

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2022

Present: Joseph Fera, Anne Rice, Sarah Ohmer, Susan Markens, Sunyata Smith, Blessing Babalola, Aryeh Kalb, Peter Nwosu. Guests: Bridget Barbara, David Manier.

1. Approval of Minutes from November meeting.

- a. Small corrections, minutes approved

(Bridget volunteered to take the minutes at the next meeting.)

2. FGL Discussion Senate Meeting Modalities

- a. Some campuses drafted resolutions

- b. Some campuses made use of the Trustees' resolution

- c. Some schools that decided to do remote modality have had issues with quorum – unlike Lehman; remote modality campuses have not resolved the “extraordinary circumstances” and simply allow people to log on if they need to attend virtually; in person quorum must be met, whether meeting is in person or hybrid. Concerns around voting – has to be the same whether remote or in person – difficulty figuring this out.

- d. Discussion ensued on the open meetings law. Clarifications regarding in person quorum required, and resolution needing to have a plan for committees and subcommittees to have in person quorum as well. We also discussed the issue of access for voting Senators who have extenuating circumstances and are not going to Senate meetings. Since we are meeting quorum we are not considering a resolution to open meetings law. Discussion closed. Open meetings law excerpt was shared in the chat for reference:

A public body may, in its discretion, use videoconferencing to

41 conduct its meetings pursuant to the requirements of this article

42 provided that a minimum number of members are present to fulfill the

43 public body's quorum requirement in the same physical location or

44 locations where the public can attend and the following criteria are

45 met:

(a) the governing board of a county, city, town or village has adopted a local law, or a public body has adopted a resolution, or the senate and assembly have adopted a joint resolution, following a public hearing, authorizing the use of videoconferencing:

(i) for itself and its committees or subcommittees; or,

(ii) specifying that each committee or subcommittee may make its own determination.....

3. January Meeting Date

- a. Jan 18 11am

4. Spring Elections

- a. Senators At-Large
- b. Committee Faculty Vacancy Replacements
 - i. March 1 – March 15, Committee Solicitation
 - ii. March 29 – April 17, At Large Nominations (Spring Break 4/5-4/13)
 - iii. May 1 – May 15, At Large Elections

Will present these dates at February Senate meeting; went over suggestions for different dates.

5. Request for new business item

- a. Accommodating Senators/ access to Senate meeting for voting members via Zoom (outside of open meetings law).