

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

January 19, 2022

4:00 - 5:30 PM: Charles Hunter Conference Room

Zoom Link [here](#)

DRAFT

Attending: Abigail Larson, Kelly Goonan, Rheana Gardner, Daniel Eves, Brianne Kramer, Dave Berri, Christian Bohnenstengel, Rachel Bolus, Cody Bremner, Rosalyn Eves, Chris Graves, Scott Hansen, Bruce Haslem, Derek Hein, Scott Knowles, Bryan Koenig, Elise Leahy, Celesta Lyman, Greg Powell, Amanda Roundy, Grant Shimer, Kyle Thompson, Joel Vallett, Gary Wallace, Chris Younkin

Not Attending: Maren Hirschi, Mark Aldred , Michelle Orihel

Proxies:

Guests: Mindy Benson, Jon Anderson, Bill Heybourne, Matt Mckenzie, Jen McKenzie, John Lisonbee, Andrew Burroughs, Heather Jones, Rachel Parker

1. Call to order (4:05)
2. Recognition of Presenters and Guests (4:05) (see list above)
3. Approval of [Dec. 8 2022 FS Meeting Minutes](#) (4:06)

Gary's statement was duplicated in the minutes this was corrected. Dan motioned. Scott 2nd. Approved.

4. Information Items (4:07)

- a. COEHD faculty initiative to support ICSD after tragedy
After the tragedy in Enoch, we have wanted to do something to support the teachers as they support their students. The faculty in the College of Education has been talking about this and we've provided block students to serve as substitute teachers to allow teachers to attend the funeral, etc. We've been in discussion with the school board about additional measures. We may be bringing these ideas to the SUU community to also help the teachers, principals, etc. We welcome any ideas that you may have. We would like to plan initiatives that will start in February that will carry through the remainder of the year.
- b. Update on Dean Searches (Jon Anderson)
Both positions were posted just before the holiday break and then to a few other job sites post-break. We have multiple applicants for both positions. We will start about a week from now to review/consider positions.

The College of Science has 17 applicants. Initial screening will be the first week of February narrowing down to the top 12 for Zoom interviews.

Dean of Education: we have about 9 candidates for the position and have posted

the job in additional outlets. The first review was supposed to be the 17th. We have extended the deadline by an additional week before we begin considering candidates.

- c. Festival of Excellence Tuesday, March 28th (No Classes) (Bill Heyborne)
 - i. Proposal Submission Website Open until Feb 28 [FoE Website](#)
 - ii. Poster Presentations for all disciplines in AFEC 2:00 - 3:30 pm

The individual colleges and schools will initiate their own sessions with one exception of the poster session that will be the day of from 2:00-3:30pm on the floor of the arena for viewing.

- d. Study day on Friday, **Apr 21, 2023** . However, "last day" of instruction (including ONLINE-ONLY courses) is Sunday, April 23. Allows ONLINE-ONLY instructors to have assignments due during the last week of instruction and through Sunday, April 23.
 - i. [Academic Calendar key highlights](#)
- e. Grace A. Tanner Distinguished Faculty Lecture given by Lindsay Roper on Thursday, January 26, at 11:30 in the Gilbert Great Hall. "Painting on Petri Dishes" [More info](#)
- f. 2023 Faculty Exhibition Opening Reception: Art & Design faculty exhibition: In connection with the 125th anniversary of SUU, this will also feature work from previous faculty members. **January 20, 2023, 6 - 8 p.m.**
- g. Faculty Awards - new nomination and submission process, committees will vet nominees per usual procedures. Will be working with Jared Tippets to merge and streamline the process. One webpage will be created to nominate faculty, staff, or students. We hope to roll it out next week.
- h. Funshine info & childcare subsidies
On the way to accepting children around the middle of April. There are 55 SUU spots. There will be an informational email sent out with an interest form which will go to a committee and the committee will review and figure out who will get spots. There will be an open house to meet the director. There are childcare subsidies (100) available for any childcare facility for employees. The administration would like two faculty and two staff members as well as one from HR to be on the committee for Funshine. Reach out to Rheana if you would like to serve on the committee.

Q: What is the criteria for getting a subsidy?

A: The committee would put together a rubric to help consider. Not sure if it will be shared. It will be need-based.

A: Hoping for the 1st year to have senate reps on the committee to serve and then next year we can offer positions to other faculty on campus.

FLHD representative would be good to have on the committee.

Elise Leahy volunteered to serve on the committee and act as the Faculty Senate Representative and as one of two Faculty Representatives.

