Faculty Senate Minutes March 2018

UNO Faculty Senate

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Excused: Cast-Brede, Johnson, Robins, Rogers, Rowe

Absent: Bereitschaft, Hawkins, MacArthur, Noble, Sharif-Kashani, Winter

I. The meeting was called to order by President Grams at 2:02 p.m.

II. The Minutes of February 14, 2018, were approved as submitted.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Grams reported

March 1, 2018

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

This month’s update is mercifully brief, as the next Regents’ meeting is not until the end of the month and I have no new budget-related information for you yet, though we should have more very soon. The two big events on the immediate horizon are the visit to UNO’s campus on March 5 and 6 by the HLC (Higher Learning Commission), the regional agency that accredits UNO, and the ‘I Love NU’ Advocacy Day at the Nebraska State Capitol in Lincoln on the afternoon of March 6. More information about the latter event may be found here: https://www.unomaha.edu/news/2018/03/i-love-nu-advocacy-day.php.

Chancellor Gold has considerable experience with accreditation and advised us at the last EC&A meeting on the nature of a campus site visit and the excellent preparation UNO has undertaken for this event. A group of faculty leaders including representatives of the Faculty Senate will meet on Tuesday with the site visit team. For more information about the accreditation visit, please see: https://www.unomaha.edu/news/events/2018/03/accreditation-site-visit.php

In addition, information has been prepared for those who are interested in helping with the visit: https://www.unomaha.edu/accreditation/_docs/hlc-how-you-can-help-020518.pdf

I strongly encourage any interested faculty to attend one of the Open Forums where you can meet with the HLC team:

- Monday, March 5, Mission and Institutional Integrity
  MBSC Ballroom, 2:30-3:30 P.M.
- Tuesday, March 6, Teaching & Learning: Quality, Resources, & Support
  MBSC Ballroom, 9:00-10:15 A.M.
• Teaching & Learning: Evaluation and Improvement
  MBSC Ballroom, 10:30-11:45 A.M.
• Resources, Planning, Institutional Effectiveness
  MBSC Dodge Room, 1:00-2:00 P.M.

The Faculty Senate committees continue to work on a variety of important projects. Minutes and resolutions are always posted for your review – if you have questions about any of these, or future projects, please feel free to get in touch.

At the last EC&A we discussed another important subject about which many people have opinions: weather cancellations! Deciding whether to close campus is a delicate balance among predicting what the weather will do, satisfying the needs of those for whom it is important that the campus remain open whenever possible, and the needs of those who may have difficulty getting to campus safely. Safety is, in this process, the dominant concern.

Faculty can help with this! If you are going to cancel classes for the day, regardless of whether UNO has a weather cancellation, PLEASE notify your students (Canvas is also useful for this purpose). It is very hard on students when they make a difficult effort to be present, only to find out that class is cancelled. Likewise, if you are going to be present on a day when weather makes transportation difficult, or UNO may remain open while other preK-12 schools are closing, please consider the safety concerns of those needing to travel to or around campus.

Finally, as ever, parking: the “open parking” on Fridays does not include surface lots on the Dodge Street campus. I know that some people have encountered difficulties with this. Surface parking and the Pacific St. garage are open on Scott campus at those times, but only the garages are involved on Dodge campus. If this has been a problem for you, please contact me.

If you have any other concerns, suggestions, or ideas, again, we would like to hear them! Thank you.

At 2:13 p.m., with no objection, the meeting paused. Chancellor Gold arrived to speak to the full Senate. Items included:
• The Accreditation Site Visit had a great exit interview. The outcome will be known in mid-summer.
• Budget Legislation: There seems to be a better outcome for NU, although, since the Governor bundled it all with Title X, it seems to be stuck.
• There were many other questions and answers regarding the budget and cuts:
  o To keep in mind that not one college should have the majority of cuts
  o Probably 2% will be held back next year by NU
  o There will probably be both vertical and horizontal cuts
  o The BRT process is growing
  o The BOR, and, of course, Chancellors, will wait to make any decisions on tuition.
  o Chancellor Gold said “more growth” is growing our way through this budget crisis, translated into enrollment growth, value, retention, etc., research growth, looking at engagement programs, sustaining the mission, tuition, state share of instruction, philanthropy, grants and contracts, and engagement programs

