

## Faculty Senate meeting

24 September 2021

Senators in Attendance: Kimberly Delaney, Brandon Field, Matt Hanka, Curt Gilstrap, Sima Fortsch, Stephanie Young, Chuck Conaway, Michael Strezewski, Jessica Mason, Marilyn Ostendorf, Mary Doerner, Xavia Harrington-Chate, Laura Bernhardt.

Other Attendees: Mohammed Khayum, Shelly Blunt, Shelby Clark, Amy Chan Hilton, Shannon Pritchard.

- Held via Zoom meeting. Called to order 2:01 pm
- Approval of minutes from 10 September 2021
  - Approved unanimously
- Chair's Report, by Kim:
  - Provost's and President's council have not met.
  - Rex met with Enrollment Management Committee
- Provost's Report: Dr. Khayum
  - Census count is official; report came out.
  - External consultant came in recently to give us a sense of our enrollment, and possible directions, both in short term and long term.
    - Several different enrollment management systems are being used by the different programs throughout campus. Looking at consolidating.
    - University could have a State-of-Enrollment day, when the whole campus community can be made aware of enrollment.
    - Trying to identify the "student life-cycle": the different touchpoints that students go through. Every office knows what it is doing, but there is no comprehensive picture for campus, so no one knows what anyone else is doing, and so the timelines are unknown and unaligned.
    - "Strategic Sizing": align the efforts with the programs.
  - Student quarantine numbers: Dr. Blunt
    - Report this morning: 34 students in quarantine, most were individuals from various classes, and these numbers are going down.
- Old Business: Charge 21\_07-Senate promotion of vaccination efforts
  - Draft statement was circulated a couple of days ago:
  - In an effort to protect our campus and our USI family, the USI Faculty Senate encourages all eligible members of our community to be vaccinated against Covid-19. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted every level of society and has fundamentally changed how we as educators interact with each other and our students. USI Faculty Senate commends the hard work of our health care professionals and scientists that have worked tirelessly to provide care, treatment, and vaccine development. Vaccination helps protect against severe

disease and helps curb transmission to others in our community. Experts have shown that the available Covid-19 vaccines are both safe and effective, as is evidenced by FDA approval, as well as recommendations by the major medical associations and the CDC. USI is helping to protect our community by offering vaccination to eligible individuals in the general public through our Health Clinic. USI Faculty Senate strongly encourages all members of the USI Campus Community to get vaccinated as part of the continuing effort to defeat the pandemic.

- A motion was made add a recommendation to add masking. Motion to add recommendation was voted down, with one in favor and one abstention. Motion to accept statement as written was passed with one abstention.
- Next meeting: 8 October, 2pm. The Secretary mentioned that he will not be present at that meeting, so someone else would have to take minutes. Several other people will also not be present; it was suggested that perhaps the meeting could be cancelled if nothing pressing comes up between now and then.
- Adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Minutes recorded by Brandon Field, secretary.

Name: Becky Sparks-Thissen, Kyle Mara (Optional)

Date of Submission: 09/02/2021

Name of Faculty Senate Representative:

1. Kim Delaney
2. Xavia Harrington-Chate
3. Rex Strange

Complete the following items and submit this form to either your Faculty Senate Representative or to the Faculty Senate Chair for consideration by the Faculty Senate.

**1. Charge Title:**

Faculty Senate Statement of Support for Vaccination

**2. Background:**

Provide an explanation of the background and context for the proposed charge. What problem, issue, or experience prompts the proposal of the charge?

The Covid-19 pandemic is an unprecedented challenge for our community. Keeping our community safe requires a number of actions on the part of every community member. Currently, USI encourages and enforces masking and social distancing. However, vaccination is the final key component to safe passage through the pandemic.

Vaccinations are readily available both on and off campus for all USI community members. These vaccinations have been proven to be both safe and effective at reducing transmission of Covid-19 as well as lessening the symptoms of those that may contract it.

**3. Action Requested and Desired Result:**

Specifically state what action you would like the Senate to take and the desired outcome that you would like to see.

In order to encourage vaccination of our USI community, Faculty Senate should make a statement of support and endorsement for the vaccination of all faculty, staff, and students at the University of Southern Indiana and everyone in our region. Senate should emphasize the safety and efficacy of the available vaccines and the need for vaccination to protect others as well as ourselves.

**4. Potential Resources:**

Provide any information that can help Faculty Senate fully address the charge. Attach additional documents if necessary.

[www.usi.edu/biology/covidfaq](http://www.usi.edu/biology/covidfaq)

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/>

**Items 5-7 are to be completed by Senate Chair or Secretary:**

**5. Senate Comments:**

**6. Action Taken by the Faculty Senate:**

**7. Action Taken by the Administration:**

Action taken by Senate:

9/10/21 - Statement to be written by Kim Delaney and Mike Strezewski.

9/24/21 - Statement approved by senate and posted on Faculty Senate website:

In an effort to protect our campus and our USI family, the USI Faculty Senate encourages all eligible members of our community to be vaccinated against Covid-19. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted every level of society and has fundamentally changed how we as educators interact with each other and our students. USI Faculty Senate commends the hard work of our health care professionals and scientists that have worked tirelessly to provide care, treatment, and vaccine development. Vaccination helps protect against severe disease and helps curb transmission to others in our community. Experts have shown that the available Covid-19 vaccines are both safe and effective, as is evidenced by FDA approval, as well as recommendations by the major medical associations and the CDC. USI is helping to protect our community by offering vaccination to eligible individuals in the general public through our Health Clinic. USI Faculty Senate strongly encourages all members of the USI Campus Community to get vaccinated as part of the continuing effort to defeat the pandemic.