- i. Changes to IRB forms and processes
 - i. [IRB website](#)
 - ii. CTI Zoom Link from Dec. 6 Professional Development Session: [IRB Presentation](#); Passcode: winter2023!
Bill Davis would like to remind us that there are new forms so please visit the website.

- j. CTI upcoming events: Matt Mckenzie and Jen Mckenzie
 - i. Writing Retreat Feb 10 - 12 at Ruby's Inn [sign-up](#)
 - ii. Teaching for Learning Conference [T4L](#)

We have several things that have gone out – the first is the Writing Retreat. All 24 spots are full with 4 people on the waiting list.

We also have an opportunity to fund a Teaching for Learning Conference which is at the end of our spring break and we will fund anyone who is in a teaching position (staff as well). 14 people have signed up so far. We are committed to funding anyone who signs up.

Trainings for badges. We are asking for feedback from faculty on more options for training.

Matt: There are other ideas for retreats – a curriculum retreat in Brian Head. Look out for more info and more events you can participate in.

Jon Lisonbee: Staff Association Update. We appreciate being able to attend and advocate for a better school. We just had a board meeting that was very productive. Let us know if we can help the faculty senate in any way.

5. Action items (4:32)

- a. [Strategic Plan 1.3](#) (Provost Anderson, Chris Younkin, Gary Wallace, Abigail Larson) Introduced in November as a first draft. We hope you have reviewed and shared with your colleagues. The provost does want some consensus on the plan. Any feedback?

Chris: A colleague didn't really see that there was a plan of action.

Jon: We are about two years in developing this. We wanted to have our language

match President Benson's inaugural address and the values she expressed. The action items will come later around facilities, culture, and enrollment. We would like the faculty senate to assess these things on a year-to-year basis.

Q: Have the committees been formed yet?

Jon: Bill will chair the facilities committee. Abigail would like to join. The enrollment committee will be chaired by Steward Jones. The culture committee (Co-Chairs: Donna Law and Daneka Souberbielle) has been formed and they are meeting.

The Faculty Senate voted in support of the strategic plan

- b. Policy 6.49: Graduation Requirements [Tracked](#) [Clean](#)
Any questions?

Andrew Burroughs: Student-driven policy change and we are excited about this potential change.

Motion to approve and was seconded. All voted in favor of policy 6.49

6. Discussion Items (4:40)

- a. Interest in performing a similar survey or adopting recommendations?
[Report finds UNM faculty members affected by ongoing pandemic stress and work obstacles](#) (Chris Graves)

They used the data to make recommendations – we need to be purpose-driven in order to do this.

Dan: Do we expect to have a different result?

Abigail: Good question – I'm primarily concerned about junior faculty. Any thoughts on moving forward with these findings?

Gary: There doesn't seem to be a standard or consistency on publishing. I would love to see a standard. I think this would help a lot of our juniors.

Brianne: I've recently studied the effects of Covid on K-12 teachers. We might actually find different results on the higher ed level. We used three mental health measurements and UT scored the lowest in stress and burnout and the highest in mental health. We don't have an explanation for that – but we wonder how that will transfer into higher ed. Bri would be willing to explore this more if there is a need.

Abi: We can explore it more if Bri could take charge. Please send out to your colleagues a question on whether they would be interested in a survey like this.

b. Standard syllabus statement and the addition of a “classroom etiquette” clause. All changes are highlighted in yellow [Draft of Required Syllabus Statements for Sum 23](#)

Could be implemented Summer or Fall 2023. What are your thoughts?

Rosalyn: I like the credit hours as we don’t have a realistic expectation. Not sure the etiquette is necessary for college students (more k-12 in tone). Might rub students wrong.

Abi: This was crafted because it was needed. Might be a little patronizing.

Kelly: I like it, it is consistent with other messaging that students get. Pre and post-Covid classes of students felt different. I think it is helpful to have some expectations stated for students.

Scott K: I think it’s an individual professor's prerogative to set the expectations on etiquette in the classroom. We all should be doing this. These should be individual policies. I’m surprised that there aren’t already avenues for faculty to go down to deal with some of these problems. How many students actually pay attention to these statements in the syllabus?

Rosalyn: Could these be optional?

Abi: We might want to have the student senators take a look at this and get their perspective. Please take these back to your faculty and get feedback.

Jen: Classroom behavior and management research have shown it’s about reinforcement. This language is not student-centered, it’s very instructor driven. CTI would be interested in perhaps providing training for the enforcement. Also trainings on how to most appropriately instruct neurodivergent students.