At 2:39 p.m. Chancellor Gold departed and, with no objection, the meeting resumed.
B. Secretary/Treasurer Report: Senator Landow

1. EC&A: February 21, 2018

Chancellor Gold Comments:

HLC:

Chancellor Gold gave an update on the visit by the Higher Learning Commission. We must understand what our strengths are and build on them, and we must understand our weaknesses and move to improve them. The Chancellor wants to focus on the areas that the visiting team may have questions about, e.g. assessment. The area of most concern to the Chancellor is budget and how it relates to the university as a whole.

Budget:

The Chancellor indicated that the budget hearing in the Legislature went as well as it could have. The forecasting board report will come out in late February, and the following week the legislature will put the budget together.

Updates from President Grams

UNO's proposed share of the budget cut is the smallest of the four campuses. President Grams also noted that there is a lot of misinformation floating around and all of us should make a concerted effort to circulate accurate info.

Senior Vice Chancellor Reed initiated a discussion about the UNO severe weather policy.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

2017-2018 Resolution Action Table
(Action Pending and Current Resolutions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Res. #</th>
<th>Date Senate Passed</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Admin Accept</th>
<th>Sent for Senate Action</th>
<th>Denied / Deferred / In Progress</th>
<th>Final Action/Resolved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4326</td>
<td>2/14/18</td>
<td>Budget Problems &amp; Appreciation</td>
<td>2/21/18</td>
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<td>4325</td>
<td>2/14/18</td>
<td>Replacement on UCAT</td>
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<td>4324</td>
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<td>4323</td>
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<td>Freedom of Expression</td>
<td>2/21/18</td>
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<td>4322</td>
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<td>Newly Elected Senators (term: 2018-2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4282</td>
<td>3/8/17</td>
<td>Expenses Associated with Visas for International Hires</td>
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<td>4/19/17</td>
<td>SVC Reed explained the process for UNO paying for legal costs involved. These issues are usually handled by department chairs and personnel. Costs can’t be nailed down, since they vary by who is</td>
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</tbody>
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TO BE FOLLOWED UP

IV. Executive Committee Report: Senator Barone reported

PENDING:

A. UNO Website for documents and policies
   At the 1/17/18 Faculty Senate meeting: AVC Smith-Howell is in the process of finding a UNO website repository for policy and other documents, in order to make them easier to find. President Grams wanted to start a conversation on this. (1/17/18 The Senate agreed that this issue would stay with the EC&C.)

B. FUSE/GRACA:
   Faculty involvement and process regarding this issue. She wished to begin with a conversation. Perhaps there should be an advisory committee. (Senate sent to next EC&A agenda 1/17/18.)

V. Standing Committee Reports

A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Miller reported that since only three committee members were able to attend the 2/28/18 A & C A meeting (Burch Kealey, Stan Wileman and Holly Miller), there would not have been a quorum and business could not be conducted, therefore the meeting was canceled.
Pending agenda items will be addressed in the A&CA March meeting.

**PENDING:**

1. Committee members agree to consider proposed changes to the Academic Integrity Policy in their Feb. 28, 2018 meeting.

2. **UNO SGA Student Success recommendations (EC&C sent this to A&CA 1/7/18)**

3. **Early College High School: (EC&C sent to A&CA 2/7/18)**

   FYI: E-mail received 2/5/18 from Senator Adams:

   *At Friday’s English Department meeting, as we discussed Dual Enrollment and other issues, a new program in the Millard School District dominated much of our discussion and members of the department asked me to take this issue to Faculty Senate. In short, our department has concerns about the various impacts of a program called Early College High School [http://mshs.mpsomaha.org/academics/early-college-high-school](http://mshs.mpsomaha.org/academics/early-college-high-school)*

   The program says high school students can earn an Associate degree from Metro and that those credits will fulfill the general education requirements at UNO. Members of my department are concerned about how this might threaten enrollments at UNO and about the quality of such a program (it seems, for example, that a 10th grade English course could satisfy the English 1150 writing requirement at UNO). I would like to put this on the EC&C agenda as a point of discussion to determine if faculty in colleges beyond Arts and Sciences are also concerned about such a program.

