



FACULTY SENATE--MEETING MINUTES
April 3, 2024
3:00 PM – Student Center Ballroom, third floor

PRESENT: Faculty Senate Officers A. Kumar, D. Hubbard, and A. Smith; **Faculty Senators** J. Ausherman, M. Baumgartner, B. Binnie, J. Bolt, A. Borosov, S. Brockhaus, B. Browning, M. Buckley, B. Conti, D. Davisson, B. Ekelman, C. Heyward, J. Jenkins, E. Lehfeltdt, K. Mansour, J. Matthews, B. McClain, B. Nagy, H. Pearson, A. Price, R. Raimer, E. Rauschert, T. Runner, A. Severson, D. Smith, J. Sola, A. Sonstegard, M. Volk, R. Whitbred, N. Zawahri, and N. Zingale; **Administrative and Corresponding Members** L. Bloomberg, J. Gordon, M. Gruys, A. Kersten, B. Kosteas A. Hunt, K. Neuendorf, T. Nikitina; **Ex Officio Limited Members** G. Dyer, M. Heath, S. Rose, and M. Wiitala.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 182 participants.

Senate President Kumar gaveled the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

I. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by University Curriculum Committee chair, Michele Heath, to amend the agenda with a discussion item, School of Education and Counseling Reorganization - Levin College of Public Affairs and Education; Ad Hoc Proposal. She noted that the committee had met earlier in the day and approved the additional item for the discussion agenda. The revised agenda was approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the February 28, 2004, Meeting

The minutes of the February 28, 2024, meeting were unanimously approved by voice vote.

III. Report of the Senate President

Senate President Kumar provided updates on several Senate and University matters, including that Provost Sridhar and his dog had been injured when they were struck by a car and that the Provost was in the hospital with a possible concussion. President Kumar noted that the University would be addressing its budgetary challenges and that University President Bloomberg would discuss these.

IV. University Curriculum Committee

Committee Chair Michele Heath brought a consent agenda from the committee. The consent agenda was approved with one abstention. (**Report No. 33, 2023-2024**)

- Prelicensure BSN Admission Requirements - 1110 - Fall 24
- Accelerated BSN On Line - 1110 - Fall 24

- Physical Education and Sport (Exercise Science), B.S. in Ed. - 1110 - Fall 24
- Applied Social Research, Accelerated Master's BA/MA - 1110 - Fall 24
- Public Safety Management, B.A. - 1110 - Fall 24
- ANT - 340 - Phonetics and Phonology
- College Requirements - 1110 - Fall 24
- Communication, Accelerated Master's BA/MACTM - 1110 - Fall 24
- Environmental Studies, B.A. - 1110 - Fall 24
- Environmental Studies, MA - 1110 - Fall 24
- Journalism and Promotional Communication, Accelerated Master's BA/MACTM - 1110 - Fall 24
- LIN - 340 - Phonetics and Phonology
- Nonprofit Management, Accelerated Master's BA/MNM - 1110 - Fall 24
- Occupational and Physical Therapy in the Schools, Graduate Certificate - 1090 - Spring 24
- Organizational Leadership, B.A. - 1110 - Fall 24
- Program Evaluation in Educational and Youth-Serving Organizations, Graduate Certificate - 1110 - Fall 24
- Public Administration, MPA - 1110 - Fall 24
- Public Management Certificate - 1110 - Fall 24
- Public Administration, Accelerated Master's BA/MPA - 1110 - Fall 24
- SWK - 390 - Field Practicum I
- UST - 510 - Proposal Writing
- Urban Planning and Development, Accelerated BA/MUPD - 1110 - Fall 24
- Urban Planning and Development, MUPD - 1110 - Fall 24
- Urban Studies, MS - 1110 - Fall 24
- CVE - 426 - Preliminary Design
- Economics Minor - 1110 - Fall 24
- Linguistics Minor - 1110 - Fall 24
- Linguistics, B.A. - 1110 - Fall 24
- CVE - 427 - Capstone Design
- ENG - 241H - H:Introduction to Fiction Honors
- IST - 480 - Data Visualization for Business Intelligence
- Health Sciences, Accelerated Master's BS/MS - 1110 - Fall 24
- Business Analytics, B.B.A. - 1110 - Fall 24

UCC Discussion Agenda

- Digital Humanities - 1110 - Fall 24

Following explanation of the major by Dr. Shelley Rose, and discussion of concerns about enrollment and resources, the Digital Humanities program was approved unanimously.

- School of Education and Counseling Reorganization - Levin College of Public Affairs and Education; Ad Hoc Proposal

On behalf of the committee, Professor Heath proposed that three education departments in the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education be merged into a school. Senator Karla Hamlen Mansour, speaking also for other senators from education departments, expressed concerns about the process by which this proposed merger had been developed. She stated that this had been a mandate from the provost, who never met directly with faculty to discuss this. She stated that the faculty had voted on a leadership structure for a new school, but not on the merger itself. She noted that the education senators were in favor of the merger and say it is potentially beneficial, they were nevertheless very concerned about the process by which it came about.

There was a lengthy discussion about the process, which included education senators making the point that the Provost had not provided a rationale for the merger. The motion effectively merging the education departments into a school of education was approved.