Rosalyn: Would love to have the disabilities office involved as well. Interested in training.

- c. Threat assessment and decision-making (prepared statement)
 - i. Interest in further discussion of threat assessment with risk management and legal?
 - ii. Additional Trainings?
 - iii. Red Keys?
 - iv. Need for increased security presence on campus?

In relation to the emergency statement at the end of December about the emerging threat and the timing. There were several conversations with President Benson and legal counsel. Abigail read a prepared statement that was read to the senate.

I know there have been a lot of questions and lingering concerns about how future threats will be handled. There has been and could be more training that are related to various forms of threat and the management of them.

Gary: What is your definition of a threat? Many of our students are likely packing a gun.

Abi: We can't change state law – we have to address threats that we can actually mitigate. People perceive threats differently.

Grant: There was some vandalism in the Geo Sciences building. The electronic locks are erratic but we are trying to define which classroom should or shouldn't be locked.

Chris: Faculty shooter training recently – I have an opinion. When I was at Ohio State there was an incident where the building was locked down. A student drove through a crowd of people and then got out with a knife and started slashing. One of the things I learned on a personal level – you can't really prepare and also that it's hard to get information about what is going on. I find that the training videos are useless as a way to tell you what to do. It seems like there isn't really a good solution and the videos don't help.

Gary: Students should have training as well – especially if they are packing.

Rosalyn: Red Key that will lock the door from the inside of a classroom.

Kelly: There's a difference between what you do in the moment vs. what you do before. What you can do in the moment is limiting. But before it gets to that point you can be trained to recognize threats better and know how to report them. Training on how to recognize behaviors in students and colleagues and how to report or get support would be helpful. Acquisition and use of trauma kits is also needed.

Gary: Some buildings don't have cell reception. Perhaps panic buttons could be useful in these situations.

Abi: This is good feedback to take back to administration. There is a need for funding to make these things happen and have equitable access across campus. Please share with your departments to get realistic feedback to improve our overall security.

Comment: Some buildings don't have the function of a red key safety measure. More night security might help deter vandals.

7. Standing committee updates (5:15)

- a. Academic Affairs (Rheana Gardner)
All hands on deck for 6.1 changes and hope to have a draft for senate in February
- b. Workload and Faculty Salary Equity Committee (Kelly Goonan)
- c. Faculty Review Board (Daniel Eves)
- d. Parking Ticket Arbitration Committee (Daniel Eves)
- e. Staff Association Liaison (Daniel Eves)
- d. Faculty Awards Committees
 - i. Distinguished Faculty Lecturer/Grace A Tanner Committee (Chris Graves)
 - ii. Inclusion Diversity Awards (Abigail Larson)
 - iii. Outstanding & Distinguished Educator Award (Chair Jen Mckenzie; FS rep Bryan Koenig)
 - iv. Distinguished Scholarly/Creative Award Committee (Christian Bohnenstengel)
 - v. Distinguished Faculty Service Award (Derek Hein)
 - vi. Distinguished Faculty Global Engagement Award (Kurt Harris)
- e. General Education Committee (Rosalyn Eves)
We are moving forward with the pilot. Looking for volunteers please ask your faculty, anyone who teaches a GE class. If interested please contact Rosalyn.
- f. University Equity and Inclusion Committee (Bri Kramer)
First meeting last week and working on a survey.
- h. University Curriculum Committee (Scott Knowles)
- j. Student Association Liaison (Joel Vallet)
- l. Benefits Committee (Cody Bremner)
Should meet in January.
- m. Treasurer's Report (Daniel Eves)
- n. Past President's Report - (Rheana Gardner) Funshine Childcare Center
- o. President Elect's Report - (Kelly Goonan)
Attended board of trustees meeting as Abi's proxy. Please read the minutes and president Benson's report. Points of interest include: UT Board of Education is looking to become smaller so that more of the responsibilities will be transferred to the institutions, ie. performance goals and reviews. The Co-chair of the Board did ask about how folks on campus were doing. Good conversation about mental health and what our challenges are – they want to be aware. The Board of Higher Ed is seeking a hefty compensation rate – 8% was discussed. Rick Brown is retiring and Kelly will be serving on the search committee.
- p. President's Report – (Abigail Larson) President's Council & Dean's Council & Strategic Planning & Athletic Director Search – faculty senate approved the most recent version of the strategic plan that will be moving forward. A new athletic

director, Dough Knuth, was recently hired and is now on campus.

8. Call for Executive Session

9. Adjourn (5:23)