**B. Committee on Educational Resources & Services:** Senator Davidson reported the Committee met 2:30 Wednesday 28 February 2018 in Criss Library Faculty Conference Room.

Attending: Senators, Azad Azadmanesh, Marlina Davidson, Barbara Robins, Mark Schoenbeck, Andy Zhong. Senator Tej Adidam was excused.

We acknowledged Senator Davidson as a new member for our committee filling in for Scott Glaser for the remainder of this semester.

Senator Robins noted that $100.00 had been raised in cash donations at the previous Faculty Senate meeting for the Paul Beck scholarship fund. Sue Bishop deposited the funds in the fund’s account.

Sue Bishop distributed packets to all members of the committee with the completed Paul Beck scholarship application forms. After reviewing the scoring materials, the committee agreed to read all applications, rank and suggest an award amount. The committee will review all rankings and select the scholarship winners at the 28 March meeting.

*Related to the Beck scholarship:*

EC&C agreed that awarding the scholarships at the April meeting would be an appropriate gesture. Discussion among committee members about the timing (before meeting or during our committee’s report) were discussed.

Still Pending, a response from Debra Wilcox (UNO Controllers Office) regarding the possibility that faculty could submit a payroll deduction that would serve as a monthly gift to the Beck scholarship fund. Senator Davidson has agreed to follow-up.

Pending: Travel Authorization Forms and travel insurance. Senator Davidson
proposed asking colleagues in her department for their experiences and presenting findings to us at our next meeting.

Senator Robins asked if there were any observations or issues regarding Canvas our committee should investigate. Although no issues were raised, it was agreed that when the transition away from Blackboard entered the final days during summer 2018, new issues could emerge as more faculty sought technical assistance. This topic should be listed as Pending.

(Senator Davidson then collected another $100 from the members of the full Senate for the Paul Beck Scholarship.)

**PENDING:**

1. **Request for Travel Authorization and Purchase of Travel. 10/2017:** Senator Robins briefly reported on having located the source of the document used by UNO titled “Request for Travel Authorization and Purchase of Travel.” At a future meeting we will discuss suggestions for additions to this document to assist faculty in identifying the need for and for purchasing travel insurance.

### C. Committee on Faculty Personnel & Welfare:

Senator Elder reported the Committee met from 2:30-3:30 in ASH 196 on Feb 28.

Present: John Noble, Marshall Prisbell, Amber Rogers, Griff Elder

Absent: Pauline Brennan (excused), Dale Tiller

Guest: Deb Smith-Howell

Deb Smith-Howell presented the UNO Administrations response to

**RESOLUTION 4279, 12/14/16: Grievance Committees Summer Compensation.**

Compensation would be provided to 9 month faculty appointed to 3 committees: Professional Conduct Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, and Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee.

We have been asked to look at the policies and procedures for the 3 committees to see if appropriate language could be added to minimize the necessity of these committees meeting during the summer. John Noble has agreed to produce a first draft response.

Administrations proposal is that 9 month faculty committee members will be compensated up to $500.00 per day (minimum of 1/2 day) when their committee is required to meet. The sense of the committee was that the compensation was fair. Still, we asked that the rationale be written down and shared with us.

We have been asked to contact the AAUP, particularly Mike Peterson, to make sure that the solution that we are crafting is in line with the AAUP contract.

**PENDING:**

1. **HPER Fees. 10/2017:** On Mon Sept 18, there was an initial faculty/staff wellness-based incentive program meeting in EAB 202 organized by Dan Shipp.

Attending: Dan Shipp, Cathy Pettid, Joe Kaminski, Jeanne Surface, Griff Elder, Cecil Hicks, Carol Kirchner, and Esther Scarpello.

