

MINUTES

TELEPHONE MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

University of Connecticut
February 21, 2023

Committee Trustees: Jeanine Gouin, Joshua Crow, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Philip Rubin

Other Trustees: Daniel Toscano

University Senate
Representatives: Joanne Conover, Sebastian Wogenstein

University Staff: Radenka Maric, Anne D'Alleva, Dorothea Anagnostopolous, Daniel Burkey, Sarah Croucher, Jose Cruz, Anne Dailey, Peter Diplock, Nathan Fuerst, Jeffrey Geoghegan, Kent Holsinger, Kazem Kazerounian, Gladis Kersaint, Rachel O'Neill, Rachel Rubin, Jeffrey Shoulson, Juli Wade, Michelle Williams, Reka Wrynn

Vice-Chair Gouin convened the Committee at 8:30 a.m.

1. Public Participation

No members of the public signed up to address the Committee.

2. Minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of December 6, 2022

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2022, meeting.

3. Tenure at Hire

4. Designation of Emeritus Status

5. Sabbatical Leave Recommendations

Agenda Items #3-5 were introduced together. On a motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Items #3-5 to the full Board for approval.

6. Reappointment of Professor Heather Elliott-Famularo as the Donna Krenicki Professor in Design and Digital Media in the School of Fine Arts

On a motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #6 to the full Board for approval.

7. Appointment of Professor Anne Dailey to the Ellen Ash Peters Professorship in the School of Law

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Crow, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #7 to the full Board for approval.

8. Bachelor of Science in Financial Technology

Associate Dean Jose Cruz was invited to introduce the new undergraduate degree in Financial Technology in the School of Business.

9. Bachelor of Science in Data Science and Engineering

Dean Kazem Kazerounian and Associate Dean Dan Burkey were invited to introduce the new undergraduate degree in Data Science and Engineering in the School of Engineering.

There was a general discussion regarding any additional resources needed to implement these programs. On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Items #8 & 9 to the full Board for approval.

10. Master of Science in Environmental Earth Sciences

On a motion by Trustee Crow, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #10 to the full Board for approval.

11. Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Certificate

There was a general discussion regarding the need for Licensed Professional Counselors in the workforce in Connecticut, and how this program will aim to meet that need. On a motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Crow, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #11 to the full Board for approval.

12. Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering

Agenda Item #12 was informational. The Cato T. Laurencin Institute for Regenerative Engineering will be established and replace the Connecticut Convergence Institute for Regenerative Engineering in the School of Medicine.

13. Naming Recommendation for the Boucher Management & Entrepreneurship Department

14. Naming Recommendation for the Gladstein Family Human Rights Institute

Agenda Items #13 & 14 were voted on by the Institutional Advancement Committee on February 7, 2023, and are provided to the Academic Affairs Committee as informational as they relate to academic units.

15. STAR Talk Credit Billing

Agenda Item #15 was informational.

16. Appointment of Board Representative to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Board of Control

Agenda Item #16 was informational.

17. Faculty Consulting Program

Agenda Item #17 was informational.

18. Academic Program Inventory

Agenda Item #18 was informational. Provost D'Alleva called attention to the change in the MBA program which includes eliminating areas of concentration. There was a discussion regarding reduction of credits for the MBA program from 57 to 42 with this change.

19. ChatGPT/AI in Higher Education Presentation

Associate Vice Provost Peter Diplock presented on ChatGPT and AI in higher education, including impact on teaching, academic integrity, and how to use AI technology to benefit student learning.

20. Academic Affairs Presentation

Rachel O'Neill, Director of the Institute of Systems Genomics, presented on the Institute's mission, activities, and outreach since its establishment 20 years ago.

21. Other Business

There was no other business.

22. Executive Session (*as needed*)

There was no Executive Session.

23. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Crow, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting ended at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis M. Cassan
Secretary to the Committee