

Minutes – January 29, 2024 – 3:05 p.m.

Online through WebEx

CCSU Faculty Senate Meeting

Present: Acharya, K.; Adair, S.; Al-Masoud, N.; Arena, J.; Austin, J.; Bantley K.; Barr, B.; Best, F.; Bigelow, L.; Boone, N.; Boscarino, N.; Bray, A.; Cantor, J.; Chen, E.Y.; DeLaura, J.; Efremoff, T.; Elfant, A.; Emeagwali, G.; Evans Zalewski, S.; Farrish, K.; Foshay, J.; Gamache, J.; Garbovskiy, Y.; Hazan, S.; Hernandez, J.; Hernandez, R.; Jackson, M.; Jacobs, C.; Jarrett, J.; Kapper, M.; Kean, K.; Kelly, D.; King, A.; King, C.; Kulesza, M.; Langevin, K.; Lee, C.; Liu, R.; Mahjoob, M.; Martin, K.; Matzke, B.; Mealy, M.; Meng, P.; Nicastro, M.; Ning, W.; O'Connor, J.; Ofray, J.; Orange, M.; Paolina, J.; Patterson, Y.; Phillips, E.; Prather, B.; Rahman, M.; Recoder-Nunez, L.; Rivera, T.; Savatorova, V.; Schenck, S.; Smith, R.; Spear, B.; Styrzcula, S.; Tellier, A.; Urban, D.; Watson, S.; Wood, R.; Zhao, S.; Zhou, B.

Ex-Officio: Alkabasi, H.; Burkholder, T.; Kostelis, K.; Minkler, S.; Mulrooney, J.; Wolff, R.; Talty, P.; Toro, Z.

Parliamentarian: Dimmick, C.

President of the Senate: Latour, F.

Guests: Adeniyi, T.; Austad, C.; Blitz, D.; Bucher, L.; Byrd Danso, K.; Castro, L.; Cintonino, S.; Claffey, G.; Dahn, J.; DeCapu, A.; Destefani, J.; Kirby, Y.; Jones, S.; Larsen, K.; Latina, J.; McGrath, K.; Medina, J.; Merenstein, B.; Orellana, N.; Pincince, T.; Robinson, C.; Russo, M.; Taylor, M.; Toro, Z.; Tully, J.; Veloria, C.; Votto, S.; Wall, K.; Wethje, C.; Williams, L.; Wu, S.; Young, ?.

1. Minutes

- a. The minutes of December 4, 2023 were accepted as presented.

2. Announcements

- a. AAUP (T. Burkholder)
 - i. Politics and Pizza on Feb. 26 at 4 p.m., Connecticut Room, Memorial Hall. Legislators have been invited to meet with faculty and students. AAUP will be reaching out to SGA to ask them to participate as well.
 - ii. Press conference Feb. 5 at the State Capitol in conjunction with the 4Cs union.
 - iii. Town Hall this Thursday with Rep. Rojas also in collaboration with 4Cs.
 - iv. AAUP leadership is going to Capitol on Feb. 7 for opening of legislative session. If interested in participating, sign up with Tom.
 - v. There will be a Board of Regents meeting on Feb. 29.
- b. SUOAF-AFSCME (L. Bigelow)
 - i. Next Chapter meeting is Friday, February 23 on Teams at noon.
 - ii. Management has extended the Telework Pilot for SUOAF members through the end of this calendar year.

- iii. SUOAF has signed a bilateral agreement with the BOR regarding the Retirement Incentive.
 - iv. Wage reopener – we met our contractual requirement by putting in a demand to bargain.
- c. SGA (H. Alkabasi)
 - i. The first spring meeting of the SGA was last Wednesday. SGA meets weekly in Bellin Gallery at 3:05 p.m., but it is meeting in VAC 105 this week only.
 - ii. This semester will be Haneen's last semester at Central.
 - iii. The SGA's winter retreat is this weekend. Goals: effective communication, productive conflict resolution and defining roles.
 - iv. A Student Issues Committee has been created to identify key concerns within the CCSU community and propose actionable solutions.
- d. FAC (M. Jackson) - M. Jackson deferred to D. Blitz to give a report of the last three meetings (all in December) of the BOR, while he was still the rep.
- e.
 - i. December 4 meeting was to discuss Board relationships and interactions among Board members. FAC was neither informed nor invited to this meeting. Student reps were invited. Board went into Executive Session with no agenda.
 - ii. The second December meeting focused on the tuition increase of 5% on average, but not at COSC, just at the CSUs and CT State Community College. At the BOR meeting, D. Blitz was single objection, citing increase was a result of the failure of the CC merger and said the Board had not done its due diligence in supervising university presidents, particularly at WCSU.
 - iii. The third December meeting was to discuss and pass the Retirement Incentive.
- f. President of the Senate (F. Latour)
 - i. All Senate matters are divided into Bills and Resolutions. Bills ask the President to approve something and then it becomes policy or gets acted upon. Resolutions express the opinion of the Senate on a specific topic, and the Senate wants the President to know that, but not take a position. Seven bills were passed by the Senate last year, six were approved. The one that was not approved was on Departmental Mergers and Splits. Fred received feedback. Fred will return the issue to the committee that put the motion forward along with the President's feedback. A compromise solution is sought. It would need to be brought back to the Senate for further discussion.

- ii. A resolution from ECSU *No Confidence Resolution in CSCU Chancellor Terrence Cheng* was shared for informational purposes. They are not soliciting or requesting support from other senates. This Resolution will be on ECSU's Senate agenda on January 30. The FAC is not taking any action on this at this time.
- iii. This semester will be Fred's last semester as Faculty Senate President. We will have an election for President, Vice President and Secretary of the Senate. This election will take place at the first meeting in April. A call for nomination will be sent out in March.

3. New Business

- a. School Name Change – School of Education and Professional Studies – Professional Studies are moving to the new College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. There is a proposal to rename SEPS the School of Education.

MOTION: The Faculty Senate supports the name change from School of Education and Professional Studies to School of Education, effective July 1, 2024. Motion passed.

- i. Charge to Committee on Committees – The membership of some Senate committees includes representation by school. The creation of a new college will impact representation on certain committees. F. Latour charged the Committee on Committees with reviewing all committee bylaws to make sure all necessary changes are made to accommodate there will be five schools. Specifically, he:
 - 1. asked the Committee on Committees meet with him to discuss the work that needs to be done;
 - 2. asked the Committee to recommend to various committees what their new structure might look like and propose updates to the affected committee bylaws.
 - 3. asked the Committee to complete their work before the Senate's Spring elections.
- b. BOR Retirement Proposal – C. Wethje, CCSU's Chief Human Resources Officer, gave a presentation on the Board of Regent's Retirement Incentive proposal.

The presentation garnered much discussion and debate

- i. Proposed Resolution on the Retirement Incentive and its impact on vacancies and refills.

MOTION: To pass the circulated with the agenda.

Motion: to amend the resolution to include the sentence “The Faculty Senate recognizes that this is a subject of collective bargaining”. Motion passed.

The subsequent vote the amended Resolution passed.

4. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.