The group met to discuss how UNO could develop and pilot a wellness-based incentive program for faculty/staff. The wellness program needs still to be worked out—both programmatically and financially. But roughly, the idea is that, UNO would offer a pilot program that would partially reimburse the cost of a HPER membership based upon member usage and participation in specific wellness
program elements. Tentatively, the financial incentive might be as much as a $100 reimbursement of the $150 per semester HPER membership fee. Details have to still be worked out. The working goal is to offer this pilot program starting in January (but if not January, then the following August-2018).

The working group plans to meet every two weeks. The first meeting will discuss the requirements for reimbursement.

I have been asked to put together a Faculty Senate Focus Group that this working group can consult.

2. **Summer Compensation for Grievance Committees. 10/2017 cont.:**

**RESOLUTION 4279, 12/14/16: Grievance Committees Summer Compensation**

While most of us are on 9 month contracts, many uncompensated service obligations require summer participation. Members on the committee have their own anecdotal accounts of what we perceive to be a trend. We are hoping to discuss this topic with the AAUP, so that we can begin to connect some of the dots. We have contacted AAUP. The topic is on their agenda for Friday October 6, 2017.

**RESOLUTION 4279, 12/14/16: Grievance Committees Summer Compensation**

3. **Visa Issues: Are they consistent college to college.**

(1/10/18: Put on EC&A agenda.)

4. **Faculty/Staff Safety Processes. 10/2017 cont.:** Dr. Gina Toman has been named Faculty Human Resources Officer and Assistant to the Senior Vice Chancellor. She begins her new role on October 11.

We are interested in the administration developing a website similar to the Student Safety Website.

Note: We felt that the following site makes a good model:
http://academicpersonnel.unc.edu/faculty-policies-procedures-guidelines/

We expect Gina Toman will be help us address the request that there be a flow-chart that will help faculty understand and negotiate the many resources that are available: Ombudsperson, EAP person, counseling, BRT, etc. What information is confidential, etc. This “flowchart” may manifest itself in the form of the website mentioned above.

5. **Server for Personal Web Pages**

Senator Elder reported that last year all faculty across campus lost the server, along with the opportunity to have their own personal web sites, like Math. The Web site may have not been pretty, but it was spot on for other mathematicians to check. Senator Zhong said it now looks odd. Senator Kennedy said we all need support to get the server back for supporting personal web sites. Anything without branding is gone.

(On 12/13/17 this issue was given to the FP&W Committee.)

D. **Committee on Goals and Directions:** Senator Arbelaez reported there was no meeting.

Pending:

1. **Facilities Planning and Faculty Representation** (Specifically, which Facilities Planning Committee would be the best on which to have faculty representation before plans are made, not just reported?) (Sent to G&D 2/10/16)
E. Professional Development: Senator Adams reported there was no meeting.

PENDING:
1. Faculty Professional Development Leave policies/procedures:
   (1/10/18: The PD committee is waiting for deans to complete a survey to actually
gauge faculty’s understanding of FPD leave policies and procedures.)

F. Committee on Rules: Senator Nash reported the Faculty Senate standing committee
preferences were received from 8 of the 12 newly elected senators. The annual
Committee Service Preference Form will be distributed to UNO faculty members this
month. The Rules Committee will be working to fill both Faculty Senate standing
committees and university committees during March and April.

PENDING: None

VI. Other Faculty Senate Committees

A. Faculty Senate Budget Advisory Committee Report: Prof. Hall, Maher, O’Hara
   At its February meeting, the Faculty Senate requested that its Budget Advisory
   Committee provide advice on budget matters related to shared UNO/UNMC
   administrative positions and structures. Chancellor Gold provided information
   and offered to meet with the BAC to facilitate this discussion.

