



**Minutes of the Meeting
December 4, 2018**

The fourth regular meeting of the Boston University Faculty Council for the 2018-2019 Session was held on December 4 at 3:30 p.m. in the Kenmore Conference Room, 1 Silber Way. Cataldo Leone, Chair of the Faculty Council, presided over the meeting.

Officers and Committee Chairs								
X	Leone, Cataldo	Chair	GSDM	X	O’Keefe, Eileen	Faculty Policies	SAR	
X	Dixon, J. Robb	Past Chair	QST		Howard, Kimberly A.S.	Graduate Programs	WCEHD	
X	O’Keefe, Eileen	Secretary-Treasurer	SAR			Media/Communication		
X	Hamilton, James	Academic Freedom	MED		Henderson, Andy	Research	MED	
X	Hoecherl-Alden, Gisela	Awards	CAS	X	Hughes, Jeffrey	Student Policies	CAS	
X	Smith, Don	Compensation and Benefits	QST		J. Robb Dixon	Sustainability	QST	
X	Brady, Steve	Credentials and By-laws	MED	X	Kinraide, Rebecca	Teaching Resources	CAS	
X	Cozier, Yvette	Equity and Inclusion	SPH		O’Brien Hallstein, D. Lynn	Undergraduate Programs	CGS	
Representatives and Alternates								
X	Abbott, Jodi (R)	MED	X	Furman, Jeff (R)	QST		Oberhaus, Stephanie (R)	MED
	Abrams, Binjamin (R)	CAS		Gapotchenko, Maria (R)	CAS		Palumbo, Carole (R)	MED
X	Amato, Felice (R)	CFA		Garik Peter (A)	WCEHD		Perls, Thomas (R)	MED
	Ampountolas, Apostolos (R)	SHA	X	Gavornik, Jeffrey (R)	CAS	X	Pesanelli, Kelly (A)	SAR
X	Andres, Andy (R)	CGS		Gopalan, Srikanth (R)	ENG	X	Pita Loor, Karen (A)	LAW
X	Austin, Judy (A)	COM		Griffin, Sue (R)	CAS	X	Powers, Gina (R)	QST
	Beaton, Jamie (A)	CELOP		Hopper, Clay (A)	CFA		Quatromoni, Paula (A)	SAR
	Bor, Jacob (R)	SPH		Huckle, Nicholas (R)	CAS	X	Rafeizadeh, Safoura (R)	COM
X	Brandwine, Joel (R)	CFA		Jafarzadeh, S. Reza (R)	MED	X	Reed, Marnie (R)	WCEHD
	Breehan, James (A)	CFA					Schulman, Bruce (A)	CAS
	Byttebier, Stephanie (A)	CGS	X	Kealy, Sean (R)	LAW	X	Sebastiani, Paola (R)	SPH
X	Chang, Charles (R)	CAS	X	Kirby Jones, Alison (A)	QST	X	Sullivan, Soydan, Anne (R)	SAR
X	Chogle, Sami (R)	GSDM		Klinger, Julie (R)	Pardee	XX	Sungu-Erylimaz, Yesim (R)	MET
X	Choi, Hee An (A)	GSDM		Liu, Ching-Ti (A)	SPH		Unger, Barry (A)	MET
	D’Amato, Laura (A)	LAW	X	Liu, Chunyu (R)	SPH		Ünlü, Selim (R)	ENG
	Dashoush, Nermeen (A)	WCEHD		Lopez, Luz (A)	SSW	X	Volk, Robert (R)	LAW
	Davies-Heerema, Theresa (R)	MED		Lynch, Shawn (A)	CGS		Watts, Stephanie (R)	QST
	Decosimo, David (R)	STH	X	Masters, Joellen (R)	CGS	X	Webster, Kathryn (A)	SAR
X	DeNatale, Doug (A)	MET	X	McLaughlin, Donna (R)	SSW	X	White, Roberta (A)	SPH
	Dibart, Serge (A)	GSDM	X	Miller, Margo (R)	CELOP	X	Will, Leslie (R)	GSDM
	Doherty, Mary-Jane (R)	COM	X	Mochida, Yoshiyuki (A)	GSDM	X	Williams, Mark (R)	QST
X	El Hachem, Lea (R)	GSDM		Mody, Makarand (A)	SHA		Wippl, Joe (A)	Pardee
	Ellenwood, Stephan (R)	WCEHD		Mulvihill, Maggie (A)	COM	X	Zlatev, Vladimir (R)	MET
	Errante, Margaret (A)	GSDM	X	Myers, Samantha (R)	CAS			
	Feng, Hui (R)	MED		Nentwich, Lauren (R)	MED			
	Fernandez-Val, Ivan (R)	CAS						

