

4-3-2017

Campus Assembly minutes 04/03/2017

Campus Assembly

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/camp_assembly

Recommended Citation

Campus Assembly, "Campus Assembly minutes 04/03/2017" (2017). *Campus Assembly*. 39.
http://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/camp_assembly/39

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus Governance at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Campus Assembly by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

Campus Assembly Meeting
April 3, 2017

I. Chancellor's Remarks.

Chancellor Behr gave the following remarks: "A couple of weeks ago, I attended the annual meeting of the American Council of Education, a conference that I have attended for many years – but this time was my first in the role of chancellor. For those not familiar with ACE, it is an organization that represents and advocates at the federal level on behalf of almost 1800 colleges and universities. It is a conference well attended by campus leaders from a cross-section of American higher education. While there are concurrent sessions at the conference, there is always a separate track for presidents and chancellors, designed to surface issues that are top of mind. It may not be a surprise to you to learn that no fewer than four sessions, including a plenary, featured explicit conversations, presentations, and panels that addressed an issue that is not unfamiliar to UMM. Here are the four session titles: 'Navigating the tension between freedom of expression and campus inclusion', 'Freedom of expression and safe spaces', 'Finding common ground: campus inclusion and free speech', and 'When the middle ground is the high ground: free speech and the university'.

In these sessions the point was made more than once that Americans have more and more retreated into echo chambers: we live mostly near people who are like ourselves, we listen to media that represent political viewpoints that reinforce our own beliefs, our public schools are largely segregated, and our individual churches, synagogues, and mosques attract worshipers of like mind. We are divided economically, by political party, by race, educational attainment, and in so many other ways. And even more distressing, it has become harder and harder to have thoughtful conversations across our divided selves.

Colleges and universities represent one of the few institutions where difference, diversity, inclusion, and discussion are core values. At the same time, when individuals encounter others who differ from themselves, it is sometimes difficult to hear past our own preconceptions and beliefs while honoring everyone's right to be respected and heard. Even on college campuses with a heterogeneous mix of students, it is possible for a student to graduate without ever having had a serious discussion with someone different from themselves on race. Collectively, we espouse these core values but live them imperfectly.

I certainly did not anticipate that when I arrived here in February I would shortly encounter a controversy that exactly embodied this tension. But I do anticipate that it will not be the last time in my tenure where these seemingly conflicting values arise.

There are plenty of examples from campuses across the country where freedom of expression of all political persuasions has clashed –with unhappy results – with calls to suppress views that some find objectionable. Justice Brandeis' concurring language in the case of *Whitney v. California* in 1927, though archaic in language, is certainly contemporary in spirit, and I think is as true today as it was when he wrote it:

"...no danger flowing from speech can be deemed clear and present, unless the incidence of the evil apprehended is so imminent that it may befall before there is opportunity for full discussion. If there be time to expose through discussion the falsehood and fallacies, to avert the evil by the processes of education, the remedy to be applied is more speech, not enforced silence."

This is our challenge and our particular responsibility: to ensure that we continue to be a community that finds the right balance... One that encourages us to celebrate our differences and leaves space for us to respectfully express our disagreements on the meaning and nature of those differences; one that welcomes speech while still ensuring that we maintain an environment where everyone is included and feels able to be who they are. And where all of us learn from each other in the process."

II. For Action. From the Steering Committee. Amended minutes from 3/1/17 Campus Assembly meeting approved. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

III. Old Business.

A. **For Information.** From the Constitution Review Committee. Revised amendment group 5.

Michael Korth reported that changes were made to the proposed revised amendment group 5 based on feedback from the last Campus Assembly meeting. A summary of changes is attached.

