

BCC Committee on Academic Freedom

Minutes of April 7, 2022

Time & Location: 2-3pm, Zoom

Chair: Farnaz Kaighobadi

Vice Chair: Kenneth Flowers

Secretary: John Ziegler

Present: Hashim Abdul, Bernice Agyeiwaa, Irene Delgado, Kenneth Flowers, Farnaz Kaighobadi, Shelley Liu, Charles Maliti, John Ziegler

Not Present: Devin Molina, Seth Offenbach

Total Membership: 11 (quorum=6)

AGENDA

- 1) Meeting called to order
- 2) Approval of the Agenda
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of 2/3/22
- 4) Reviewing the updated CoAF manual/statement and distribution to the campus community
- 5) UFS Academic Freedom Committee and the resolution "Defending Academic Freedom to Teach About Race and Gender Justice and Critical Race Theory."
- 6) Next meeting schedule and calendar
- 7) New Business
- 8) Adjournment

ACTIONS

- 1) Meeting called to order 2:03pm
- 2) The agenda was approved unanimously.
- 3) The minutes of 2/3/22 were approved unanimously.
- 4) F. Kaighobadi reminded the committee members of the rationale for adding to the CoAF manual examples of cases that were determined to be or not to be violations of academic freedom. She had requested feedback on examples borrowed from BMCC's manual and has made some edits based on this feedback, such as removing examples labeled "unclear" violations. She requested any additional

feedback in the next few weeks, after which the new version will be uploaded to the website. She shared the edited version onscreen. C. Maliti invited F. Kaighobadi to present the revised document at the next Faculty Council meeting.

- 5) F. Kaighobadi discussed a resolution approved by the UFS to protect academic freedom in relation to social justice pedagogies. She explained that the resolution was in part a reaction to legislative interference across the nation in teaching about race, gender, and similar controversial matters. F. Kaighobadi proposed bringing a version of this resolution, modified so that the language refers to the local, BCC context, to the College Senate for potential adoption if approved by the Committee on Academic Freedom. Several members spoke in support of this proposal. A motion to present this resolution to the Senate passed unanimously. F. Kaighobadi will send the version with the updated language to the CoAF before the resolution is presented to the Senate.
- 6) F. Kaighobadi said that this will be the last meeting of the semester, barring any complaints being brought to the committee, and that meetings in the fall will ideally remain on Thursdays at 2pm.
- 7) No new business.
- 8) The meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



John Ziegler