

American University of Beirut
Final Minutes of the University Senate
Meeting of Friday, March 2, 2018

Present: M. Abiad, H. Abou Araj, A. Abu-Alfa, T. Ali, I. Baalbaki, B. Bashour, J. Chaaban, A. Chalak, A. Chehab, L. Daouk-Oyry, H. Diab, N. Dumit, N. El-Cheikh, S. El Fakhani, W. El-Hajj, M. Harajli, C. Harb, S. Harvey, E. Hitti, H. Huijer, M. Jurdi, S. Kanj-Shararah, R. Karami, A. Kayssi, F. Khuri (chairing), P. McGreevy, N. Melhem, R. Mohtar, H. Muller, W. Nasr, I. Nuwayhid, S. Sadek, E. Shammass, A. Shihadeh, J. Touma, G. Zaatari (for M. Sayegh)

Absent: E. Al-Chaer*, D. Gubara, A. Harutyunyan, G. Kanazi*, T. Nizameddin, A. Olabi, M. Sayegh, R. Sharara-Chami*, S. Zeineldine*

(* = regrets notified before meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

1) Obituaries for Dr. Suhail Jabbour and Dr. Nazih Nahlus

Dr. Ghazi Zaatari read an obituary for Professor Suhail Jabbour (**see appendix I**) and Dean Nadia El Cheikh read an obituary for Professor Nazih Nahlus (**see appendix II**). Moments of silence were observed after each.

2) Approval of the minutes of January 26, 2018

The minutes were approved with minor amendments.

3) Announcements and updates

At the request of the Senate Steering committee, the President updated the Senate on two items. First, the President noted that HIP is a university run insurance program that has a subsidy that has been steadily growing because of the increasing cost of providing medical care for its constituents. The administration is keenly aware of the pressure this puts on the budget of the university, but the commitment to this insurance program remains. Second, the President announced the reactivation of the Committee on the Lives and Careers of Women at AUB and explained that the remit of that committee needs to go beyond the issue of equity because of specific circumstances facing some members of our community.

4) Voting of degrees for fall 2017 graduates

Interim Registrar H. Abou Araj presented the list of degree candidates and statistics on their distribution (circulated list of expected graduates of fall 2017-2018). Dean El Cheikh recommended awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS). **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in FAS. Vote 2018-18. The motion was approved unanimously.** Dr. Zaatari recommended awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Faculty of Medicine (FM). **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in FM. Vote 2018-19. The motion was approved unanimously.** Director Huijer recommended awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Hariri School of Nursing (HSON). **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in HSON. Vote 2018-20. The motion was approved unanimously.** Dean Shihadeh recommended awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Maroun Semaan Faculty of Engineering and Architecture (MSFEA). **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in MSFEA. Vote 2018-21. The motion was approved unanimously.** Dean Mohtar recommended

awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences (FAFS). **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in FAFS. Vote 2018-22. The motion was approved unanimously.** Dean Nuwayid recommended awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS), including those for the BS degrees in Medical Audiology and Medical Imaging Sciences who will have their diplomas signed by both the Dean of FHS and the Dean of FM. (After a brief discussion, Dean Nuwayid and Interim Registrar Abou Araj agreed to follow up on the degree of BS in Medical Laboratory Sciences in order to make a similar arrangement to the one indicated above.) **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in FHS. Vote 2018-23. The motion was approved unanimously.** Dean Harvey recommended awarding degrees to the indicated students in the Olayan School of Business (OSB). **A motion was made to award degrees to the candidates in OSB. Vote 2018-24. The motion was approved unanimously.**

5) Changing FEA to MSFEA in the Senate Bylaws

Dean Shihadeh proposed editing the Senate Bylaws to reflect the recent renaming of his faculty to the Maroun Semaan Faculty of Engineering and Architecture. **A motion was made to replace each occurrence of the acronym “FEA” with “MSFEA” in the Senate Bylaws. Vote 2018-25. The motion was approved unanimously.**

6) Proposal for a new degree: Master’s in Global Health and Sustainable Development

Dr. Maia Sieverding gave a presentation on behalf of FHS for a new graduate program called Master’s in Global Health and Sustainable Development (see appendix III). This program will be a partnership with Earth University in Costa Rica. During a brief discussion, Dr. Sieverding and Dean Nuwayid responded to Senators’ concerns about sources of funding and various controversies over the phrase “sustainable development.” **A motion was made to approve the proposal. Vote 2018-26. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 32-0-1.**

7) Tenure procedure for 2017-2018

This document pertains to the procedure for assessing the first batch of tenure applications from full professors only that are currently under review. After a lengthy but productive process in which many substantial revisions to the document were proposed by Senators and agreed to by the Provost and the President, **a motion was made to approve the procedure document pending implementation of the agreed upon changes. The motion was approved by a vote of 32-1-0.** The Provost asked all those Senators who proposed the changes referred to above to send them to him in writing as soon as possible (see appendix IV).

8) Policy on academic appointment, re-appointment, promotion and tenure

The Provost prefaced the discussion of this document by stating that it covers the steady-state process only, and that tenure applications by in-post Assistant, Associate, and full Professors for the period after this current year but before the attainment of steady-state will be handled according to what is stated in the Tenure Design Committee’s report and will be clarified in forthcoming documents. After a lengthy but productive process in which many substantial revisions to the document were proposed by Senators and agreed to by the Provost and the President, **a motion was made to approve the procedure document pending implementation of the agreed upon changes. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 33-0-0.** The Provost asked all those Senators who proposed the changes referred to above to send them to him in writing as soon as possible (see appendix V).

9) Presentation on Title IX

Ms. Trudi Hodges and Dr. Brigitte Khoury gave the Senate a presentation on the anti-discrimination and anti-harassment initiative Title IX (**see appendix VI**). In the lengthy discussion after the presentation, it became clear that among the faculty there is a substantial lack of awareness of Title IX's goals, functions and procedures. Ms. Hodges pointed out that only 15% of AUB faculty have completed the online "campusclarity" training course. The President stated that all faculty should be aware that, under Title IX, the duty to report a complaint of discrimination or harassment is absolute. He then emphasized that the submission of such a report does not necessarily mean that an investigatory committee will be formed, as that happens only in cases where this is determined to be the appropriate course of action. Several Senators requested that more be done to educate the Senate and the AUB community about Title IX. One Senator asked that this body be informed if and when any new policies related to Title IX come into effect. Ms. Hodges agreed to do this. The presenters suggested that Senators take the online training course sooner rather than later.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

(Minutes recorded by H. Muller, Secretary of the Senate)

Appendix I: Obituary for Dr. Suhail Jabbour



Dr. Suhayl
Jabbur-Obituary .do

Appendix II: Obituary for Dr. Nazih Nahlus



nahlus.docx

Appendix III: Proposal for the Global Master's in Health and Sustainable Development



Global Masters
Program proposal_J:

Appendix IV: Tenure procedure for 2017-2018



Tenure Procedure
for 2017-2018.docx

Appendix V: Policy on academic appointment, re-appointment, promotion and tenure



Policy on Academic
Appointment, Reapp

Appendix VI: Presentation on Title IX



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