IV. New Business.

A. **For Action. From the Functions & Awards Committee. Scholar of the College nominations approved as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

Elena Machkasova, Chair of Functions & Awards, explained that the Scholar of the College awards are selective and are presented annually to students who have demonstrated distinguished contributions to scholarship (e.g. research, artistic endeavor, performance) in one or more of the academic disciplines. Students must have met at least one of the following criteria: 1) presentation at a regional, national, or international conference; 2) co-authorship on a conference paper but not presentation; 3) peer-reviewed publication, either sole author or co-author; or 4) an artistic endeavor or performance that was reviewed by experts in the field outside of UMM and considered to be distinguished. Additionally, she was asked to make clear that participation in the URS does not qualify as an external achievement. Suggestions and improvements to the Scholar of the College are always welcome.

B. **For Information.** From the Membership Committee. Introduction of nominees for Steering, Consultative, Membership and Parliamentarian.

The Membership Committee reported there will be several elections held this spring using Simply Voting. The nominees are as follows:

Steering Committee:

Faculty: Siobhan Bremer, Dave Roberts
P&A: LeAnn Dean, Jennifer Herrmann, Bridget Joos

Membership Committee:

Faculty: Margaret Kuchenreuther, Barry McQuarrie, Mark Logan (Science & Math)
Bibhu Panda, Kevin Whelan (Social Science)
* No Education or Humanities vacancy
P&A: Dave Israels-Swenson, Tom Ladner, Matt Zaske
USA: Jana Koehler, Adele Lawler

Consultative Committee:

Faculty: Viktor Berberi, Lisa Bevevino, Sarah Buchanan, Windy Roberts
P&A: Peter Bremer, Michael Cihak
USA: Alisande Allaben, Janel Mendoza, Jeri Squier, Sheila Windingstad

Parliamentarian:

Nancy Carpenter
Tim Lindberg

V. Campus Committee Reports.

Michelle Page, co-chair of Consultative Committee, reported that sometime during the 2014-15 academic year, concerns were expressed to the Consultative Committee about the amount of work that is required as a discipline

coordinator. These positions are not in a organizational chart and there were workload concerns that led to morale issues. During the fall of 2015-16, a survey was developed and a brief report was compiled based on that feedback. Generally, respondents think discipline coordinator positions should be incentivized but not necessarily monetarily. The report has been passed on to the Faculty and P&A Affairs committee for them to pursue, as they so desire.

Rebecca Dean, chair of Assessment, reported that disciplines should have received an email from assessment about: 1) the schedule of assessment activities for the next few semesters; and 2) feedback on your student learning outcomes. The committee has given feedback and guidance where requested and they are willing to help at every stage.

VI. All University Reports.

Peh Ng, UMM's Faculty Representative on the all-U Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs (SCFA) shared that a proposal to add a new section, "Modified Duties: Parenting Accommodations" to the Administrative Procedures for Reviewing Tenure and Promotion for Tenured and Tenure-track Faculty was discussed at the March 21st SCFA meeting. The proposed policy aims to ensure that adjustment to new family commitments (birth, adoption, or foster care) does not adversely affect the faculty member's academic career. This provision is separate or different from other U of MN policies such as parental leave, unpaid leave, or extension of the probationary period. The modified duties could include relief from teaching and could span over a period of a semester.

Janet Ericksen said her term on the Faculty Consultative Committee is ending at the end of this academic year. She encouraged faculty members to contact her if they have questions about serving on this committee.

Kristin Lamberty, UMM's representative on ULTA "University Learning Technology Advisors" said there is lots of discussion around Canvas and Moodle learning management system. Both are going away at the end of this semester. The committee will be providing a recommendation – input from campuses will be forwarded and considered as part of the recommendation process. A detailed timeline will be shared with the committee.

VII. Announcements.

A. General announcements.

Katie Ledermann reported on the recent MCSA election. Elsie Wilson and Ruby Debellis are the next MCSA President and Vice President, respectively.

VIII. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Revised Amendment Group 5 Summary

To: Steering Committee
From: Constitution Review Committee (David Israels-Swenson, Matt Zaske, Michael Korth)
Re: Revised Amendment Group 5

We have made five small modifications to the Group 5 Amendments that were presented to the Campus Assembly on March 1, 2017. They are:

1. In By-Laws Article IV, Section 2, Subd. C, insert "Voters may partially abstain by choosing to rank only some of the candidates on a ballot." This preserves an explicit rule currently in the By-Laws that some members of the Campus Assembly have expressed a desire to keep.
2. In Constitution, Article VI, Section 1, Subd. B, insert "All members of the Campus Assembly may vote in the elections of the vice chair and the parliamentarian." This is intended to add clarity.