V. Admissions and Standards Committee

Dr. Michael Wiitala, Chair of the Admissions and Standards Committee, proposed approval of changes to admissions procedures for the Occupational Therapy Doctoral program (in Curriculog) and an update to the Academic Reassessment Policy that included provisions for students who change majors (**Report No. 34, 2023-2024**). Both were approved.

VI. Report of the President of CSU

University President Bloomberg commented on the Provost's health and the celebration of faculty that had taken place the day before the Senate meeting. Using a set of slides, President Bloomberg devoted most of her report to organizational resilience and financial stability. (**Report No. 35, 2023-2024**)

President Bloomberg reviewed briefly the consultation project that was conducted by EY Parthenon to make recommendations concerning stabilizing finances and making investment to strengthen the institution. She identified five potential areas of investment to strengthen the CSU experience and six areas in which savings might be achieved. President Bloomberg said that the University is currently too big for its projected enrollment so that we had to manage to a smaller size.

President Bloomberg stated that the budget had to be reduced by \$40 million for the next fiscal year, and that she expected that part of the savings would be through a separation incentive program for faculty and staff. President Bloomberg said that we would continue to market who we are, focusing on the idea that our primary purpose is to serve our students and our region, but that there will be reductions in staff and faculty.

President Bloomberg answered questions, and stated that two town halls were being scheduled for April 16 and May 2; more answers would be available at those times.

VII. Ad Hoc Committee on Core Curriculum

Dr. Shelley Rose provided an update concerning development of the Core Curriculum. She called attention to the handbook developed by the Core Curriculum Committee and the weekly newsletter distributed by the Director of the Core Curriculum; noted some adjustments that had been made to how requirements were specified or must be described in proposals; and urged faculty to consider applying for opportunities to work on the core curriculum during the summer.

VIII. University Faculty Affairs Committee (UFAC)

UFAC Chair Gary Dyer presented for second reading, on behalf of the committee, a change in policy for distinguished faculty awards. The proposal is that all full-time faculty with at least six years of service be eligible for all distinguished faculty awards. This was unanimously approved.

Professor Dyer also presented for second reading proposed changes to the following university policies: 3344-12-10: Policies pertaining to courtesy appointments; 3344-13-01-A: Bylaws of the Faculty Senate to define college faculties; 3344-13-03-B-4: Student Members of Standing Committees; 3344-13-03-F-2: The Admissions and Standards Committee; 3344-13-03-A-7 and 3344-13-03-J: Diversity and Inclusion Committee; 3344-13-03-N-1: Academic Technology Committee; and 3344-13-02 The Faculty Senate (pertaining to dates for apportionment and Senate elections). These were approved. **(Report No. 36, 2023-2024)**

Professor Dyer presented for first reading proposed changes to the personnel policies concerning part-time employment for retired faculty (3344-16-07). These were approved to receive a second reading. **(Report No. 37, 2023-2024)**

IX. Budget and Finance Committee

Committee Chair Deborah Smith reported on the recent meeting of the Planning and Finance Advisory Committee, of which the Committee is a part and at which the Committee had the opportunity to obtain information from David Jewell, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

Professor Smith noted first that the Budget and Finance Office was continuing to work on making quarterly reports more accessible. Using a slide, Professor Smith shared the budget report that Mr. Jewell had presented to the Board of Trustees; this compared the fiscal year 2024 budget to the preliminary fiscal year 2025 budget. Professor Smith explained projected changes from FY 2024 to FY 2025 in revenues and expenses. **(Report No. 39, 2023-2024)**

X. Student Government Association (SGA) Report

SGA Director of Marketing and Technologies spoke about a survey conducted by SGA on textbook accessibility. She reported that 568 responses had been received. Survey respondents were asked whether they would prefer to pay various flat fees (as in the proposed course materials equity access model) or to (essentially opt out of that program to) buy materials on their own. Her conclusion was that any proposed equity access arrangement did not make intuitive sense. She advised that the University should proceed slowly, should get additional input from students and faculty, and that open educational resources and coursewise inclusive access be considered. Ms. Hunt said that the equity access model could be attractive to some students but that the vast majority of students would be disadvantaged. **(Report No. 38, 2023-2024)**

Senate President Kumar interjected that at the previous week's meeting of the Academic Steering Committee, the Provost had said that for the time being, an equity access arrangement would not be pursued further.

Ms. Hunt reported that SGA was providing free feminine hygiene products in all female rest rooms in the Student Center and had conducted a successful drive to collect such products. Ms. Hunt noted that SGA elections would take place on the next day.

XI. Graduate and Professional Students Association (GPSA) Report

GPSA President Tatiana Nikitina reiterated previous concerns about the limited number of options for dining on campus and noted that Graduate Student Appreciation Week would be the following week.

XII. Question Time

Senator Judy Ausherman expressed concerns about attempts by the Undergraduate Student Success Committee connect to the Division of Student Belonging and Success, and stated that if there were going to be ex officio members of Senate committees, those ex officio members should participate in shared governance. Senate President Kumar reported that the Student Life Committee had recently met with the Vice President for Student Belonging and Success and had produced a report about it that would be shared with the Academic Steering Committee. President Kumar noted that it was essential that ex officio committee members had to work with committees, and that the basic idea of shared governance was that ex officio members had to go to committees and get feedback and, ideally, the buy-in of committees, many of which also include students.

XIII. New Business

There was no new business.

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further business, and following a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON MAY 1, 2024

Albert F. Smith
Faculty Senate Secretary