

## **Governance, Communications and Recruitment (GoCore) Committee Meeting of Faculty Senate**

January 19, 2021

3:00 PM-5:00PM

**Attendees:** Maria Collins (Co-Chair), Burak Erdim, Chad Jordan, Meagan Kittle Autry, Barbara Kirby (Co-Chair), Andrey Kuznetsov, Troy Pinkins,

**Absent:** Joan Nicholas-Walker

### **Action Items**

- Maria and Barbara will work with Joni on an email to all faculty explaining the registration process for regular faculty meetings for the semester. Joni will send this out from the Faculty Senate office.
- Barbara will follow up with point people for each college to identify the lead senators. She will share with them the document outlining the role of the lead senator created by GoCore.
- Joni will follow up with Nancy Whelchel to determine the dates for the election schedule.
- Talk to Joni about the idea of creating a slide of brief talking points outlining the protocol of each meeting. This would include noting that guests have view only access for the meetings, instructions for how guests should submit questions, and identify the primary focus of the meeting (which is conducting the business of the Senate).
- Meagan will follow up with Joni about past communications that have gone out about the Faculty Senate and recruitment to begin shaping communication pieces that can be used for template emails and/or articles for the Provost's newsletter related to recruitment.
- All committee members should review the committee task spreadsheet to identify 1 or 2 more goals to focus on this semester.

### **Discussion**

1. Executive Committee update
  - Regular Faculty Senate meetings moving to webinar format
    - Some connectivity issues reported in respect to the webinar.
    - Working out the permissions with Delta so that registered guests are automatically allowed in at the meeting time.
    - Meeting went very well considering it was the first time in this format. Maria and Barbara will work with Joni on the updates to settings and continue to make adjustments as we receive feedback from the faculty.
  - Hans would like each committee to provide a 5-10 minute update at a regular faculty senate meeting. Need to clarify date for update
    - GoCore's report should focus on recruitment and getting support of the senators
    - GoCore will be moving forward with coordinating communication with lead senators for each college.
  - Later on this spring, Jade and Phil will be leading a discussion during the regular faculty meeting about areas of concern for faculty related to university climate.

- One GoCore related topic included incorporating a one-day orientation for senators at the beginning of a new Chair's tenure. This is based on previous practice.
  - The one-day orientation would include:
    - Review of bylaws,
    - Discussion of how the Senate functions
    - Discussion of the new Chair's agenda for the Senate ( one or two areas of focus)
- Another topic included providing support for the Chair in respect to follow through and organization.
  - This could be a potential role for the Associate Chair.
  - Maria provided feedback to the Executive group that GoCore's charge could continue to be refined to allow the committee to be of more assistance.

## 2. Update on recruitment and assigning lead senators

- GoCore will work with Joni on an email to all faculty about the calendar registration for Hans to send out.
- Joni will work with Delta to adjust settings to ensure that:
  - Senators are able to chat with one another.
  - Guests will have access to all questions that are part of the Q&A.
- Everyone agreed that Phil Sannes did a great job moderating the Q&A.
- GoCore has received feedback from several faculty members expressing their appreciation about the expanded access to the Faculty Senate meetings.
- A suggestion was provided to include a slide at the beginning of each Faculty Senate meeting that reviewed the protocol of the meeting. Hans could also read a brief script
- Recruitment discussion and lead senator updates
  - Barbara is reaching out to point people from each college for assistance in determining a lead senator per college.
  - Joni is contacting current senators to determine who is running again for re-election. This will help us determine how many spots GoCore needs to help recruit for.
  - Joni has reached out to Nancy Whelchel about the election timeline.
  - Faculty senate office will need names of senators who are running with bios by the end of February.
  - The committee further discussed the role of the lead senator:
    - Ensure the senators are not overwhelmed. At the least, we need a point person for communications.
    - Respect the different ways that each college communicates and functions.
    - Might be good to collaborate with the college's communication team on FS updates
    - Provide materials to help lead senators recruit

- This might include sample emails.
    - Provide deadlines and information about the FS position as well as the committee positions.
  - Provost's Newsletter
    - Need to request materials that usually go out to Faculty, so we can pull together an article for the Provost's Newsletter to help out with recruitment.
    - Discussed looking through last year's student reports for information to pull in about why people volunteer for Faculty Senate work.
  - Once lead senators are identified and materials and talking points are prepped, the committee should conduct an orientation for the lead senators explaining how their role and addressing any questions.
3. Fall review
- Accomplishments:
    - Created tracking spreadsheet for committee work
    - Wrote proposal for and implemented shift of senate meetings to webinar format
    - Wrote proposal describing lead senator role and outlined ways that lead senators and GoCore can support the recruitment process.
    - Provided regular communications to the Faculty Senate office.
  - Feedback
    - Subgroups often have overlapping goals and tasks.
    - Keep the teams but do not break out into separate groups so all folks can contribute to meeting topics.
    - Figure out ways to further distribute committee work.
    - Like the use of the Google folder for the committee.
    - Hoping communication out to all senators will improve with the lead senator role.
    - Look for times when Joni would like to attend our meetings
    - Create better alignment between what the Chair of the Faculty and Senate Office needs and the charge of GoCore.
4. Spring goals
- Outstanding to do's to complete
    - Support for recruitment including
      - Contacting/identifying lead senators
      - Working out how to help Joni with the recruitment and election process
      - Document recruitment calendar
    - Provost's Newsletter
  - Other goals for the spring – committee members should review our committee task spreadsheet to identify 1 or 2 other action goals to accomplish this semester.