VII. Ad hoc Committees

A. Ad hoc UNO-UNMC Faculty-to-Faculty Communication and Collaboration
   Committee:
   The Committee met March 5. 2018 UNO Thompson Alumni Center.
   Present: Timi Barone, Suzanne Sollars, Emily Glenn, Beth Beam, Elli Rogan,
   Destynie Sewell, Amar Natarajan, Dhundy Bastolei
   Absent/Excused:, Glenda Woseyna Mark Shriver, Adam Tyma, Connie Schaffer,
   Cathy Gebhart, Debra Reilly, Craig Maher
   Notes on the meeting
1. Concerns about students and faculty moving between campuses.
   Timi Barone shared information that she had received from Deb Smith-
   Howell about a draft policy that outlines ways that students and faculty can teach,
   study, and move between UNO and UNMC. Registrars have an NU system
   intercampus for, and methods to waive enrollment requirements, such as those for
   residency. The inoculation requirement is also a concern. Single sign-on and a
   common bill and transcript will help keep both campus in sync. This policy, and
   corresponding procedures, are expected to go live this spring. Financial changes
   for dual degree programs will be arranged this fall. Registrars and currently
   working as a single entity, according to Deb Smith-Howell. This committee
   would like clarification on the sharing of students and faculty at UNO and
   UNMC.
   Recommendation: Ask Deb Smith-Howell to share, by April, the policy on
   sharing faculty and students across campuses.
2. **Shared administrators between campus**
   Committee members discussed the fact that there are many shared administrations between UNO and UNMC, and whether the needs of both campuses are being met.
   A list of shared administrators was last made available to this group on January 24, 2018.
   Amar Natarajan will ask Ann Anderson Berry for an updated list.

3. **Thoughts on announcement of budget cuts**
   Committee members questioned why UNMC cuts were announced generally, without advance notice to faculty. It was the decision of Chancellor Gold to not provide advance notice to faculty. Chancellor Gold did not provide advance notice to the Faculty Senate. Advance notice would have been a courtesy, but was not required. Many units were proceeding as if cuts had been made and finalized, although the appropriations Committee has not yet voted. There is concern over faculty retention and the possibility for the tenure of existing faculty to be “broken,” should campuses merge.
   **Recommendation:** Continue to request increased transparency from Chancellor Gold on issues pertaining to the budget.

4. **Update on Parking**
   Committee members believe that issue is not yet resolved. There is not an effective way to get from UNMC to UNO’s south campus. Additionally, there is no reciprocal parking on south campus. Many UNO faculty who commute to UNMC use the patient visitor parking lots. Student lots are often full. Committee members wish to have more clarification from UNO and UNMC administration about guidance on parking or faculty on each campus. How can reciprocal commuter parking meet the needs of faculty, in a financially sustainable way? Solutions such an hourly shuttle, bus pass, and car hang tags were discussed.
   **Recommendation:** Identify how many faculty travel between campuses and how often. Reach out to campus LiveGreen team or parking services.

5. **New item: Appeal to drop FedEx**
   A team of faculty members has proposed that UPS be added as a courier and FedEx be dropped. Committee members discussed issues with dropping FedEx because shipping decisions and shipper selection are often made on the vendor or sender end, not at the institution. This proposal will be shared at the next meeting of the UNMC Faculty Senate.
   Next meeting: April 30, 2018

VIII. **Non-Senate Committee Reports**

A. **AFCON:** Senator Kealey submitted the following Minutes of March 10, 2018.
   **Board of Directors Meeting, Eiseley Library, Lincoln, Nebraska, March 10, 2018**
   Present: Peggy Adair, secretary, legislative liaison; Russ Alberts, director at large; John Bender, representing UNL Faculty Senate; Nancy Comer, representing Nebraska State Reading Association; Bob Haller, chief baker, representing AAUP and all things wise and wonderful; Ally Halley, sous chef, representing Fine Lines; Burch Kealey, representing UNO Faculty Senate; Laurie Thomas Lee, representing ACLU Nebraska; David Moshman, president, policy coordinator; Katie Schroeder, representing Nebraska Library Association; Rod Wagner, immediate past president,
representing Nebraska Center for the Book; Sam Walker, guest; Todd Schlechte, guest.

MINUTES
President Dave Moshman convened the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

UNL and UNO FREE EXPRESSION POLICIES: The board discussed the status of free expression and academic freedom in post-secondary public education institutions in Nebraska. Guest Sam Walker outlined his plans for public challenge to UNO’s free expression policy that he has scheduled for April 9, 2018. Alberts made the following motion: “AFCON shall officially oppose the Regents’ policy on free expression; support peaceful action to challenge said policy; and coordinate with ACLU, FIRE, and other organizations that support free expression.” Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Haller, second by Halley, to approve minutes of the AFCON board meeting held on January 13, 2018. Motion carried on a voice vote.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Halley reported she has received dues from four members. She will develop an invoice for organizational members and will digitize old treasury records. Balance on hand as of March 10, 2018, is $2,246.13.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Adair reported on the status of legislative bills of interest to AFCON.