I. Secretary's Report: Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the November 1, 2018 Faculty Council meeting were approved.

II. Guest: Gloria Waters, Associate Provost for Research

Dr. Waters joined the meeting for a general discussion about research administration and initiatives. The Faculty Council sent questions prior to the meeting. Dr. Waters described the structure of her office and identified key staff members.

Noting that the Strategic Planning Task Force is charged to think about the future direction of the University, the Council asked Dr. Waters what the University's research profile should be in 2030. Dr. Waters said that she wants to see an increase in the volume of the University's research funding and an increase in the number of faculty who are research active. Dr. Waters' has been charged to foster multidisciplinary research. In the past year, the University received 486 million dollars in research funding; the Carbox grant accounts for a sizeable portion of the funding. In the short-term future, there are signature grants and training grants available for a variety of disciplines.

The Faculty Council asked if the research enterprise will shift towards data sciences and AI. Dr. Waters said there is not a plan to shift away from other disciplines, but to add data sciences and AI to current research. In the past, the University has selected areas to research to pursue and expand; data sciences and AI fall into this category.

The Faculty Council noted that we need more senior faculty to secure large research grants. Is there a plan to recruit more senior faculty? Dr. Waters said that this is not easy to do, but the best chance of success is to recruit faculty who are in Boston. The University supports this approach. A Council member asked if the University will consider recruiting associate professors with tenure. She said this does happen. A Council member said that the timeline for hiring is usually set for one academic year, but hiring a senior faculty member is really a multiyear process. Is it possible to extend the timeline for senior searches? Dr. Waters said that this is possible.

The Faculty Council asked about mentorship for applying for training grants. Dr. Waters said there is a Kerberos-protected list of faculty who have succeeded in getting these grants.

The Faculty Council informed Dr. Waters that there are concerns among the faculty about the visibility and of research in the humanities and social sciences because much of the research infrastructure is built around the STEM fields. Thinking ahead to the 2030 and the University's strategic plan, what does a commitment to humanities and social sciences look like? Dr. Waters said that her staff have biweekly meetings to find ways to highlight research in humanities and social sciences on the University's research website and with BU Today and the alumni publications. She also acknowledged that research funding is the metric for a research university. Foundations are the source for humanities and social sciences funding and her office will assist faculty in applying for these grants.

The Faculty Council raised a concern about the loss of the Granby street parking lot. The data sciences building will remove all parking that is adjacent to Sargent College and it will not have a parking garage. A number of faculty who conduct research with patients in the building have voiced serious concerns about this, as patients seen in the clinics use the Granby lot. The Council asked if the Administration realizes the impact the loss of this space has on all the research, clinical and academic programs in Sargent? It could have major impacts on recruitment for on-going and new studies. For example, one faculty member just received an NIH R01 award and will recruit over 100 persons with Parkinson's disease who will need to come to Sargent for 12 visits each – so over 1200 visits and need for parking – and that's only one study. Sargent has over 800 visits a year for people with Parkinson's seeking physical therapy services. These patients are not able to cross Commonwealth Ave, so parking in Warren Towers is not an option. Nor is that an option for the stroke patients in the Aphasia Center seen at Sargent. Having patients is central to the core of Sargent's mission. The Council asked if the Administration actively working on this problem. Is some sort of valet parking possible? Dr. Waters said that the University is not going to build parking garages or basements. The back alley behind Sargent has parking spaces and it will be dedicated to patients and research subjects. The alley will be paved and additional work will be done to make the space accessible.

