Synopsis of the March 11, 2020, meeting of the Faculty Senate

Announcements [slides]

A motion to change the agenda for the meeting was offered and defeated.

The first item on the agenda was a discussion of COVID-19.

That was followed by a motion from the University Faculty Committee to rescind the Superdepartment Resolution [slides]. An amendment in the nature of a substitute (see below) was offered from the floor and adopted. The amended resolution was then passed by the Faculty Senate.

Whereas the Provost has announced a plan to create “super-departments” in the social sciences before the Faculty Senate has discussed the issues raised in that plan;
Whereas the Faculty Senate, under University bylaws, must be consulted on major changes in educational policy before they are adopted;

Resolved, the Provost’s actions violate University bylaws.

The third item was a discussion of The Fossil Fuel Divestment Resolution [slides]. The resolution was amended and then passed by the Faculty Senate.

The fourth item was a discussion of the Resolution to Clarify Grade-Change Protocols [slides]. Two amendments to the resolution were offered but were defeated. The Faculty Senate then passed the resolution.

Discussion of the Family-Member-Is-Instructor Resolution [slides] was begun and was not finished when time ran out.