Minutes
Special Senate Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2020, 2:30 p.m.
Zoom

Present: Joseph Janes, Robin Angotti, George Sandison, Julie Brines, Justin Jesty, Jeff Hou, Philip Taddei, Gautham Reddy, Douglas Ramsay, David Socha, Marian Harris, Jack Lee, Chris Laws, Ann Huppert, Mike Townsend, JoAnn Taricani, Mark Richards
Absent: Ana Mari Cauce, Shailendra Jain, Sumit Roy, Kelty Pierce, Giuliana Conti
Guests: Megan Ybarra, Brenda Williams, Radhika Govindrajan, Sasha Su-Ling Welland, Stephen Gloyd, Scott Weissman, Jean Dennison, John Tuthill, Leila Norako, Brianna Martinez, Carrie Matthews, David Wu, Dian Million, Edwin Lindo, James Tweedie, Janet Powell, Jayadev Athreya, Frances O'Shaughnessy, Alys Weinbaum, Ami Nanavaty, Amy Hagopian

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda.
   The meeting was called to order at 2:33 P.M.
   The agenda was automatically approved because no changes can be made in special meetings.

2. Consent Agenda.
   a. Approve the April 20, 2020, SEC minutes.
   b. Approve the April 30, 2020, Faculty Senate minutes.
   c. Approve nominees for Faculty Councils and Committees. [Exhibit A]

   In response to a question about the diversity balance on councils, it was noted that the Committee on Committees works largely with the pool formed by those who respond to university-wide email solicitation. Every attempt is made to ensure council diversity with respect to units, experience, viewpoints, demographic factors, and the like. Janes suggested that this be followed up on in the fall.

   The consent agenda was approved.

   a. Class C Resolution – UW Divestment from Local Law Enforcement Agencies. [Exhibit B]
      Action: Approve for distribution to the faculty.

   A motion was made and seconded to approve the Resolution for distribution to the faculty under the Senate Executive Committee’s authority to act for the Senate pursuant to Faculty Code Section 22-60:B.12.

   Megan Ybarra, Arts and Sciences, Seattle, spoke to the motion, summarizing the points made in the Resolution and noting that it is in response to a UW community-wide petition that has garnered almost 10,000 signatures. In addition to the specifics mentioned in the Resolution, Ybarra said that the Resolution is aimed at increasing transparency, understanding the exact nature, structure, function, funding, and partnerships of relevant law enforcement agencies, carefully considering the meaning of a “safe campus,” and examining how treatment of safety affects the operation of the University as an academic institution.

   A discussion started with several members saying that there are difficult questions involved in balancing the pros and cons of various types of police presence on the medical campus and that several amendments would be proposed. Janes requested that members focus the discussion and amending process by going through the document starting at the end and working up. Members agreed to this procedure.

   The following amendments were approved:

   Line 49 to remove the word “educational” and end with “, faculty, and staff.”

   Line 43 to remove “as University of Washington police officers”.

Line 42 to add after “hiring” the phrase “as University of Washington police officers any”.

Lines 40 and 41 to end the sentence with “agencies, but does not include therapy dogs used appropriately for patient care at UW Medicine facilities.”

Lines 36 to 38 to end the sentence with “program; and responding to healthcare clinics, emergency department, and hospital situations, such as those involving sexual, domestic, or anti-youth violence.”

Line 35 to start the sentence with “Commit to creating novel approaches, not using law enforcement approaches, to respond”.

It was moved and seconded to amend Lines 24 and 25 to end the sentence with “agencies, except when a person has been arrested on suspicion of a violent felony and poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of others.”

During discussion, it was noted that the current practice is not well known, that the UWPD interpretation of violent felony is unknown, and that the UWPD can themselves book people into the King County jail.

Without objection, the amendment was withdrawn.

During the ensuing discussion on the main motion as amended, questions were asked about lines 24-25. Janes opined that the reference in lines 24 and 25 to “external law enforcement agencies” is meant to coincide with the language on local law enforcement agencies in lines 22 and 23. It was also noted that nothing in these lines refers to the power of other law enforcement agencies to execute arrest warrants on their own on persons previously booked into the King County jail by the UWPD. It also was noted that the notion of “detention” is broader than the notion of “arrest.”

The main motion was approved.

4. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 3:28 P.M.

Prepared by: Mike Townsend
Approved by: Joseph Janes, Chair
Secretary of the Faculty Faculty Senate
2020-21 Nominees for Faculty Councils and Committees

Adjudication Panel

- Theodore Myhre, School of Law, as chair for a term beginning immediately and ending September 15, 2021.
- Peter Brooks, UW Bothell, as a member for a term beginning September 16, 2020, and ending September 15, 2023.
- Bernard Ng, School of Medicine, as a member for a term beginning September 16, 2020, and ending September 15, 2023.

Faculty Council on Research

- Ben Marwick, College of Arts & Sciences, as chair for a term beginning September 16, 2020, and ending September 15, 2021.

Student Conduct Reviewing Officers

- Christoph Giebel, College of Arts & Sciences, as a member for a term beginning immediately and ending September 15, 2022.
- Max Louzon, School of Medicine, as a member for a term beginning immediately and ending September 15, 2022.
Class C resolution regarding UW divestment from local law enforcement agencies

WHEREAS, the recent and past police killings of Black people, Native and Indigenous people, and other people of color in the United States have created an environment of anxiety, mistrust, and outrage for people of color as well as for their allies; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on Black, Native and Indigenous communities, and other communities of color, including those at UW; and

WHEREAS, with the frequency of these incidents, UW communities of color have reported feelings of fear, despair, and vulnerability that come with experiencing continuous, historical racialized trauma; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate passed a Class C Resolution in 2016 affirming that Black Lives Matter; and

WHEREAS, the national Movement for Black Lives has given the UW community an invitation to uphold our values of justice, equity, and anti-racism; and

WHEREAS, there are existing racial inequities that persist within every level of UW’s three campus learning environments and these racial inequities are an academic issue interfering with the mission of the University and its ability to transmit knowledge; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate Executive Committee calls on the University to reconsider all ties with local law enforcement agencies such as Seattle, Bothell and Tacoma Police Departments by taking the following steps:

1. Commit to stop handing over people detained by UW Police Department to external law enforcement agencies.
2. Stop using local law enforcement for additional security for any events, including football games, concerts, and ceremonies.
3. Stop using the Bothell campus as a training location for local law enforcement agencies such as the Washington State Patrol, Seattle Police Department, University of Washington Police Department, and King County Sheriff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Senate Executive Committee calls on UW to reimagine a Safe Campus as follows:

1. Disarm the University of Washington Police Department.
2. Commit to creating novel approaches, not using new-law enforcement approaches, to respond to public safety needs, including referrals for welfare checks under the Safe Campus program; and responding to healthcare clinics, emergency department, and hospital situations, such as those involving sexual, domestic, or anti-youth violence.
3. Ban the use of police dogs, which many communities of color in the US associate with the terror of state violence. This includes training exercises by local law enforcement agencies, but does not include therapy dogs used appropriately for patient care at UW Medicine facilities.
4. Publicly commit to not hiring as University of Washington Police Officers any former police officers with disciplinary records as University of Washington police officers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs will plan for a summer virtual conversation, or remote event, to create space for all faculty to come together to discuss how to lead on the topic of dismantling the features of the University system that perpetuate racial inequity, beginning first with the question of how faculty might lead on the essential task of eliminating the role of law enforcement officers in the day-to-day educational experiences of students, faculty, and staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate will address issues of racial injustice during the 2020-2021 academic year.