

**Minutes – September 11, 2023 – 3:05 p.m.**

**Online through Webex**

### **CCSU Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Present:** Acharya, K.; Adair, S.; Al-Masoud, N.; Arena, J.; Austin, J.; Barr, B.; Best, F.; Bigelow, L.; Bishop, J.; Boone, N.; Boscarino, N.; Bray, A.; Cantor, J.; Chen, E.Y.; Cole, E.; Duquette, J.; Efremoff, T.; Elfant, A.; Emeagwali, G.; Evans Zalewski, S.; Farrish, K.; Foshay, J.; Foster, P.; French, J.; Gamache, J.; Garbovskiy, Y.; Ghodsi, R.; Gonzalez, K.; Hazan, S.; Hernandez, J.; Hernandez, R.; Horrax, S.; Jarrett, J.; Kapper, M.; Karas, R.; Kean, K.; Kelly, D.; King, A.; Langevin, K.; Larsen, K.; Lee, C.; Liu, R.; Martin, K.; Mealy, M.; Meng, P.; Mitchell, D.; Morano, P.; Nicastro, M.; Ning, W.; O'Connor, J.; Ofray, J.; Orange, M.; Paolino, J.; Patterson, Y.; Prather, B.; Rahman, M.; Recoder-Nunez, L.; Rogders-Tonge, D.; Salama, T.; Savatarova, V.; Schenck, S.; Scoggins, M.; Smith, R.; Sohn, Y.M.; Spear, B.; Styrzula, S.; Tellier, A.; Urban, D.; Ward, K.; Watson, S.; Wood, R.; Zabihimayvan, M.; Zadi, S.; Zhao, S.; Zongxiang, M.

**Ex-Officio:** Alkabasi, H.; Blitz, D.; Burkholder, T.; Frank, L.; Jackson, M.; Kostelis, K.; Minkler, S.; Talty, P.; Toro, Z.; Wolff, R.

**Parliamentarian:** Dimmick, C.

**President of the Senate:** Latour, F.

**Guests:** Byrd Danso, K.; Claffey, G.; Cintonino, S.; Dahn, J.; Dreger, M.; Kirby, Y.; McGrath, K.; Merenstein, B.; Montano, G.; Mulrooney, J.; Pincince, T.; Pudlinski, C.; Robinson, C.; Starling, N. (SCSU Senate); Thompson, T.; Voloria, C.; Wethje, C.; Wright, C.

#### **1. Minutes**

- a. The minutes of the May 15, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.

#### **2. Introduction of Senators – Senators present at the meeting introduced themselves.**

#### **3. Announcements**

##### **a. AAUP (T. Burkholder)**

- i. T. Burkholder will be meeting with new faculty in the next few weeks.
- ii. A chapter meeting and social will be held from 3-6 p.m. on October 6 in the Connecticut Dining Room.
- iii. Names of Department Liaisons should be sent to T. Burkholder as soon as possible.

##### **b. SUOAF-AFSCME (L. Bigelow)**

- i. The next Chapter meeting will be held on Monday, September 18 at noon on Teams.

- ii. The Opening Social will be held at noon on Thursday, September 28, in the form of the Big Green Pizza Truck. Members are encouraged to RVSP.
- c. SGA (H. Alkabasi)
  - i. President Alkabasi stated her priorities for the coming year are safety, affordability, and identity.
  - ii. SGA is in the process of appointing student representatives to standing committees of the faculty. Some have already been appointed and other appointments will follow.
  - iii. The student involvement fair is being postponed to next Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 100 student clubs and organizations will attend to encourage students to participate in these extra-curricular activities.
- d. Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to the Board of Regents (D. Blitz)
  - i. D. Blitz narrated a series of slides providing an update on the state of the State and CSU budgets.
- e. President of the Faculty Senate (F. Latour)
  - i. Moment of Silence in remembrance of the events of September 11, 2001.
- 4. Elections Committee
  - a. Elections of the Elections Committee – The following six members of the Senate were nominated to serve on the Elections Committee for AY23-24: E. Cole, S. Evans Zalewski, M. Kapper, S. Schenck, D. Urban, and R. Wood.
  - b. Constitution and Bylaws Committee – The following two members of the Senate were nominated to serve with the Parliamentarian on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for AY23-24: T. Efremoff and J. Jarrett.
  - c. Committee on Committees – The following three members of the Senate were nominated to serve on the Committee on Committees for AY23-24: A. Bray, M. Orange, Y. Patterson.
  - d. Committee on Appointments and Personnel – The following three members of the Senate were nominated to serve on the Committee on Appointments and Personnel for AY23-24: K. Larsen, J. Ofray, R. Smith
  - e. Committee on Academic Freedom – The following three members of the Senate were nominated to serve on the Committee on Academic Freedom for AY23-24: J. Austin, B. Barr, J. French

