through the VPR's Office, the Provost's Office, and the President's
172 Office, the Research Funding Program has been launched. The RFP is out. Ten will be selected
173 to move forward to a second phase. Excel grants are posted. The Bridge to Faculty Program is
174 taking shape. A Stand-Up Call was held this past Monday. The purpose of the Stand-Up Call is
175 to cascade communication from the Provost's Office down through the departments. If faculty
176 are not hearing information from Department Chairs, please ask for the information. On
177 December 11th, the University is having the state legislators lobbyists speak at the Provost Stand-
178 Up Call to talk about legislative priorities for the spring semester.

179 During the Stand-Up Calls, PROVOST ARNETT highlights academic excellence of a unit.
180 These are areas of excellence that she learns about through her listening tours. Two meeting ago,
181 the First Grant was highlighted. This highly competitive grant was obtained by the joint efforts
182 between the College of Nursing and College of Public Health. Through this grant, 10
183 underrepresented minority faculty will be hired over five years.

184 Two weeks ago, PROVOST ARNETT spent eight hours at the Darla Moore School of Business.
185 One outcome of the meeting was the realization of the significant amount and impact of the
186 faculty research.

187 Two Pulitzer Prize winning alumni were on campus. A world-renowned cellist (ZUILL
188 BAILEY) played at the Koger Center. The College of Engineering & Computing hosted the
189 President of the American Nuclear Society for a lecture on nuclear science and technology.

190 BOEING and CONGRESSMAN JIM CLYBURN provided USC with a \$1.5million gift to
191 establish a James E. and Emily E. Clyburn endowed Chair of Public Service in Engagement
192 Fund. The Chair was awarded to ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BOBBY DONALDSON. This
193 award will allow the Center for Civil Rights History and Research to further its programming
194 and outreach initiatives within the university community and across the state of South Carolina.

195 Two different leadership programs are offered through the Provost's Office.

- 196 • The first program is SEC-wide. This program is called the Academic Leadership
197 Program. This program has four USC faculty members who participate along with other
198 ADL members from across the SEC. The members recently attended a program at the
199 University of Georgia.
- 200 • The second program is the Academic Administrators Program. Two sessions were held
201 this month. Two workshops are expected to be held this semester.

202 Regarding the listening tours, PROVOST ARNETT has met with faculty at nine
203 colleges/schools. Each college is different, and the needs are different. For example, the College
204 of Education does not have hot water. When the building was remodeled in 1970, a decision was
205 made to not put hot water in the building. This decision was facility and cost related. The lack of
206 hot water is now being fixed. Positive information is being revealed from the listening tours;

207 there is also some hard conversations during the listening tours. Hard conversations are good to
208 have; it is important to understand the pressure points. For faculty, it is about a) learning where
209 we need to build resilience and b) where we need to build well-being. Five colleges have yet to
210 meet with Provost Arnett.

211 PROVOST ARNETT would like to work with the Faculty Senate committee on Faculty Welfare.
212 There is a scheduling issue. That is why she has not yet met with the committee.

213 PROVOST ARNETT provided an update on the dean searches.

- 214 • The new dean of Libraries started this Monday, DR. DAVE BANUSH.
- 215 • DR. TOMMY HODGES started as dean of the College of Education in mid-October.
- 216 • Darla Moore School of Business dean search is active. Semi-finalists are being
217 interviewed. Finalists will be selected by next week. It is anticipated this search will
218 be wrapped up this semester.
- 219 • HRSM dean search began in September. The search is being chaired by DEAN JOEL
220 SAMUELS and KAY THOMAS.
- 221 • The College of Social Work will have an internal search. This is a result of the
222 listening tour. DEAN JEANNETTE ANDREWS and DEBORAH HAZZARD will
223 chair the search.
- 224 • PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS and PROVOST ARNETT are launching a new search for
225 Vice Provost and Associate Vice President of Global Carolina. Currently only two
226 Vice Provosts manage everything under the Provost's Office. For a university this
227 size, we should have probably 5-6 persons. VICE PROVOST SANDRA KELLY has
228 been managing this (Global Carolina) as well as 17 other areas. A national search
229 will be conducted to recruit a leader who can work with everything USC does
230 internationally.

231 There will two more Imagine Carolina events. The first will be Imagine Carolina for Graduate
232 Students. The event is scheduled for December 5th. The format will be similar to that of the
233 undergraduates. One difference will be the event will be held at the Russell House. The same
234 questions will be used. Breakout sessions will be used.

235 Imagine Carolina for Faculty will be held in mid-January on a Friday. Additional information
236 will be forthcoming.

