

December 8 2023, Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Opening: Quorum established. Meeting called to order at 1:04pm.; Meeting agenda approved

In attendance: Faculty Senate Chair, Patrick Villa; Faculty Senate Chair-Elect, Valerie Conner

Senators Present:

Jacob Bakke
Nancy webb (proxy for Jeff Fulmer)
Lily Morningstar
James Pristas
James Harvey
Valerie Hecht
Amy Litman
Melissa Weinstein
Paul Minto
Darryl Raiford
Brett Winkelhake
Amy Palmer
Sondra Cosgrove
Josh Levin
John Min
Flora Rudacille
Cheryce Campbell-Davis
Joann Gutschick
Gina McDade
Carla Wright
Ayla Koch
Jim Matovina
Laura Roots
Kristian Schlick
Michael Denman
Emily Patni

Guests:

Alexandra Miguez-Ruiz
Melissa Giovanni
N. Mark Rauls
Abraham Gomez
Lorraine Brown

Senators Absent:

Tracy Sherman
Margaret Taylor
Philip Dixon
Michael Kimball
Kay Doxilly
LaDella Levy
Richard Sorrentino
Tanya Sutton

Public Comment

- Announcement of two pinning ceremonies for nursing students
 - RN Pinning Ceremony-December 15 @4pm at the Horn Theater
 - CNA Pinning Ceremony-December 19 @7pm at the Horn Theater
- Concerns about CSN Emergency Alert following the UNLV shooting on December 6.

Action Items

- Approval of November meeting minutes—minutes approved
- Vote to remove absent senators from Faculty Senate

Guests

- Regent Brager and Regent Carvalho
 - Regent Carvalho introduced herself and said the shooting at UNLV affects all of us.
 - She said COLA is important to her, and that she wants to elevate the issue of pay
 - Regent Brager said safety is a priority
 - Regent Brager said we need to be one in terms of pay, and we need to push legislators to convince them that education is a priority.
 - Don't just say it—Do it and don't back off
 - Let legislators “get their feet to the fire”
- Concerns from Senators that they didn't feel they were respected with regard to the search for CSN's next president
 - Senators say they received an agenda regarding a meeting to decide whether there would be an acting or interim president. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving, an email went out stating that James McCoy would be the the interim president.
 - Regent Brooks said he doesn't know from where the lack of transparency came. Regent Brooks said there were lots of meetings and contact after the meetings.
 - Regent Brooks said nothing was done that wasn't part of policy
 - Senator Arnold Bell asked about the possibility of other names. Brooks said only one name would be brought forward
 - Regent Brooks said the Chancellor and BOR Chair discuss all conversations, along with input from the host institution, and they put forward a name.
 - If there is a void between Dr. Z. leaving and someone new coming in, the only choice is to have a list of who would take over at that point.

- Regent Brooks says the process was within the policy as stated
- Question about whether meetings on the matter can be held on Fridays, to allow faculty to attend and to provide input.
- Senator Philip Dixon resigned from Faculty Senate.

Information Items

- Academic Standards Committee Policy Recommendations—Lorraine Brown
 - Discussion of changes
 - Proposal that if a student wants academic forgiveness, there will be a provision that looks at whether or not the student has an academic integrity case.
 - If the student has a case, that student can't request academic forgiveness
 - Changed the definition of consecutive semesters to reflect that consecutive semesters are those that are consecutive on that student's transcript.
 - If the student takes classes in Fall 2015, and then not again until summer, and then not again until fall, summer and fall are consecutive
 - Clarifies that the policy is not for students who are chronically not performing. It is for students who have had one or two semesters of poor performance
 - Waiting period to request academic forgiveness. Students must be in good standing to request it
 - As part of the credit requirement to get into good standing, students can use credits from another school that have been transferred in
 - Forgiveness is for all courses for that particular semester.
 - Students can not be granted academic forgiveness after they graduate from CSN
 - Academic forgiveness takes the grades out of the calculation for GPA, but those grades still remain on the transcript
 - There is an understanding that other institutions may not accept the forgiveness, for example, a limited entry program
 - The idea of academic forgiveness is to show extenuating circumstances that led to poor performance
 - Concern from some senators that the grades are not expunged. Lorraine said that is an issue to bring up with the registrar

Student TDY—Deployment Policy

- Provisions
 - Students may be called to active duty after the time in which they could be withdrawn from a class and receive a refund
 - Once a student receives orders, they will have options, including dropping the course for a full refund

- To be eligible, a student's deployment must be for a minimum of 14 days.
- Academic Probation and Suspension
 - Needed to tweak the time in which the committee on academic suspension and appeals renders a decision.
 - Moved it down to 15 days from 30 days
 - Committee would have two academic counselors
 - Wanted to let constituents see the policy before it is put to action in February

Senate Chair Report

- December BOR meeting
 - COLA for 11% passes
 - It will be seen in November 2024 checks because that is the October pay-date.
- Budget Reduction Taskforce
 - Dr. Z. doesn't want to cut any jobs or positions
 - Dr. Z. loves the multi-campus model, but a lot of CSN employees don't like having campus AVP's and VP's because it makes for a large staff
 - Dr. Z. wants to "right-size" CSN
 - CSN is a 30,000 student campus, so he wants to have a 30,000 management style
 - Senate and Budget Taskforce will be making a recommendation and Dr. Z. will ultimately decide. Patrick says he would like to see positions ranked, so if someone leaves, it will be clear whether or not to fill that position
- Presidential Search
 - The meeting to vote on James McCoy as Interim President was moved to December 12, but then he removed his name.
 - No word from the Chancellor about whether or not a majority of people wanted an interim president.
- Chancellor search
 - Patrick said there will be changes to the process
 - It is possible to get a chancellor at different times, but the president follows a cycle—beginning in the summer after finishing another job.
- Canvas archiving
 - How far back should the archiving go?
 - Nancy Webb suggested that if an instructor hasn't taught a course in five years, perhaps it should be archived
 - Start going back into your Canvas shells to see what is needed and what isn't needed.

Committee Chair Reports

- Assessment Committee—Emily Pattni
 - The committee has designed the rubrics, but committee members are still editing them.
- Curriculum

- Ad hoc committee meeting in March
- Complete curriculum proposals by January for consideration
- Election Committee
 - Department chair elections during Spring 2024 semester

Student Course Evaluation Changes—Shari Peterson

- Changes
 - Shari doesn't recommend changing the last five questions or the open-ended comments because the open-ended questions produce a good bell curve in terms of results
- Looking at questions 1-4
 - It is not possible to validate student study habits for question 1
 - Can't validate questions 2-4
- Faculty members should help out and learn more about the student evaluations and the evaluation process

Shared Governance Update

- Trying to let everyone in, but letting our group know if it doesn't apply to us
- Need all four groups involved in the Policy on Policies; it's insulting to leave other groups out
- Simultaneous process of getting feedback as we are moving forward
- General Counsel says CSN is in violation of the Policy on Policies because the Senate isn't circulating policies
 - There will be deadlines for leaders of each group to circulate policies. If they don't do so in time, they are at fault

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting February 2, 2024 at the North Las Vegas campus