MOTION: To approve the slates of nominees for the Elections Committee, Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Committee on Committees, Committee on Appointments and Personnel, and Committee on Academic Freedom. Motion approved.

## 5. New Business

- a. DEC Exceptions for 2023-2024 – DEC exceptions were approved for the following departments: Geography, Anthropology & Tourism; Management Information Systems; Music; Social Work; Special Education & Interventions; and Student Wellness.
  - i. MOTION (Foster): To accept the proposed DEC exceptions. Motion approved.
- b. Approval of Faculty Senate Steering Committee – The following slate was approved: Frederick Latour (Mathematical Sciences; Senate President); Kerri Langevin (Nursing; Senate Vice President); Lisa Bigelow (Institutional Advancement; SUOAF-AFSCME; Senate Secretary); Kevin Kean (Part-time Faculty Representative; Psychological Sciences); Ran Liu (Marketing; representing School of Business); Robbin Smith (Chair, Political Science; representing College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences); Tom Burkholder (Chemistry & Bio-Chemistry; AAUP – permanent guest); David Blitz (Philosophy; FAC representative – permanent guest; Fall 2023 only); Mark Jackson (Bio FAC representative – permanent guest; Spring 2024).
  - i. Motion (Latour/Foster): To approve the Steering Committee as proposed. Motion approved.
  - ii. Note: representatives from SEPS and SEST will be proposed at the next meeting.
- c. Suggested syllabus language on student health – The following suggested syllabus language on student health prepared by the Director of Counseling was presented: *“The CCSU Student Wellness Center provides a range of mental health, medical and wellness education services to enrolled CCSU students. Services are free and confidential. Although students can make an appointment any time there is a need, you are encouraged to seek counseling and health-related services before emotional, interpersonal, behavioral, and/or medical concerns begin to interfere with your well-being or academic success. To make an appointment, please call 860-832-1926 or stop by the Student Wellness Center located in Willard-DiLoreto Hall, W101”*
- d. Updated Safety Flyer – The current Safety Flyer, circulated with the agenda, was reviewed. The flyer is open for comment for one more week. After that it will be laminated and posted in all classrooms on campus. D. Blitz asked to see a link from the Senate website to the flyer and also to have the flyer produced in hardcopy form and distributed to all faculty and staff via campus internal mail.
- e. Faculty Handbook Update – The Faculty Handbook now exists in draft form. Throughout the semester, F. Latour will be presenting chapters of the Handbook. The Senate is asked to review the chapters and let him know if something needs to be changed, added or deleted. The following two chapters were presented at this meeting
  - i. Chapter 7 is about Renewal, Promotion, Tenure, and Professional Assessment. It includes AAUP contract language, a copy of the Promotion & Tenure Policy (also available on the Senate website) and a statement about Departmental Guidelines (also available on the Senate website).

- ii. Chapter 8 is about Emergency Procedures. Previously this contained details about the plan then in place. The current plan is to include the Safety Flyer noted above.
  - f. Resolution on Academic Planning – The draft Resolution circulated with the agenda was introduced by the Senate President and reviewed. The Resolution is intended to be a response to the proposal that has come from the Board of Regents.
    - i. Motion (Latour/Foster): To approve the Resolution as proposed (with typo corrected by unanimous consent). Motion passed.
6. President's Report (F. Latour) – F. Latour presented the attached report.
7. Adjournment
- a. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.