Minutes
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 3, 2016 – 4:00 p.m. – 203 Green Hall

Approved December 1, 2016
MEMBERS PRESENT: Joe Harrington, Pam Keller, Cecile Accilien, Ron Barrett-Gonzalez, Naima Boussofara, Ben Chappell, Kelly Chong, Jonathan Clark, Chris Elles, Christopher Fischer, Ruben Flores, Sandra Gray, Elspeth Healey, Kissan Joseph, Margaret Marco, Paul Outka, Bozena Pasik-Duncan, Meagan Patterson, Edward Peltier, Tom Prisinzano, Lance Rake, Angela Rathmel, Suzanne Shontz, Geraldo Sousa, Bill Staples, Belinda Sturm

ABSENT: Mary Banwart, Tom Beisecker (excused), Pam Fine (excused), Lisa Friis, Jane Gibson, Megan Greene (excused), Lynn Hancock (excused), Elizabeth MacGonagle (excused), Jason Matejkowski (excused), Amalia Monroe-Gulick (excused), Roberta Freund Schwartz, Dean Stetler

ALSO PRESENT: Maureen Altman and Kathy Reed, University Governance; Lisa Wolf-Wendel, Co-Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee

President Pam Keller called the meeting to order, announced that the meeting was recorded and asked for announcements. She announced that although only six minutes remained, due to the length of the University Senate meeting, the Faculty Senate won’t be extended.

MINUTES for October 6, 2016 were approved.

REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT
Keller said that she had nothing to add to her University Senate report.

UNITY AND COMMUNITY
Keller pointed out that the diversity and inclusion dialog already started at the previous University Senate discussion with the Multicultural Student Government representatives. Intending to begin looking at what faculty might do to support efforts on campus, including those of the DEI committee, Keller explained that the agenda of today’s meeting had been to have Shannon Portillo, Co-Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee and three speakers share their ideas. Liz MacGonagle and Portillo were unable to attend at the last minute; Keller thanked Lisa Wolf-Wendel, Co-Chair of DEI, for agreeing to step in for Portillo and expressed that, while there was not time for her to speak, she hoped that the MSG discussion during University Senate had been helpful for her DEI work. Wolf-Wendel agreed it had been. Senator Ruben Flores, Associate Professor of American Studies spoke in the time remaining. He said that it is well-know that the university needs a diverse faculty to attract diverse students and added that speakers who have dealt with diversity issues are also needed. Flores made two observations. First, the diversity initiative shouldn’t skip over pressure points like tenure, hiring, redress systems, and lack of diversity training; lack of conversation weakens. Second, although we hear talk is cheap and actions are what’s needed, conversations matter and more structures for conversations are needed. Keller said that presentations and discussions will continue at the next meeting. Ron Barrett-Gonzalez said he wants to hear from the Chancellor or her designee about plans for help to create a more diverse faculty.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None.
NEW BUSINESS
None.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Altman

MEETING MATERIALS

http://provost.ku.edu/diversity-and-inclusion-action-steps