

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for the November 2016 meeting
Report presented by Janet Frick, Chair
November 16, 2016

President Morehead, Council Colleagues and Guests:

The Executive Committee of University Council met on November 2, 2016 in the Peabody Boardroom of the Administration Building. A quorum being present, Chair Janet Frick called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m, and the minutes of our last meeting were approved.

We opened our meeting by recognizing SGA president Houston Gaines for all of the tremendous work that went into the first-time-ever early voting for Clarke County registered voters at the Tate Center. When all votes were tallied, over 2800 students, faculty, staff, and other registered voters voted at the Tate Center, making this a monumental success. Congratulations to SGA and to Athens Clarke-County elections officials for this great effort!

We then turned our attention to the action items that had been brought to Executive Committee. First, we heard eleven (11) proposals from the Curriculum Committee; those proposals were all discussed and approved for inclusion on our agenda today.

Next, we had a brief discussion of the proposal from the PRAC committee, which will also be presented today, and we briefly discussed the Academic Honesty report, which will also be presented to us today.

Finally, we spent some time discussing the University Council minutes, and a somewhat unusual situation that occurred at the first meeting of the year which resulted in an individual person being identified in the minutes in a manner that is not in keeping with previous Council practice or tradition. This discussion is summarized nicely in the posted minutes of the Executive Committee meeting, so I will not reiterate that discussion here, other than to emphasize two take-home points on which there was consensus among the members of the Executive Committee, and which are relevant for the rest of Council to know:

A. The University Council minutes are not official until they are approved in Council. Normally, edits to the minutes are proposed and voted on at Council, but sometimes other changes may occur between the time that minutes are emailed out to the archnews listserv and when we meet to approve them. What we agreed is that if there are any edits or changes to the minutes between those times, the title of the document will be changed to “revised minutes”, so that people will be aware that changes have been made, and they may want to re-review the minutes prior to voting to approve them in Council.

B. Our long-standing practice is that we don’t identify people who speak from the floor in the minutes. Committee chairs are identified when they make their reports, but otherwise comments and motions from the floor are simply noted without identifying the people who make them. This

has been the practice for both practical reasons -- the time it would take to identify individuals -- and philosophical reasons -- to preserve a spirit of open and free discussion among individuals of various ranks and employment statuses at the university. We agreed that that practice has value and should be preserved.

There being no further old or new business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Janet Frick, Chair
UGA University Council Executive Committee