

Minutes – May 15, 2023 – 3:05 p.m.

Online through WebEx

CCSU Faculty Senate Meeting

Present: Acharya, K.; Al-Masoud, N.; Amaya, L.; Andreoletti, C.; Bigelow, L.; Boone, N.; Boscarino, N.; Bray, A.; Broulik, W.; Chakraborty, S.; Cox, S.; Donohue, P.; Duquette, J.; Elfant, A.; Emeagwali, G.; Fallon, M.; Farhat, J.; Farrish, K.; Foshay, J.; Foster, P.; Gamache, J.; Gardner, P.; Hazan, S.; Hernandez, R.; Horrax, S.; Jackson, M.; Karas, R.; Kean, K.; Kelly, D.; King, A.; Kulesza, M.; Langevin, K.; Liu, R.; Martin, K.; Matthews, S.; Meng, P.; Mitchell, D.; Nicastro, M.; O'Connor, J.; Ofray, J.; Orange, M.; Oyewumi, Y.; Paolina, J.; Patterson, Y.; Phillips, E.; Recoder-Nunez, L.; Robin, A.; Rodgers-Tonge, D.; Rivera, T.; Savatorova, V.; Schenck, S.; Sylvester, C.; Tellier, A.; Vickrey, R.; Villanti, S.; Zadi, S.; Zhao, S.; Zhou, B.

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

Parliamentarian: Dimmick, C.

President of the Senate: Latour, F.

Guests: Aerni, G.; Bantley, K.; Broderick, D.; Bucher, L.; Byrd Danso, K.; Cintorino, S.; Claffey, G.; Jarrett, J.; Jones, C.J.; Larsen, K.; Lemaire, P.; McMahon, L.; Merenstein, B.; Moore, E.; Oguz, A.; Pincince, T.; Robinson, C.; Sommers, B.; Thompson, T.; Tully, J.; Voloria, C.; Warshauer, M.; Wright, C.; Wu, S.

1. Minutes

- a. The minutes of April 17, 2023 and May 1, 2023 were approved.

2. Announcements

- a. AAUP (T. Burkholder)
 - i. A rally will be held at 6 p.m. at the Capitol on May 17. The meeting point is the steps of the State Library. After the rally, there will be a gathering for AAUP faculty at the Thomas Hooker Brewery. Faculty were encouraged to attend.
- b. SUOAF-AFSCME (S. Villanti)
 - i. No announcements.
- c. SGA – (H. Alkabasi)
 - i. H. Alkabasi introduced herself to the Senate as the SGA president.
 - ii. Students will be participating in the Justice for All budget rally at the State capitol on May 17.
 - iii. The SGA will hold a summer retreat in July to set goals and team build in order to foster a solid foundation for next year.
- d. Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to the Board of Regents (D. Blitz)

D. Blitz reviewed the document titled “Comment on the Current Budget Situation” posted with the agenda.

D. Blitz reported that Dr. Maduko, the new president of the one community college, was asked to attend an FAC meeting to discuss the merger. The FAC deemed the meeting was unsuccessful for several reasons.

e. President of the Faculty Senate (F. Latour)

- i. The final interviews for the position of Chief Human Resources Officer will be happening on May 22, 23, and 24, 2023. Members of the Personnel & Appointments Committee, the Senate Steering, and union leaders will be invited to attend the shared governance forum for each candidate. There will also be an Open Forum for each candidate.

1. Question: will the open forum have a virtual component? R. Wolff said that would be arranged.

- ii. Provost Kostelis was introduced to make a statement. She stated: (1) there are always improvements being made to improve the student experience and (2) there will be no academic departments restructured over the summer. The deans will exercise their right, in accordance with the contract, to ensure students have a good experience.

- iii. There is a Board of Regents meeting this Thursday. The agenda has been released and includes a Resolution concerning award of the title Connecticut State University Professor to Dr. Kristine Larsen. F. Latour read the resolution and congratulated Dr. Larsen. Dr. Larsen made a brief statement. F. Latour thanked members of the CSU Professorship Committee for their work.