3. In Constitution, Article VI, Section 1, Subd. B, change

"The other members shall be elected next, by their constituents, . . ."

to

"The ~~other~~ faculty, P&A staff, student, and USA staff members shall be elected next, by their constituents, . . ."

4. In Constitution, Article VI, Section 1, Subd. B, insert "Finally, the parliamentarian is elected for a term of two years." This adds clarity to the term of the parliamentarian.

5. In Constitution, Article VIII, Section 2, Subd. C, change

"To administer elections ~~prepare election slates~~ for the vice chair and faculty and P&A positions on the Steering Committee, ~~on the Membership Committee, and~~ for the position of parliamentarian, . . ."

to

"To administer elections ~~prepare election slates~~ for the vice chair, faculty, P&A, and parliamentarian positions on the Steering Committee, ~~on the Membership Committee, and~~ ~~for the position of parliamentarian, . . .~~"

For your convenience, these new changes are highlighted in green in the attached document.

We are now putting these forward for a vote by the members of the Campus Assembly. If you decide they should be presented again at a meeting of the Campus Assembly before the vote, we can be ready to explain the revisions.

Revised Amendment Group 5

CONSTITUTION Article VI. Steering Committee

Section 1. Organization

- B. Committee members shall be elected ~~at a spring semester assembly meeting~~ late each spring semester. Only members of Campus Assembly are eligible to be on the Steering Committee. All members of the Campus Assembly may vote in the elections of the vice chair and the parliamentarian. The vice chair shall be elected first for a term of one year and then serve as chair for the next year. The other faculty, P&A staff, student, and USA staff members shall be elected next, by their constituents, terms being one year for students and two years on a staggered basis for others. Finally, the parliamentarian is elected for a term of two years. There are no restrictions on reelection. Vacancies shall be filled by special election.

Article VIII. Membership Committee

Section 1. Organization

- A. The Membership Committee consists of four faculty members (one from each division), one P&A staff, two USA staff, and two students.

Committee members shall be elected to two-year terms, with the exception of student members who are elected to one-year terms, at a meeting of the Campus Assembly late each spring semester. The terms of members shall be staggered so as to provide some continuity of experience. Members are elected by their constituencies. Only members of Campus Assembly are eligible for election to the Membership Committee. A vacancy shall be filled by special election. In the spring, Before the end of spring semester, the continuing and newly elected members of the committee elects its their own chair for the forthcoming years from among its returning members.

Section 2. Responsibilities

The Membership Committee has the following responsibilities:

- A. To recommend all membership and designate chairs of all standing and ad hoc committees. This shall be done during the spring semester for the ensuing academic year. Full committee rosters, except four student slots on core standing assembly committees (reserved for MCSA First-Year Committee members), will be brought for action to the last Campus Assembly meeting of the spring semester.
- B. To ensure the proper elections of members of the Campus Assembly by the Morris Campus Student Association (MCSA) and the United Staff Association (USA) as specified in Article IV, Section 7.
- C. To administer elections ~~prepare election slates~~ for the vice chair, faculty, P&A, and parliamentarian positions on the Steering Committee, ~~on the Membership Committee, and for the position of parliamentarian,~~ and for the faculty and P&A positions on the Consultative Committee.
- D. To report to the Campus Assembly the results of USA and student elections of members of the Steering Committee and of the Consultative Committee.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS BY-LAWS

Section 8. Student Affairs Committee

- B. Responsibilities

The Student Affairs Committee develops, reviews, and recommends policy for student activities and services, such as housing, health, food, athletics, financial aid, campus events, and student behavior. It has the power to grant recognition to student organizations and to approve their constitutions and by-laws, as well as to review and approve subsequent amendments. It provides for the enforcement of procedures and regulations to maintain appropriate standards of conduct within the student community. It develops and **implements monitors compliance with** rules and procedures for all campus-wide student elections.