The Faculty Council asked about the rules for compliance with animal welfare regulations. Animal users often have to follow and abide by regulations that have nothing to do with compliance yet significantly compromise research productivity, or increase workload of caregivers. This is caused either by implementing part of daily operation of one species to another, or by personal preference from the ASC or other regulatory offices. Regulations are set without discussing with animal users yet ask animal users to abide these rules. Otherwise, the users would be punished by paying extra cost, etc. Dr. Waters said that there are regulations for animal research and we must follow the rules, but we do not have to do more than what the rules require. Rao Varada, the Director of the Animal Science Center, holds animal user groups and reports that these meetings are sparsely attended by faculty. Dr. Waters encouraged those who have input about the regulations to contact Mr. Varada and join the user group.

The Faculty Council passed along a note of appreciation for the establishment of the new Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Office (IBRO), which lead to the establishment of a vibrant Microbiome ARC. The Council asked if there are any new initiatives in the works? Dr. Waters said that the IBRO currently provides seed funds to bring MED and CRC faculty together.

The Faculty Council reported that many faculty would like a structured and rigorous mentoring program to support junior faculty and a consistent policy on teaching release. Dr. Waters said that there are plans to establish a formal process to support mentorship of junior faculty. She noted that there is not a lot done for professional development for graduate students. Provost Morrison has funded a post doc in Wheelock to focus on professional development programs for graduate students and their mentors.

The Faculty Council asked how faculty may apply for funding from Mr. Kilachand's gift to the University. Dr. Waters said that the gift is earmarked for nexus list science and engineering research. A call has been sent to basic science researchers; the deadline for the white paper is December 15, 2018. The

grant will be for up to one million dollars per year for five years. Dr. Waters said she believes this will lead to positive collaborative efforts that may secure external grants, too.

The Faculty Council raised a concern about the turnover of research support staff. This has been a source of frustration for the research faculty. Dr. Waters said the University intends to increase salaries for research staff. Also, the University is about to implement an employee referral program. She is working with Human Resources to offer current BU employees a five hundred dollar bonus if they recruit a research staff member, plus another bonus if the new employee stays for a certain period of time.

A Council member said that there is also strong interest among the teaching faculty to pursue research and asked what resources are available to them. Dr. Waters asked sort of support would be helpful. The Council member said that it is hard to comprehend the research landscape and know how to navigate the system, where to apply for funding, etc. Dr. Waters said that her office can help with this and they will be more explicit when it advertises its programs and workshops that these events are open to teaching faculty.

III. Guest: Elizabeth Loizeaux, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs

Elizabeth Loizeaux, Associate Provost of Undergraduate Affairs, joined the meeting to discuss the new transfer credit policy for the BU HUB. She explained the challenges of the undertaking: how to evaluate prior coursework; how to decide what curricula meets HUB requirements; how to establish a consistent policy for transfer students and four-year students, etc. The working group reviewed data about current transfer students, looked at policies at peer institutions, and considered several possibilities. The working group wanted to ensure that transfer students receive the full benefit of the BU Hub and have a clear understanding of how their prior coursework will be credited towards their degree. Transfer students will not receive credit for BU Hub units; they will receive credit towards their degree requirements for their major or minor. Transfer students will be required to take one course from each of the six BU Hub units. AP credits will be accepted to fulfill HUB credits. There are plans to offer on-line summer courses to transfer students that will help them satisfy the HUB requirements.

A general discussion followed. Council members said their colleagues are concerned that it will be harder for transfer students in some schools to complete their education in four years; others said their colleagues think that transfer students should complete more than six units. A Council member asked if this policy will be sent through eDAAP. Dr. Loizeaux said it will not; this policy is more administrative, as the Office of Admissions manages the admission of transfer students. Some Council members objected to this, and pointed out that the transfer policy is academic, not administrative, as it addresses requirements for the degree. Changes to the curriculum and degree requirements are the provenance of faculty governance. A Council member noted that twenty-five percent (25%) of the graduating class are transfer students and this policy should be sent through eDAAP and presented to University Council for approval.

IV. New business and adjournment

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen O'Keefe
Secretary-treasurer