

Minutes

Bloomington Faculty Council Minutes for February 21, 2023

1. The Bloomington Faculty Council held its regular biweekly meeting on Tuesday afternoon, February 21, 2023, in Presidents Hall. With BFC President Cate Reck serving as the Presiding Officer in the chair and Professor Danielle DeSawal acting as secretary, the meeting convened at 2:32 p.m.
2. The minutes from February 7, 2023 were approved.
3. Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Eliza Pavalko read a memorial resolution for [Professor Thomas Coleman \(1934-2022\)](#).
4. Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Eliza Pavalko read a memorial resolution for [Professor Robert Thomas Glassey \(1946-2020\)](#).
5. Faculty President, Professor Reck (Chemistry) began her comments by addressing the horrific shooting at Michigan State University and sharing that resources are available through the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning to help faculty address sensitive issues in the classroom. [Submissions](#) for the IU Inclusive Excellence Award are now open online. The [BFC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee](#) sent a statement in response to the anti-Asian American hate crimes that occurred earlier this semester to the executive committee. The executive committee supports the sentiment and recognizes that this is not the only incident that has occurred on campus. The DEIC committee has been asked to provide a more global and holistic statement denouncing all hate crimes. President Reck and Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Eliza Pavalko discussed the importance of faculty completing the [COACHE](#) survey. The BFC President-elect candidates have been identified. They are Professor's [Danielle DeSawal](#) (Education) and [Alex Tanford](#) (Emeritus).
6. President Reck provided a brief update on the deans and Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs search on behalf of Provost Shrivastav who was in Indianapolis participating in budget meetings. No questions were provided in advance to the Provost or during the meeting.
7. The report on IUB General Education will be rescheduled.
8. Parliamentarian Rachael Cohen (Libraries) presented the proposed changes to BL-ACA-B10: Bloomington Faculty Council Committees. The changes focus on adding the Student Academic Appointee Affairs Committee (SAAAC) to the list of committees under the "duties of the standing committees" section and adding a sentence to the procedures for committee selection noting that the SAAAC will have three co-chairs, one being an SAA. No discussion followed. This was a discussion item.

[Current BL-ACA-B10: Bloomington Faculty Council Committees](#)

[B35-2023: Proposed Changes to BL-ACA-B10 \(First Reading\)](#)

9. Professor Kelly Eskew (Business), Co-chair of the Educational Policies Committee (EPC) and Professor Lisa Thomassen (Psychological and Brain Sciences) member of the EPC presented proposed changes to BL-ACA-H29: Examinations and BL-ACA-H21: IU Bloomington Academic Calendar Principles. The proposed changes for BL-ACA-H29 focus on adding a clarifying statement regarding the freedom of a faculty member to determine if a course requires a final examination. This clarification will also require the VPFAA to edit the start of semester memo to emphasize that a final examination does not need be held for all courses. Changes to the timing and classroom location of final examinations are focused on providing students with a more predictable and less stressful schedule. Professor Eskew acknowledged concerns sent from the faculty in advance of the meeting and the EPC has been considering the constructive feedback. Concerns shared include faculty requesting permission for 2 hour examination time blocks and a lack of clarity around what would be the default final schedule for each course. Discussion was robust with numerous BFC members engaged and sharing feedback received from their constituencies. Members noted the need for this policy to be focused on undergraduate classes, given that graduate level courses have distinctly different schedules and formats. Objections to the proposed changes focused on comments that noted a lack of existing data to guide decision making. Concerns surrounding the demand for 2 hour examination periods by units, the number of courses that require physical space for a final examination, and a fear of being denied a request for a 2 hour examination block were shared by multiple members. Some discussion touched on perhaps a need for a longer than 2 hour time block for final examinations in some courses. Professors Eskew and Thomassen noted the importance of how these changes are rolled out is critical and that the intent is not to implement the proposed changes immediately. This discussion is the first step. Professor Eskew offered the consideration of piloting a data gathering initiative that would inform the proposed policy changes prior to a vote from the BFC.

[Current BL-ACA-H29: Examinations](#)

[B37-2023: Proposed Changes to BL-ACA-H29](#)

[Current BL-ACA-H21: IU Bloomington Academic Calendar Principles](#)

[B36-2023: Changes to BL-ACA-H21: IU Bloomington Academic Calendar Principles](#)

10. President-elect Colin Johnson (Gender Studies) presented the proposed changes to BL-ACA-D6: Review Procedures for Administrators on the Bloomington Campus with BFC President Cate Reck (Chemistry). President-elect Johnson shared the BFC Executive committee considered the thoughtful considerations from the first reading and decided to not make any additional changes. He reviewed the proposed changes that focus on the

removal of the specific committee questions to consider in the review to a qualitative format. This format would provide a review committee greater latitude to reflect identified priorities, establish a baseline for future reviews, as well as communicate specific recommendations to the Provost. An additional proposed change under Section 1 aligns all the deans under the umbrella of College of Arts and Sciences to reflect the current structure. An amendment was presented to insert “the office and” after “evidence-based assessment of” in Section 5 of the policy. Discussion on the amendment focused on the addition of a review of the office the administrator oversees. This addition aligns with UFC Policy changes being considered with [ACA-11](#) and more accurately represents the scope of the administrators work that should be reviewed. The amendment was seconded and passed with a hand vote. A second amendment was presented to strike “of the Bloomington Faculty Council” as repetitive in the first sentence of Section 5. The amendment was seconded and passed with a hand vote. No further discussion. The proposed changes with the two amendments passed with a hand vote.

[Current BL-ACA-D6: Review Procedures for Administrators on the Bloomington Campus](#)

[B28-2023: Proposed Changes to BL-ACA-D6: Review Procedures for Administrators on the Bloomington Campus](#)

11. The meeting concluded at 4:08 p.m.