Article IV. Election of Members to the Steering, Membership, and Consultative Committees, and to the Position of Parliamentarian

Section 1. Election of Members to the Membership Committee

A. Election by Constituencies

Members of the Membership Committee shall be elected by their constituencies. The faculty in each division will elect one member. P&A staff will elect one member. USA staff will elect two members. Students will elect two members. Each constituency will determine its own process and will notify the Steering Committee of election results.

B. Assumption of Office

Newly elected members of the Membership Committee shall participate in meetings as non-voting members upon election and take office the day after spring commencement.

Section 2 Election of Members to the Steering and Consultative Committees

A. ~~Section 1.~~ Nominations

Two weeks prior to the elections, the Membership Committee shall **actively solicit an adequate number of timely nominations by** announcing to all Campus Assembly members which committee members' terms are expiring and which are continuing **and shall request nominations for the open positions for which it administers elections.** Nominations shall be open for 10 days **and there must be at least one more candidate than there are openings for each category of position.** Continuing members of the Membership Committee shall contact each nominated person to ascertain whether the person is willing to serve.

For all Steering and Membership elections, the assembly shall be presented with a choice of candidates. For faculty and P&A Consultative elections, the constituencies shall be presented with a choice of candidates. There must be at least one more candidate than there are openings for each category of position. If, for example, two student positions are open, at least three candidates must be brought forward for the vote. The Membership Committee shall actively solicit an adequate number of timely nominations for each open position. Should there not be at least one more candidate than there are openings for any position, then the election for that position will be postponed until the next Campus Assembly meeting.

B. ~~Section 2.~~ Sequential Elections

For each open position, there is a separate election, administered by the Membership Committee. Election results are announced before subsequent elections proceed. This structure recognizes that voters may have concern for balance, and previous votes may affect subsequent preferences.

Elections are held in the following order: Vice chair of the Steering Committee; other **faculty and P&A** positions on the Steering Committee; **positions on the Membership Committee;** faculty and P&A positions on the Consultative Committee; parliamentarian.

C. **Section 3.** Instant Runoff Voting

All elections managed by the Membership Committee will use single-transferable-vote instant runoff voting. Voters may partially abstain by choosing to rank only some of the candidates on a ballot. At least fifty percent of the eligible voters must vote in order for the result to be considered valid. Reasonable accommodations must be provided for those requiring alternative voting options.

A. **Voting Procedure**

For each election, voters rank their preferences, the number "1" indicating first choice, the number "2" indicating second choice, etc., omitting their least preferred candidate. Voters may partially abstain by omitting more of the candidates, but then their ballots may be discarded at some point in the counting process.

B. **Counting Procedure**

A candidate who has a majority of first place votes is the winner.

If there is no such candidate, then the candidate or candidates with the fewest first place votes are removed from contention and their ballots are distributed to the remaining candidates according to second choices. A candidate who then has a majority of the ballots is the winner.

If there is still no winning candidate, the process continues with the last place candidate or candidates being removed and their ballots being distributed to the remaining candidates according to highest choices until one candidate has a majority of the ballots. This candidate then is the winner.

C. **Ties**

A tie occurs when all candidates in contention have the exact same number of ballots for them. Ties are resolved by an immediate revote among just these candidates by the same instant runoff procedure.

D. **Section 4.** Assumption of Office

Newly elected members of the Steering and Consultative Committees take office the day after spring commencement. Newly elected members of the Membership Committee shall participate in meetings as non-voting members upon election and take office the day after spring commencement. A newly elected parliamentarian takes office the day after spring commencement.

E. **Section 5.** Vacancies

In the event that the chair of the Steering Committee cannot serve the remainder of the year, the vice chair shall become the chair and a special election shall be held at the next meeting of the Campus Assembly to elect a new vice chair. For other vacancies, a special election shall be held at the next meeting of the Campus Assembly to fill the vacancy. For all special elections, the protocols described in Sections 1-3 shall be followed.