

**Washington University in St. Louis**  
**Minutes of Faculty Senate Council Specially-Called Meeting**

March 19, 2020

Attending: Leila Sadat, Timothy McBride, David Balota, Kim Carmichael, Douglas Dowd, Derek Hoeflerlin, Darrel Hudson, Stephen Nowlis, Vijay Ramani, Guillermo Rosas, Douglas Schuerer, Victoria Thomas, Linda Tsai, Renee Van Stavern, Chancellor Andrew Martin, Provost Marion Crain.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

**1. Chancellor's Report—Andrew Martin, Chancellor**

A lot of decisions have needed to be made in a period of significant uncertainty because of the Coronavirus situation. In terms of the students, the situation is a bit different for undergraduate and graduate students. The timing in many could not have been worse for when it hit near us, when we needed to transition. The path of the infectious disease hit near spring break, and led to decision to not come back. We mostly did not want student to pick up infection and then come back here. We closed the campus an extra week, and then will open up for inline education only. We could not allow the students to come pick up their stuff; all essential material have been shipped by this week. We have 400 undergraduates still living in the dorms or in apartments spread across about 57 buildings. We may choose to consolidate students at some point if we need to free up beds if needed.

Our graduate and professional students will continue to be paid. Some have lost their paid work, but we have made plans to offer their services up to others. The Brown School is planning to create a team of social workers to help students.

In terms of the academic situation, the whole academic staff team has really stepped up.

In terms of research, what has come into clarity is that we need to send all non-essential employees to work at home if possible. We have reduced all lab-based research to minimum so all staff will be reduced to a dramatic low starting Monday March 23.

Contract workers are paid through end of contract, working to insure they will get paid. We have offered 80 hours of paid time off to buy us some time. What we will do for staff that cannot work from home is under consideration. Professional development is in play and a big need is child care.

By Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup> the Danforth campus will close for the most part.

The Medical campus will not shut down. Vacations cancelled, travel has been banned; we have reintegrated people; and we have indicated that everyone is on 24/7 call.

Provost Crain: some important live issues that we would like the Faculty Senate Council to consider:

- Getting faculty to believe us say to leave campus is a challenge; we need your help to get that across
- The Students have circulated a petition an option for pass/fail
- Can we extend the tenure clock, to reduce anxiety for those on tenure track?

Most universities are pursuing these policies and it would help if the Faculty senate Council would consider weighing in on these decisions. These are faculty decisions.

Discussion: there was a discussion of the FSC. Issues discussed were whether the campus would open in August (answer: yes, as of this time); the financial implications of the decisions to moving to pass/fail (A: none to the campus; matters to students; great heterogeneity across Schools); the implications for WashU when faculty or staff are positive for COVID-19.

The decision was made that the special subcommittee formed from the FSC would draft a statement for consideration by the FSC at their next meeting.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy McBride, Secretary