

Minutes – February 12 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.; Bigelow, L.; Boone, N.; Boscarino, N.; Bray, A.; Cantor, J.; Chen, E.Y.; Cohen, S.; Duquette, J.; Efremoff, T.; Elfant, A.; Emeagwali, G.; Evans Zalewski, S.; Farrish, K.; Foshay, J.; Foster, P.; Gamache, J.; Garbovskiy, Y.; Hansen, J.; Hazan, S.; Hernandez, J.; Jacobs, C.; Jarrett, J.; Kapper, M.; Kara-Soteriou, J.; Karas, R.; Kean, K.; Kelly, D.; King, A.; Langevin, K.; Lee, C.; Liu, R.; Mahjoob, M.; Martin, K.; Matzke, B.; Mei, Z.; Meng, P.; Nicastro, M.; Ning, W.; Ofray, J.; Orange, M.; Paolina, J.; Patterson, Y.; Prather, B.; Recoder-Nunez, L.; Rivera, T.; Savatorova, V.; Schenck, S.; Smith, R.; Spear, B.; Styrzula, S.; Tellier, A.; Tonge, D.; Urban, D.; Ward, K.; Watson, S.; Wood, R.; Zhao, S.; Zhou, B.

Ex-Officio: Alkabasi, H.; Burkholder, T.; Frank, L.; Kostelis, K.; Minkler, S.; 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.; Gendron, M.; Kirby, Y.; Jones, S.; Kruiy, M.; Laidley, K.; Larsen, K.; Latina, J.; Logan, C.; McGrath, K.; Medina, J.; Merenstein, B.; Mulrooney, J.; Robinson, C.; Russo, M.; Rutherford, J.; Sahn-Vincent, A; Thompson, T.; Tully, J.; Veloria, C.; Votto, S.; Wethje, C.; Wu, S.

1. Minutes

- a. The minutes of January 29, 2024 were accepted as presented.

2. Announcements

a. AAUP (T. Burkholder)

- i. A round of negotiations with the BOR on the retirement incentive have been concluded. Information was exchanged and a proposal was left with them. Full details have not been fleshed out. It will be discussed at Council on Thursday. It is an ongoing process, but it seems some progress has been made.
- ii. An email from Action Network has been sent about an event on February 20 -- a rally at the legislature. There is a need for people to testify to the Appropriations Committee regarding how CCSU and CSCU fills the needs of the State. Testimony can be given in writing, in person, and virtually.
- iii. There is a higher education meeting with testimony on Feb. 27. This is a separate opportunity to speak to the legislature's higher education committee about what we do and the students we serve. This is an effort to get additional funding out of the legislature, since the Governor's budget did not provide any additional funding.

b. SUOAF-AFSCME (L. Bigelow)

- i. SUOAF is also participating in the February 20th (Appropriations) and February 27th (Higher Education) legislative events. SUOAF members interested in participating were asked to reach out to L. Bigelow.
- c. SGA (H. Alkabasi)
 - i. SGA's April Spring Concert featured performer is being announced today. The event will be organized a little differently this year – CAN, SGA, LASO and the Black Student Organization are collaborating to present it.
 - ii. SGA Executive Board elections are coming up. Please encourage students to run for office. Nominations begin today.
 - iii. SGA is working on several Black History Month activities. It was also recommended that we celebrate Black History outside of the month of February.
- d. FAC (M. Jackson)
 - i. M. Jackson was not present to make any announcements on behalf of FAC but did ask F. Latour to remind the Senate about the opportunity to testify before the Appropriation Committee on February 20.
 - ii. D. Blitz noted he did attend the last FAC meeting.
 - 1. They elected a new co-chair for the universities: Brendan Cunningham from ECSU Economics Department. He is also active in AAUP leadership.
 - 2. Colena Sesanker will continue as co-chair for the community colleges. She is also active in 4Cs leadership.
 - 3. The FAC has completed its 2024 report to the legislature. It will be made available to BOR members System Office staff, the Governor and his staff, as well as all faculty. He requested it be distributed with the minutes of this meeting. He read several highlights of the report.
 - 4. The Senate President from ECSU presented the Vote of No Confidence Resolution which their senate passed at the end of January. It was not endorsed by the FAC because (1) it was informational and (2) most of the issues in the resolution were specific to Eastern.
 - 5. A motion was presented seeking faculty input on refilling lines vacated by the Retirement Incentive. It will be put forward for a vote at the next meeting.
- e. Senate President (F. Latour)
 - i. The resolution of No Confidence in Chancellor Cheng was approved by Eastern's Senate by a vote of 27-7. Communication with the ECSU Senate regarding this resolution is ongoing.
 - ii. Several events will be happening later in the semester, including an Open Forum to be held in collaboration with the President at the end of February.
 - iii. There is a vacancy on the UPBC that needs to be filled by a person from SUOAF. The election will be at the next Senate meeting. We also need a FIRC representative, since that seat is currently vacant.
 - iv. If you go to the Senate website, you will now find a page for departmental bylaws. F. Latour is in the process of checking with departments and deans that

the bylaws posted are (1) approved and (2) the most recent versions. A checkmark on the site indicates that the dean has confirmed the bylaws to be approved and the most current.

3. Call for Nominations

- a. A call for nominations was made for 1 member of the UPBC representing SUOAF.
- b. A call for nominations was made for the Framework Implementation Review Committee (FIRC).

4. Committee Reports

- a. Curriculum Committee – N. Moore reviewed highlights from the 300+ proposals included in the Curriculum Committee report circulated with the agenda.

MOTION: To accept the items on the Curriculum Committee Report approved by February 7th (up to but not including the section on General education.)

Within the rationale section of the proposal for CE 451:

Motion to amend by adding one lecture section with two lab sections.

Motion passed.

- b. What is a History Course? To expand the range of classes to satisfy history requirement as part of Study Area 2. The change would be analogous to how we handle the Literature requirement in General Education. This makes it easier for students to graduate and students in a class can all get the same credit for the course. About 12 classes would be added to the list of courses that would satisfy the requirement.

MOTION: All courses that teach historical thinking would count toward the History requirement within Study Area 2. Motion passed.

- c. Study and Skill areas: This is rebranding. Students generally do not understand what skill areas and study areas are, so they will be rebranded as Essential Skills and Ways of Understanding.

MOTION: To approve the rebranding of Skill and Study areas as Essential Skills and Ways of Understanding. Motion passed.

- d. Ned outlined the highlights of three proposals which will come back to the Senate in two weeks, after they are approved by the Curriculum Committee.

F. Latour asked Senators to inform their departments that these proposals will be on the February 26th agenda and to come to that meeting prepared to vote. Ranked choice voting will be used in the instances where there are competing proposals, as permitted by Robert's Rules.

5. New Business

- a. Amendment of previously adopted Resolution.

MOTION: To amend the resolution passed at the last Senate meeting as follows:

Remove “be” before the word “adopt” in the fourth Whereas.

The Faculty Senate recognizes that ~~this is a subject of collective bargaining the~~
~~retirement incentive is only applicable to members of bargaining units that have agreed~~
~~to participate in the incentive plan.~~

Motion passed.

6. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.