The following bills are still in committee and unlikely to move further this year: LB718, the Higher Education Free Speech Act; LB886, the Student Journalist bill; LB898, which requires post secondary institutions to conduct annual sexual assault climate surveys; LB1094, requiring financial literacy and entrepreneurship curriculum standards; and LR285CA, which abolishes the Nebraska State Board of Education.

LB1069, which requires students to take the 100-question Naturalization test, is Senator Brasch’s priority bill and will likely be debated this year. LB295, which establishes a tax credit for contributions to private schools and takes the resulting revenue loss away from public schools, is Senator Linehan’s priority bill and will likely be debated this year. Senator Harr and others plan to filibuster the bill.

POLICY ON PUBLIC STATEMENTS: The board discussed the draft policy on public statements. Adair will edit the policy as discussed and present an amended draft to the board at the April meeting.

TREAT OF THE DAY: Homemade blueberry muffins (still warm!) with powdered sugar topping. Thank you, Baker Bob!

NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE: Moshman will continue to produce a scaled-down version of the Sentinel until a new editor can be found. Kealey offered to take a look at the AFCON website to see if he can assist in updating.

There being no further business, the AFCON board adjourned at 11:58am.

The next meeting of the AFCON BOARD OF DIRECTORS will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018, at Eiseley Library in Lincoln, Nebraska. www.academicfreedomnebraska.org AND afcon.nebraska@gmail.com

IX. New Business

Without objection, President Grams passed the gavel to Vice President Barone, in order to discuss the following three topics.
A. **Dual Factor Authentication:** Senator Grams reiterated that all faculty had received information on this via e-mail.

B. **Facilities Use Plan, related to the new Freedom of Expression Policy:** Senator Grams Senator Grams discussed the current draft policy. She was disappointed with the amount of space where a demonstration could be held.

C. **Faculty Senate Attendance:** Senator Grams reported the EC&C asked that the following be included in the next EC&A agenda: Wednesday afternoons, 2-4 p.m. are blocked out for Faculty Senate meetings. Deans are reminded of this when information for the election process is sent to them each year. Please mention this to the Deans again, and have them remind chairs. It is **important** that senators do not have classes or meetings scheduled for this block of time. Chairs & Directors meetings also need to be moved from Wednesday afternoons.

   Senator Grams asked that anyone having a problem with attending Faculty Senate related meetings, to please let her know.

Without objection, Vice President Barone passed the gavel back to President Grams.

X. **The meeting Adjourned** at 3:58 p.m.

XI. **Announcements**

   A. **EC&A Mtg:** Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 2 p.m., EAB 200
   B. **EC&C Mtg:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 2 p.m., ASH 196
   C. **Faculty Senate Mtg:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 2 p.m., CEC 230/231
   D. **Faculty/Staff Awards Dinner:** (for Outgoing and Continuing Senators)
      Thursday, May 10, 2018, MBSC, 6:30 p.m. Social, 7:15 p.m. Dinner.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Schedule for 2017-2018</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EC&amp;C Meetings</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Usually 1st Wednesday of month)</td>
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<td>(ASH 196)</td>
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<td><strong>June</strong></td>
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<td>*July 12</td>
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<td>*August 9</td>
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<td>August 16, 2017 (Retreat) (3rd Wednesday)</td>
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<td>(Classes begin 8/21/17)</td>
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<td><strong>September</strong></td>
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<td>*January 10 (Semester Begins 1/8/18)</td>
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*Faculty Senate Minutes – 3/14/18*

*Faculty Senate Agenda – 4/11/18 – Attachments - Page 11*
| May 2  | (4/30 – 5/3 Finals) |
|        | (Commencement 5/4)  |
| May 9  |