

Minutes – March 6, 2023 – 3:05 p.m.

Online through WebEx

CCSU Faculty Senate Meeting

Present: Acharya, K.; Al-Masoud, N.; Amaya, L.; Andreoletti, C.; Baratta, C.; Barrington, C.; Best., F.; Bigelow, L.; Boone, N.; Boscarino, N.; Bray, A.; Broulik, W.; Cistulli, M.; Chakraborty, S.; Chen, E.; Cole, E.; Donohue, P.; Duquette, J.; Elfant, A.; Emeagwali, G.; Fallon, M.; Farhat, J.; Farrish, K.; Flinn, B.; Foshay, J.; Foster, P.; Gamache, J.; Garbovskiy, Y.; Gardner, P.; Ginter, V.; Hazan, S.; Heinen, E.; Hernandez, R.; Horrax, S.; Jackson, M.; Kara-Soteriou, J.; Karas, R.; King, A.; Kulesza, M.; Langevin, K.; Love, K.; Martin, K.; Matthews, S.; Matzke, B.; Meng, P.; Mitchell, D.; Nicastro, M.; Ning, W.; O'Connor, J.; Ofray, J.; Oyewumi, Y.; Paolina, J.; Rivera, T.; Rodgers-Tonge, D.; Savatorova, V.; Schmidt, S.; Seamans-Frizzell, S.; Smith, R.; Soper, C.; Spinelli, A.; Styrzczula, S.; Tellier, A.; Villanti, S.; Zabihimayvan, M.; Zadi, S.; Zhao, S.; Zhou, B.

Ex-Officio: Blitz, D.; Burkholder, T.; Frank, L.; Kostelis, K.; Minkler, S.; Mulrooney, J.; Wolff, R.

Parliamentarian: Dimmick, C.

President of the Senate: Latour, F.

Guests: Bucher, L.; Byrd Danso, K.; Cintonino, S.; Hansen, J.; Kirby, Y.; McGrath, K.; Moore, N.; Mooreland, D.; Pincince, T.; Robinson, C.; Ross, J.; Suski-Lenczowski, A.; Tully, J.; Veloria, C.; Wright, C.; Wu, S.

1. Minutes

- a. The minutes of February 27, 2023 were accepted after making a correction to indicate that K. Langevin was present at that meeting.

2. Announcements

- a. AAUP (T. Burkholder)
 - i. Gratitude was offered to everyone who went to the capitol on March 2 to testify or show support of the Bill that dealt with fringe benefit legacy liabilities impacting the competitiveness of our grant proposals.
 - ii. President Cheng will be on campus this Thursday. Please read the CSCU 2030 document and plan to attend to ask questions, give commentary, etc. This is the first time in 10+ years that the System Office is actively seeking more funding from the legislature.
 - 1. 30 new online programs are included in CSCU30. What impact will that have on on-ground students? D. Blitz suggested asking President Cheng questions about this, particularly where are the faculty coming from? What entity would administer these programs? Does this correlate with the large (177%) increase in the COSC budget? Or are they planning on resuscitating Online CSU through the System Office? We need the details, including all of the underlying assumptions they are making and

options they are considering. Faculty control curriculum and pedagogy, including the modality of course delivery.

- iii. The AAUP Politics, Pens and Pizza event was successful. It was a good opportunity for our students to talk to legislators, including Gary Turco who represents a small section of New Britain and Newington.
- b. SUOAF-AFSCME (S. Villanti)
 - i. SUOAF will host a St. Patrick's Day luncheon on Friday, March 17.
- c. SGA (J. Ross)
 - i. The SGA Executive Board election is scheduled to take place this week. There is a debate this evening, moderated by Professor R. Smith.
 - ii. The SGA is also actively working to support Maria's Place in collaboration with the Office of Student Affairs. SGA has an ongoing donation campaign and are asking students to donate before going home for Spring Break.
 - iii. The SGA is also working with the Advising Task Force to gather feedback from students.
 - iv. The SGA is also working with the Center for International Education on recruiting and retaining more international students.
 - v. SGA officers and other students will be attending a diversity workshop this week.
 - vi. Anyone with questions for the SGA can send an email to SGAPresident@ccsu.edu
- d. Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to the Board of Regents (D. Blitz)
 - i. An issue arose about the December 2022 Board minutes. Both C. Sesanker and D. Blitz indicated at the beginning of the meeting that they had statements to make. Dr. Sesanker went over the comments S. Friedman had made about faculty paychecks. Over the past two years, over 650 positions have been reposted, to be filled by internal or external applications, and there have been serious mistakes made with individual paychecks. Some people have been underpaid, some overpaid, and some not paid at all. The approach which S. Friedman took was a confrontational one. Nonetheless, the comments made in the minutes did not explain what he had said (not even the topic) and they were characterized as "exaggerated." The FAC asked for the minutes to be modified, something that has not happened in the six years D. Blitz has sat on the FAC. He then read the modification, made on behalf of the FAC by a member of the Board, which called attention to an error.

There is clearly a conflict between the System Office and the 4Cs. That is part of our dissatisfaction and discontent about how a matter we care about is not being handled properly. There is a way to navigate complex issues that arise between individuals, groups, and groups and individuals. D. Blitz shared

examples of conflicts he has been a part of. He said conflicts will and do arise, but we need to mitigate and contain them or transform and resolve them. We need to make our comments, criticisms and responses in the context of civility, collegiality and community – the 3 C's of controversy in higher education. We need to return to that formulation of civility, collegiality and community which are key components of the culture of higher education. D. Blitz tries to exemplify this and recommends this approach to others.

e. President of the Senate (F. Latour)

- i. President Cheng will be on campus on March 9 at 2 p.m. in Founders Hall. Senators were encouraged to attend, as well as to encourage their departmental colleagues to attend as well.

3. Committee Reports

a. Academic Integrity Committee (J. Hansen)

- i. F. Latour asked the Academic Integrity Committee earlier in the semester to consider a policy statement that could be used on syllabi, for example, given the availability of artificial intelligence, such as ChatGPT, and its potential to spark an increase in plagiarism. F. Latour introduced the topic by reading a statement on the potential for misuse of AI in a collegiate setting. He then noted that his statement was a product of Chat GPT. J. Hansen then showed and reviewed the response from the Academic Integrity Committee that covered three areas: proposed syllabus wording, revisions to the Academic Integrity website, and guidance on citations.

MOTION: To approve the report of the Academic Integrity Committee. Motion passed.

b. Business Analytics from the last Curriculum Committee report (N. Moore)

This item was postponed from the previous Senate meeting. N. Moore said that the way the Curriculum Committee is structured, it is not a perfect system, but it works most of the time. A number of concerns were raised about this item. Extensive discussions were had with the Math Department and ultimately, a number of proposals will be put through over the coming year that will fix some small things. However, it is unwise to hold off passing this program; while it's not perfect, it's good enough at this point and he encouraged the Senate to approve it.

L. Frank said she had a number of conversations with Math and Economics this week and that there are plans to put some changes through, however the best course of action at this time is to move forward with approving the program.

MOTION: To approve the Business Analytics program.

Discussion: None.

Motion approved.

4. New Business - None
5. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.