

**Minutes – November 27, 2023 – 3:05 p.m.**

**Online through Webex**

### **CCSU Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Present:** Acharya, K.; Adair, S.; Al-Masoud, N.; Arena, J.; Best, F.; Boone, N.; Bray, A.; Cantor, J.; Chen, 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.; Hazan, S.; Hernandez, R.; Horrax, S.; Jarrett, J.; Kapper, M.; Kean, K.; Kelly, D.; Langevin, K.; Larsen, K.; Lee, C.; Lentino, J.; Liu, R.; Martin, K.; Matzke, B.; Mealy, M.; Mei, Z.; Meng, P.; Mitchell, D.; Ning, W.; Orange, M.; Paolino, J.; Patterson, Y.; Prather, B.; Recoder-Nunez, L.; Rivera, T.; Salama, T.; Savatarova, V.; Schenck, S.; Smith, R.; Spear, B.; Styrzcula, S.; Sylvester, C.; Urban, D.; Ward, K.; Watson, S.; Werblow, J.; Wood, R.; Zabihimayvan, M.; Zadi, S.; Zhao, S.; Zhou, B.

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

**Parliamentarian:** Dimmick, C.

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

**Guests:** Bantley, K.; yrd Danso, K.; Castro, L.; Claffey, G.; Destefani, J.; Diaz, D.; Dreger, M.; Kirby, Y.; McGrath, K.; McMahon, L.; Mendoza, D.; Merenstein, B.; Mulrooney, J.; Orellana, N.; Pincince, T.; Robinson, C.; Ross, J.; Sahn-Vincent, A.; Tully, J.; Veloria, C.; Votto, S.; Wethje, C.; Wright, C.

#### **1. Minutes**

- a. The minutes of the November 13 meeting were not available; approval was deferred to the following meeting.

#### **2. Announcements**

- a. AAUP (T. Burkholder)
  - i. There will be a presentation this evening on organized labor by Kim Kelly. It has been organized in AAUP. A flyer with details has been circulated.
  - ii. The AAUP end of the year holiday social will be held in the Connecticut Room on December 13 from 3 – 6 p.m.
- b. SUOAF-AFSCME
  - i. No announcements.
- c. SGA (H. Alkabasi)
  - i. As the semester ends, there are
    - 1. An Open Forum will take place on November 28 in the Constitution Room from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. The Academic Advising Committee is

hosting this with support of the Provost's Office. Students are invited to attend to share their concerns.

2. A Clothing Swap will be held on Tuesday, December 5 from 12- 6 p.m. in Semesters. This is being co-sponsored by Student Affairs and the Sustainability Club. It is a social and educational event as well as a cost-free thrift opportunity.
3. A Give Back Drive is underway. SGA is collecting new socks, gently used clothing and new hygiene items to be distributed to local agencies, including schools. A collection box is located outside of the SGA office.

d. Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) to the Board of Regents (D. Blitz)

i. D. Blitz presented the report shared with the agenda – a Comprehensive Summary of the Deficit Mitigation Plan. It was presented at a special meeting of the BOR last week. Highlights included:

1. The overall fiscal situation of the System was presented, as well as the scenario for each of the six institutions.
2. The FY24 deficit is predicted at \$26M and \$140M for FY25, based on August 2023 numbers.
3. The System believes it can mitigate all of the FY24 deficit and all but \$47.6M of the FY25 deficit, which they will take to the legislature as a request for a mid-cycle budget adjustment. The bulk of the deficit is the CT Community College, where a significant number course sections will be cancelled and hundreds of part-time faculty and educational assistant positions will be eliminated.
4. No campus closures or reduction of full-time positions will occur.
5. At Central, the August 2023 numbers are good, relatively speaking, but they are significantly better if you look at the situation after the Fall 2023 third week freeze.
6. All revenue enhancement projections are soft, as there are both start-up expenses and time needed to bring new initiatives to fruition.
7. Western has the most significant deficit and their mitigation plan includes significant reductions in physical plant. They will also receive \$5M loans from the System Office in FY24 and FY25.
8. The System Office is projecting \$3M in staff reductions in FY24 and \$3.9M in FY25. Their mitigation plan also calls for \$5M of enhanced revenue from program initiatives, which is unusual since the System Office has no academic programs.

ii. The BOR meets again in December.

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

- i. The last two Senate meetings are back-to-back. The next meeting is Monday, December 4. The second round Curriculum Committee report will be on the agenda, as well as a report from the BGS program. Approval of candidates for Fall graduation will also take place. The UPBC will not have a Fall report, but the Chair was reminded that a report to the Senate will be due in Spring.

3. Committee Reports

- a. None

4. New Business

- a. Update on the new school and Communication Health and Education Clinic (K. Bantley)

K. Bantley presented an update. Highlights included:

- The Provost will present the concept of the new college to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board on Friday, December 1. Then, the matter will go before the full Board at their December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Sometime in the near future, an announcement will be sent out announcing the start of the search for the dean of the new college.
- Most of the Fall 2023 activity has been regarding the Community Health Education Clinic. (K. Bantley apologized for truncating the name to Community Clinic all along).
- This semester, two open houses were held to introduce the campus community to the new physical space. Another is planned for Spring.
- Exercise Science and Nursing have held health screenings. A faculty advisory board for the clinic has been established; all members of the board are involved in the clinic in some way. The board is now working on a mission statement, policy issues, and supervisory matters.
- Grants have been received, including one for a van.
- Classes have used the faculty for labs and lab work; that will continue and ramp up.
- The record system has been put in place, and some of the licensure issues have been resolved.
- Faculty positions have not been moved into the new college; the Board has to approve the establishment of the college before that happens.
- President Toro clarified that the earliest that the new college will come into full effect is Fall 2024.

- b. Faculty Handbook Update

- i. Old Chapter 5 – F. Latour invited comments on the old Chapter 5. If anyone is aware of a policy that should be included, please send comments to F. Latour.

5. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.