BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING #7 – 2017-2018

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA

Tuesday, April 17, 2018
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
Heller-Schneider Classroom G2 (Ground Floor)

“In time of change, learners inherit the earth; while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists.” – Eric Hoffer

12:00 P.M.  WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS, Senate President
(Invited: Mark Brimhall-Vargas, Chief Diversity Officer & Maria Madison,
Heller Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)

Three inter-related discussions:

Policies Proposed by the Task Force on Sexual Assault Prevention with Kim
Godsoe, Task Force Co-Chair, and Bernadette Brooten

Principles Emerging from the Presidential Task Force on Free Expression with
Senator and Task Force Member Raj Sampath

Discussion & Action Recommendations Regarding Recent Campus Events

1:15 P.M.  Call to Action: Senate Successions, Nominations & Elections

Announcements/New Business

1:30 P.M.  Adjourn

Attachments:
- Task Force on Sexual Assault Prevention Proposed Polices – Non-Discrimination & Harassment Policy; Employee Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Policy; and Sexual Harassment Policy
- Principles of Free Expression
- Senate Terms/Seats Up for Election
Upcoming Faculty Meetings
Fri, April 20th, 2PM-3:30PM: Faculty Meeting #7 (Gerstenzang 123)
Fri, April 27th, 1:30PM-3:30PM: President’s Faculty Governance Open Forum with Faculty (Olin Sang)
Thurs, May 10th, 2PM-3:30PM: Faculty Meeting #8 (Gerstenzang 123)

# # #

PRESENT: Chair, Susan P. Curnan, Daniel Bergstresser, Joel Christensen, Jennifer Cleary, Joseph Cunningham, Jane Ebert, Susan Holcombe, Sarah Mead, Paul Miller, Kate Moran, Carol Osler, Rajesh Sampath, Faith Smith, John Wardle

Via ZOOM Videoconference: Joseph Assan, Laurence Simon
(Admin. note: There were initial sound difficulties with the system, so the first 20 minutes or so were difficult to hear for these two Senators.)

ABSENT: Elizabeth Ferry, Anita Hannig, Adrianne Krstansky

GUESTS: Bernadette Brooten, Kim Godsoe, Mark Brimhall-Vargas

12:00 PM WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS, Senate President

The Chair welcomed guests Kim Godsoe, Task Force on Sexual Assault Prevention, and Professor Bernadette Brooten who has worked on the presented policy with the Task Force for many years.

Senators introduced themselves.

Three inter-related discussions:

Policies Proposed by the Task Force on Sexual Assault Prevention with Kim Godsoe, Task Force Co-Chair, and Prof. Bernadette Brooten

Kim Godsoe and Bernadette Brooten described the highlights of the policy proposals and described improvements made to policy language following review by various University stakeholders, including the University Counsel and the Senate.

Prof. Brooten noted that the initial description of the nondiscrimination policy indicated ways the approach to adjudication has changed, including the hiring of a University Title IX investigator.

The Senate discussed the policies presented from the Task Force.

Senators expressed support for the Task Force’s policies and suggested some recommendations as the policies are further reviewed.

Senators requested a flow chart to illustrate the reporting and adjudication processes.
The Senate recommended that the Sexual Assault Prevention Task Force Chairs meet with the Dignity at Work Committee Chairs.

Further discussion ensued including addressing questions of consent, aligning all proposed policies with the proposed non-discrimination policy, considering legal rules as well as extra-legal concerns.

The Senate will talk further and discuss next steps and understands the urgency of moving forward with the non-discrimination policies in the meantime.

**Principles Emerging from the Presidential Task Force on Free Expression with Senator and Task Force Member Raj Sampath**

Senator Sampath joined by guest Mark Brimhall-Vargas, Chief Diversity Officer, described the process of the development of the emerging principles. The principles are intended to be sustainable to be understood and employed widely among everyone at Brandeis.

Senator Sampath and Mark Brimhall-Vargas described the timeline, voices and framing for the work of the Task Force and the development of these principles.

The principles are meant to supplement and complement constitutional law.

**Discussion & Action Recommendations Regarding Recent Campus Events**

The Senate has been working on a statement in response to the discrimination matters and April 9th Town Hall. Senators decided to finalize the statement and prepare it to be read at the April 20th Faculty Meeting.

The final statement will be included in the April 20th Faculty Meeting minutes.

The Senate Chair will find a time for the Senate to meet again in May.

*1:55 P. M.*  
**Adjourn**

Respectfully submitted,

By Lanni Isenberg