



Emory University Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2023
3:00-5:00 p.m. | Convocation Hall 208

Attendees: Alicia DeNicola, Grace Goh, Richard Castillo, Hashem Dezhbakhsh, Roberto Franzosi, Jodie Guest, Nitika Gupta, Benn Konsynski, Michelle Lampl, Lanny Liebeskind, Ulemu Luhanga, Noelle McAfee, Joy McDougall, Modele Ogunniyi, Elena Pesavento, Kamina Pinder, Susan Ray, Reza Saadein, Karen Sedatole, George Shepherd, Aryeh Stein, Kate Yeager

Excused Absences: Carlos Moreno, Babak Mahmoudi, Octavian Ioachimescu

Unexcused Absences: Erin Bonning, Curtis Henry, Ursula Kelly, Ashima Lal, Edjah Nduom, Giacomo Negro, Florian Pohl, Usha Rackliffe, Jessica Sales, Salmon Shomade, Patrick Sullivan, Phillip Wolff, Holly York

I. Welcome and Approval of Consent Agenda, *Alicia DeNicola, Faculty Council Chair*

Dr. Nitika Gupta moved to approve the consent agenda; Dr. George Shepherd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. Vice Provost Office Updates, *Lanny Liebeskind, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs*

Vice Provost Liebeskind gave an overview of the leadership structure of the Office of the Provost and the multitude of tasks and responsibilities of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. He also spoke about several ongoing and upcoming programs under development: AI.Humanity Initiative, Arts and Humanistic Inquiry, Social Justice and Socially-Engaged Arts and Racial Justice/Racial Equity Grants, and new Master's Degrees and online curricula.

Comments and questions from the floor:

- 1) Are there any checks and balances for each unit and follow through with stated goals?
 - a. Yes, the Provost decides whether to reappoint the Deans of each school every 5 years, and there are ongoing strategy and planning meetings for each unit to ensure things are on track.
- 2) Is the Office of the Provost leading the COACHE survey?
 - a. Yes, it was led by then Deputy Provost Christa Acampora, but has been taken up by Vice Provost Pearl Dowe.
- 3) Can you say more about the Arts and Humanistic Inquiry project? Will they be separate or combined? Can we provide input?
 - a. This will be up to the Deans; we are still in the early stages of planning and will be soliciting feedback from the impacted schools soon.

III. International Travel Policy Updates, *Philip Wainwright, Vice Provost for Global Strategy and Initiatives; Robert Nobles, Vice President for Research Administration; Kenya Casey, Director for Travel Safety and Security*



Vice Provost Wainwright went over the structure of the Office of Global Strategy and Initiatives (GSI) and the 5 divisions: International Student and Scholar Services, Halle Institute for Global Research, Atlanta Global Partnerships, Global Safety and Security, and Global Services. He explained that international travel has changed a lot since COVID-19 and went over some changes to institutionally sponsored travel policies. The proposed new policy has two parts: travel safety and research safety, and was developed in consultation with the Department of State Travel Warnings, Center for Disease Control Warnings, and International SOS. This new policy will not replace but will be in addition to the Travel and Expense Policy 2.90.

Director Casey explained that they worked with the Executive Travel Safety Committee (ETSC) to develop new thresholds for what constitutes a high-risk destination. High-risk destinations are defined as those destinations subject to:

- a State Department Travel Advisory Level 3 or higher,
- a U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) trade or economic embargo,
- a Warning Level 3, COVID-19 Level 4 Health Notice, or similar advisory by the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), or
- an “Extreme” risk rating or similar advisory by ISOS.

These new thresholds represent an incremental rolling back of COVID restrictions and will reduce the burden on schools to manage the approval processes: faculty and staff have no restrictions, graduate and professional students have no restrictions, but deans may prohibit travel to high-risk destinations; undergraduate travel to high-risk destinations requires dean’s approval and permission by the ETSC. There is an enterprise-level Travel Registry in the works to track travelers and enable Emory to contact travelers in case of emergencies. Everyone who travels on Emory-sponsored travel is now eligible for Emergency Medical Insurance coverage. Vice President Nobles went over security requirements for foreign travel, including travel disclosures, pre-registration and security briefings, and loaner/burner equipment program. This is required to protect research data and encrypted devices.

Comments and questions from the floor:

- 1) Any thoughts about bringing back the Travel Well Clinic at the 1525 Building to help faculty and staff get updated vaccinations and travel safety advice regarding illnesses?
 - a. We can go to Midtown for this service, and we need to do a better job promoting this.
- 2) Do we have advance plans for potential exposure to infectious diseases, including regional differences in personal protection protocol?
 - a. We do provide these services, but it may not be fully integrated into the GSI infrastructure yet.
- 3) Is there a central place where all this information is housed?
 - a. [International SOS; Global Strategies and Initiatives](#)
- 4) Do we have data on Emory travel? We still bring our work with us on personal travel, do these requirements still apply?
 - a. Yes, but not everyone is purchasing their travel through Emory Travel Vendor and are not manually reporting their travel. As for working/bringing work equipment on



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personal vacation, we conduct risk assessment with the individual and make recommendations on a case-by-case basis.

IV. Faculty Hearing Committee Report, Aryeh Stein, Chair

The Faculty Hearing Committee (FHC) conducts a hearing when the appointment of a tenured faculty member is subject to termination under one or more of the reasons specified in the Grey Book, and to make recommendations to the University administration. Due to the confidential nature of the work of the committee, it is not appropriate to discuss ongoing or previous cases. There are currently 5 members on the committee, but the Board of Trustees approved an increase to 8 members with one from each school. Each member serves for 4 years, 2 replaced each year; appointment can be renewed once. One member will serve as chair, one as vice-chair. A panel of 5 unconflicted members (including the chair, or if conflicted, the vice-chair) will hear any cases that require FHC engagement. To meet this new structure, the FHC needs one member each from Candler, Goizueta, and Law. They will serve staggered 1-, 3-, and 4-year terms. Please recruit from your schools to fill this need.

V. Executive Session

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43pm.