3. Elections Committee – Standing Committees of the Faculty

- a. The Elections Committee recruited enough candidates to run an election for all available committee seats except two, which can be elected in the Fall. The Elections Committee will be sending out ballots to the Senate as well as to the faculty-at-large for the committee elected by the full faculty. All candidate statements will be posted on the Senate website.

4. Committee Reports

a. Curriculum Committee (N. Moore)

- i. N. Moore reviewed highlights of the Curriculum Committee report on the 5th round circulated with the agenda.

MOTION: To approve the 5th round Curriculum Committee report. No discussion. Motion passed.

- ii. Sharon Cox reviewed a report on the SLOs noting that faculty have the option of saying that a course cannot be transferred to CCSU as a CCSU course equivalent. N. Moore reviewed the latest version of the FIRC rubric report (different from what was circulated with the agenda).

- iii. Results of 2022 CCSU vote on learning outcomes – this vote was taken last year. Seven of the SLOs were approved Scientific Reasoning was rejected because it didn't include hypothesis testing. This has now been remedied by the Rubric. Quantitative Reasoning was not approved last year for several reasons; deficiencies were not remedied and have not been approved.

MOTION: To approve eight of the nine rubrics (not including Quantitative Reasoning). Discussion. Motion passed.

MOTION: The CCSU Faculty Senate strongly supports the continuation of FIRC. (Latour/Jackson). Discussion. Motion passed.

- b. BOR Research Award Committee (V. Naoumov) – This report is informational.
- c. International Education Committee (S. Chakraborty) – This report is informational.

5. Unfinished Business

- a. Task Force on College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (K. Bantley)

K. Bantley reviewed what happened to the faculty feedback since the last meeting and said the Task Force finalized and submitted their report. She noted that a lot of comments centered around budget and once the Task Force report was finalized, Provost Kostelis and President Toro would collaborate on proposed budget implementation plan.

- i. Additional document from Provost Kostelis – Provost Kostelis reviewed the New College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Proposed Budget Implementation Plan circulated with the agenda.

MOTION: To recommendation that the College of Health and Rehabilitation Services move forward. No discussion. Motion passed.

6. New Business

- a. Proposal for Department Merger – Anthropology & Geography – Dean Wolff presented his rationale for merging the departments of Anthropology and Geography.

MOTION: To approve the merger of the departments of Anthropology and Geography. No discussion. Motion passed.

- b. Creation of a summer Interim Committee – President Latour presented his rationale for forming a summer Interim Committee to handle Senate business. He sought procedural advice from the Parliamentarian. F. Latour listed 7 the members of the current Steering Committee who agreed to be available during the summer and noted that replacements for the SEPS, SoB and part-time faculty would need to be identified.

MOTION: To form a Summer Interim Committee, with limited powers, comprised of 7 members of the existing Senate Steering committee and three members to be identified representing SEPS, SoB and part-time faculty. No discussion. Motion passed.

- c. National Council of Faculty Senates – F. Latour stated this group represents Faculty Senates across the country and has annual meetings to discuss items of importance to senates nationwide. It could be useful to participate as we seek to strengthen shared governance on campus.

MOTION: To send a member of the Steering Committee (using the Senate’s budget augmented, if needed by institutional funds as committee by President Toro at the meeting) to the Council’s summer meeting to learn more about the organization. (Latour/Foster) Motion passed.

- d. Athletics Strategic Plan (J. Tully, M. Warshauer, and K. Bantley) - M. Warshauer and J. Tully presented an overview of the CCSU Athletic Preliminary Report of the Strategic Plan Working Group report. K. Bantley confirmed that the University Athletics Board was involved in the work of the Working Group. F. Latour confirmed a timeline for soliciting feedback from the Senate and encouraged Senators to share the report with their departments and submit questions and feedback to him (using a form that will be developed). T. Pincince thanked faculty, Sal Cintorino and President Toro for their support in the process.

- 7. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.