237 PROVOST ARNETT stated that she is here for the long-haul and ready for hard work.

238 **REPORTS FROM FACULTY COMMITTEES**

239 **Faculty Advisory Committee**

240
241
242 DR. ROBERT BROOKSHIRE (Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee) stated that the
243 Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) has been planning to revise Section 2 of the Faculty
244 Manual. FAC plans to a) identify a method of accomplishing this task and b) identify a method

245 whereby the changes can be brought to Faculty Senate in a reasonable manner (i.e., not all at
246 once). Proposed changes will be brought to Faculty Senate in phases.

247
248 The first phase is to reorganize section 2. The document will be divided into subsections. The
249 first subsection will focus on all faculty members. The second subsection will focus on tenure
250 track and tenured faculty members. The third subsection will focus on professional faculty
251 members. FAC is still negotiating on how many additional subsections will be required.
252 During the second phase, FAC will bring revisions as packages to Faculty Senate for each of the
253 section identified. FAC believes this process will require the rest of the academic year. Changes
254 will be prioritized. A town hall meeting will be scheduled whereby faculty are able to provide
255 input regarding reorganization of Section 2.

256
257 CHAIR KORSGAARD stated that this section is a very important section to faculty. It is about
258 evaluation, tenure, and promotion. It is important to have a high degree of participation from
259 faculty.

260
261 **Committee on Curricula & Courses**
262
263 DR. WILLIAM HAUK, Chair of the Committee on Curricula & Courses (hereafter The
264 Committee) stated that The Committee met on October 12th. The Committee moves to presents a
265 total of 47 proposals. They are as follows:

Unit	N
College of Arts & Sciences	11
College of Business	5
College of Engineering & Computing	2
College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport and Entertainment Management	2
College of Information & Communication	2
College of Nursing	15
School of Public Health	3
School of Music	7

267
268 The proposals were voted on and approved.

269
270 **Secretary's Report**

271 SENATOR BICKLE is seeking a secretary-elect for Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate
272 secretary completes three functions: 1) transcribes the minutes of the monthly meeting, 2)
273 prepare a spreadsheet for the available committee positions; from this sheet run the meeting; 3)
274 attend steering committee meetings.

275 **Chair's Report**

276 CHAIR KORSGAARD addressed an issue regarding the last Faculty Senate meeting; it was held
277 on Yon Kapor. According to the Standing Rules, Faculty Senate is required to meet on the first

278 Wednesday of the month. A modest revision has been made to this rule to avoid Faculty Senate
279 meeting on a religious holy day. The revision states that “in the event the meeting falls on a work
280 restricted religious holiday, the university will schedule the Faculty Senate meeting for the first
281 Tuesday of the month.” Tuesday was selected because some work restricted holidays start on a
282 Wednesday and continue throughout the rest of the week. The process for making this change
283 was a) vote the change through the Steering Committee, and b) have Faculty Senate vote on the
284 modification. Faculty Senate cannot vote on the modification today because it needs to be
285 indicated in the agenda.

286 Faculty Senate is coming up against another work restricted holiday (April 5th). This is Passover.
287 While Passover doesn’t start until sundown, for the interest of ease, this particular Faculty Senate
288 will be moved to Tuesday if the modification is successfully passed at the December meeting.

289 The university has an interfaith calendar. All religious holidays are listed. There are rather few
290 work-restricted holidays. It is recommended that on those holidays, no work-related activities be
291 held. This is important to consider these holidays when you are making your course syllabus,
292 department meetings etc.

293 Last year, INDEV developed a process for review and revision of the Carolina Core. This
294 process was not started back up in the early fall (2022), on purpose, because of the new
295 leadership. The report has been shared with PRESIDENT AMIRIDIS and PROVOST ARNETT.
296 The first phase will begin. DR. LOVELACE and VICE PROVOST KELLY will get the
297 committee organized by the end of the year. It is a representative committee. The committee will
298 conduct a gap analysis. The second phase will be to implement changes to the Carolina Core.
299 The proposed changes will be presented to Faculty Senate for approval.

300 SENATOR FLORA (Engineering) inquired about the work-restricted holidays and attendance
301 for students. CHAIR KORSGAARD clarified that work-restricted holidays are days where we
302 (faculty, USC) are required to honor the person’s need to not be at the university. It is
303 recommended, through this inter-faith calendar, that we not hold important events on those days
304 (e.g., presentations, assignments, exams). Being absent on a particular holiday may adversely
305 impact a student. There are very few of these work-restricted holidays during the week.

306 SENATOR ALTSCHUL (Astronomy & Physics) asked why Faculty Senate would move the
307 meeting that is not work-related (i.e., April 5th). Passover doesn’t start until sundown. CHAIR
308 KORSGAARD stated that the Steering Committee decided to err on the side of being
309 considerate. Senator Altschul doesn’t think it is wise to move the Faculty Senate meeting unless
310 the date is on a work-related holiday.

311 **Old business:** none

312 **New business:** none

313 **Good of the order:** none

314

315 The meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm EST