



Emory University Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2023
3:00-5:00 p.m.

Attendees: Ravi Bellamkonda, Alicia DiNicola, Hashem Dezhbakhsh, Pearl Dowe, Gregory Fenves, Roberto Franzosi, Jodie Guest, Nitika Gupta, Benn Konsynski, Ashima Lal, Eric Lonsdorf, Ulemu Luhanga, Babak Mahmoudi, Noelle McAfee, Joy McDougall, Anne Marie McKenzie-Brown, Edjah Nduom, Modele Ogunniyi, Kajal Patel, Florian Pohl, Susan Ray, George Shepard, Andrew Sherrill, Jessican Well, Holly York

Excused Absences: Erin Bonning, Michelle Lampl, Lars Ruthotto, Jessica Sales, Aryeh Stein,

Unexcused Absences: Roger Dean, Phillip Wolff

- I. **Welcome:** *Nitika Gupta, Faculty Council Chair.* Dr. Gupta opened the meeting and described the purpose of the Faculty Council and what members are called to do. She then reviewed the committees and the bylaws and described what is expected regarding attendance.
- II. **Approval of Consent Agenda, Minutes from April 2023 and Committee rosters.** Dr. Jodie Guest moved to approve the consent agenda, minutes and Committee rosters; Dr. Benn Konsynski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. George Shepard moved to change the April 2023 minutes to say Dr. DiNicola did not get approval for the consent agenda because of lack of Quorum. Dr. Jodie Guest seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. **Changing Faces of Leadership at Emory, Ravi Bellamkonda, Emory University Provost**

Dr. Gupta introduced Provost Bellamkonda. Provost Bellamkonda shared many of the leadership changes with the University, Healthcare and the student experience. He described the incredible talent that is being recruited to Emory. He described how Valeda Dent and Henry Kim have reorganized the libraries and museums. He also described some of the AI pilots being performed in the Healthcare system and the efforts to increase access. He then described the changes happening with the student experience, including new space for student reflection.

Provost Bellamkonda said that for the positions that have been newly hired, Emory has been fortunate to land their first choice. After the Pandemic, it's important to pay attention to what unites us. He said it's important to hear from the new leaders why they came to Emory. There is a sense that Emory is doing something special. He said one of the reasons for the new leadership is partly because many people did not leave until after the pandemic and many of the positions are new and student focused. The Provost also discussed being very focused on Faculty. He discussed the deep analysis of Endowed Chairs that has been done. Also, a new tool has been developed for salary analysis that can be used by the Deans and their staff.



IV. Faculty Club Redux, Dr. Ashima Lal, Faculty Councilor and Chair of Faculty Life Course Committee (School of Medicine)

Dr. Gupta introduced Dr. Lal. Dr. Lal talked about the concept of community and the Faculty experience. She talked about having a space where Faculty can gather and this would facilitate improved academic productivity, retention and augment the quality of life and sense of community for faculty. The intended platform is to bridge administration's efforts to address central issues relating to interdisciplinary research, diversity, mentoring, leadership and open access. The space could be used for workshops, seminars, committee meetings, dept gatherings and interviews.

Dr. Lal introduced Dr. Kutner. Dr. Kutner once chaired a planning committee for a Faculty Club. He described his feelings on how important he thinks a Faculty Club is. He then described many of the peer institutions that had Faculty clubs. He talked about how he thought this had already been approved, but it never went anywhere. Dr. Lal then discussed a survey that had been done in the past and there was a high majority of people who were interested. The Provost said it would be helpful to know the scope of what Faculty would expect and what would generate the most interest. The group decided the best approach is develop a proposal that might include a new survey.

Dr. George Shepherd motioned to endorse the development of a proposal that might include a new survey. Dr. Jodie Guest seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. Executive Session

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.