
Members Absent: N. Hilmanowski (Excused)

Others Present: J. Rebholz, R. Fisher

At 2:00PM, Chair Kutz, called the meeting to order.

Ms. Czynszak-Lyne moved, seconded by Ms. Droes, to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. All in favor with the exception of Mr. Petters and Mr. Newton, who abstained. MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Kutz paused for public comments. Mr. Fritter noted that it was on July 26th, 1992, that the Americans with Disabilities Act became law. Mr. Pond noted the confusion by some on how to return the ballots for Congressional Liaison. It was noted that the instructions on how to do so were printed on the ballots themselves. Mr. Pond noted that he assisted those who expressed confusion as to how to return them.

Chair Kutz recognized Ms. Robin Fisher. Ms. Fisher explained that she had been elected as an Alternate for Congressional District 111. On 1 July, the Theater and Drama department was moved from L&S to the College of Education, which places her now in the vacant district of 104. Ms. Fisher inquired if it would be possible for her to assume the duties of Representative for this vacant district.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on the options available regarding this situation. Secretary noted that as of now the only rules in print that would apply state that if you were to leave your district for any reason you lose your right to your elected seat.

Discussion heard that Ms. Fisher should be allowed to continue as the Alternate for district 111. Discussion heard that as Ms. Fisher demonstrated a willingness to run and serve, and garnered votes in the past election, it would be appropriate for her to act as the Representative for 104. Discussion heard regarding the possibility of a ‘special election’ for the 104 Representative. Secretary cautioned that if this were to take place he advises a limit be set as to when the last special election could be held so they do not interfere with the call for nominations in the regularly scheduled election.

Discussion heard as to which is the most appropriate shared governance body to make a decision in this regard.

General agreement heard that Ms. Fisher should reach out to the constituency of district 104 and inform them of her willingness to act as a representative in a volunteer, non-voting capacity. Ms. Fisher could
keep in regular contact with the constituency and speak at Congress meetings under the public comments portion of the agenda.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on the recommendations of the Nominations Committee.

Ms. Czynszak-Lyne moved, seconded by Ms. Droes, to approve the nomination of Lucas Zeimet and Angie Rosas to the Diversity Framework Implementation Advisory Group. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Fritter moved, seconded by Mr. Newton, to approve the nomination of Jake Rebholz and Brian Wilson to the Congressional Bylaws Committee. Objection heard that Mr. Rebholz is already serving on one other committee. Committee was informed that Mr. Rebholz was one of two candidates for two seats. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Czynszak-Lyne moved, seconded by Ms. Droes, to approve the nomination of Michael Bradley to the Nominations Committee. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Kutz recognized the Secretary and the Liaison for the purpose of reviewing the agenda items of the August Congressional Agenda.

Secretary noted the formation of new committees and the adjustment of old committee memberships to reflect the standard of committees with five person memberships that allow for anyone from University Staff to apply, regardless if they currently hold an elected or appointed position in shared governance or not. Secretary and Liaison noted the change in the selection of Nominations Committee members is meant to allow for the Nominations Committee members to select new members of the committee without having to face the situation of considering their own names. It was further noted in regard to the August agenda that the Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policy agenda item was delayed until September in the interest of time so that other items might get a proper hearing with the appropriate time available.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on the latest statewide teleconference of the shared governance council.

Chair Kutz noted the discussion of replacement of classified work rules as well as a discussion of overtime policy. A discussion also took place regarding the priority of nighttime differential versus pay to relieve compression.

Chair Kutz announced upcoming dates for future teleconferences.

Chair Kutz recognized the Secretary for a report. Secretary reported that names are coming in steadily for the available seats on committees and encouraged USEC members to conduct outreach to those they think would be good applicants in this regard.

In his Chairs Report, Chair Kutz noted the invitation for University Staff shared governance representatives to attend a meeting organized by the Board of Regents in September and on a monthly basis thereafter.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on fostering an efficient and respectful space for meetings.
Chair Kutz inquired if the committee was satisfied with the current format and distribution of the meeting agendas. General agreement was heard to maintain the current format.

Question of raising hands to seek recognition at the meeting was heard. Discussion heard that the Chair can simply instruct members of the committee to delay their own comments if members begin to interrupt or speak over one another. Discussion heard that raising hands or creating a speakers list stymies the conversation in the meeting and creates delays.

Mr. Newton was excused for the remainder of the meeting.

Committee member indicated their intention to continue raising hands to seek recognition as it is a good meeting practice. Objection heard that this is viewed as disruptive, intimidating, and in view of the conversation at the committee meeting, is seen as a form of a minority attempting to bully the majority or individual members of the Committee.

Chair Kutz noted inquired if the Committee would be interested in seeing a presentation regarding respectful behavior that the EAP office provides. General agreement heard that this would be of interest.

Thanks were expressed to Chair Kutz for his leadership of the Committee.

At 3:40pm, Ms. Droes moved, seconded by Mr. Petters, to adjourn the meeting. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: J. Lease / Secretary