

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 2022

Faculty Senate Chair: Amy Cavanaugh	Faculty Senate Chair-Elect: Rick Bullis	Past Chair Virginia Irintcheva
Executive Committee member, Academic Standards and Assessment Chair Jinger Doe	Executive Committee member, Curriculum Review Chair Katie Kolbet	Executive Committee member, Professional Standards Chair Marynia Giren-Navarro
Executive Committee member, Salary, Benefits and Budget Chair Matt Leathen	Administrative Faculty Committee Chair Ben Davis	Learning Commons Committee Chair John Kemp
Part-Time Faculty Committee Chair Pat Miller	Recognition & Activities Committee Chair Tara Connolly	WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee Chair Blisin Hestiyas
Senators At-Large: Ben Davis Jennifer Pierce Adine Stormoen Amanda Stibick	Senator for Allied Health: Julie McMahan Rori Wilkis	Senators for Technical Sciences: Jeremy Coggin Wyatt Ziebell
Senators for Biology: James Kuzhippala Sharif Rumjahn	Senators for Computer Technologies: Steve Bale	Senators for English: Lenaya Andersen Karen Wikander
Senators for History, Political Science & Law: John Kemp Kofi Poku	Senators for Humanities: Gabriel Chavez Nancy Faires	Senators for Math: Rebecca McCleary Lars Jensen
Senators for Physical Sciences: Sameer Bhattarai Michael Leonard	Senators for Social Sciences: Marynia Giren-Navarro Haley Orthel-Clark	Senators for Visual and Performing Arts: Candace Garlock Ron Marston
Senators for Part-Time Faculty: Cara Dopf Gus Stuart	Classified Council Representative Sarah Gill	Student Government Representative John Fenton

Absent: Rori Wilkis (Proxy: Julie McMahan)

Guests: YeVonne Allen, Jeffrey Alexander, Amber Anaya, Elena Bubnova, Sam Byington, Alexander Day, Ashlyn Herold, Karin Hilgersom, Crista Jorgensen, Kate Kirkpatrick, Jim New, Melissa Olsen, Roger Putnam, Nicole Scollard

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p. m.

Chair's Report – Amy Cavanaugh

Senate Chair Amy opened her report with the meeting protocols.

Board of Regents (BOR) / NSHE Update: During the October BOR Meeting the self-evaluation of the Regents was discussed. The next meeting of the Board of Regents is December 1-2 and the NFA Contract for TMCC will be on the agenda for regent approval. The NFA plans to hold a professional development workshop in January to make sure everyone is aware of what is in the new contract.

Vice President Finance and Government Relations (VPFG) Update: A Vice President of Finance and Government Relations position will be posted and an executive search will begin soon.

Retention Award: A portion of contingency funds will be awarded to employees and will be scaled to salary.

Planning Council: The leadership of each budget committee will meet regularly to coordinate efforts. Cyber security trainings will be coming soon. The Technology Committee, chaired by Fred Lokken, will begin soon. Faculty can discuss technologies used and whether they are working. IT will have a bigger presence in the Welcome Center and at the other Campus sites at the beginning of the Spring term.

Motion Updates: The Administrative Faculty Forms have been approved. The President is considering options regarding the Listservs resolution from October. The Academic Freedom Committee motion was placed with the Professional Standards Committee to explore whether they need to add a charge to the Professional Standards Committee or form a new committee.

Crisis Taskforce (formerly COVID-19 Taskforce): The taskforce has crafted a policy for when to reinstate masks, if needed. Once finalized, the policy will be published. Language may be added for respiratory symptom issues.

December 9, 2022 Faculty Senate Meeting: Acting Chancellor Erquiaga will attend our December meeting and provide a state of NSHE update and his goals for the system.

Chair-Elect's Report: Rick Bullis

The second read of Faculty Senate Bylaw Change to 4.3 will be heard today as an action item.

The Getting Paid Committee has been formed and Bradley Summerhill will chair the committee. The goal of the committee is to find sustainable mechanisms to provide TMCC Faculty with regular and meaningful salary increases.

Past Chair's Report: Virginia Irintcheva

Past Chair Virginia reported she is a member of the Getting Paid Committee. She also wished the President luck with her interview process.

Administrative Report: Karin Hilgersom, TMCC President

VPFG— Several bids have been received. Cizek and Associates will be the search firm. The activities completed so far: a search firm has been selected, and TMCC and the firm are creating the contract now. The preliminary search committee is ready to serve. The search firm will survey constituency groups and will post a job description in December.

NFA Contract Negotiations: The NFA Contract negotiations are completed and interest-based bargaining was used. Dr. Hilgersom expressed her thanks for the hard work that went into the negotiations by both bargaining teams.

Budget Committees: BPLAT will begin meeting soon and will communicate with the PAIDs committee.

Equity Study: There has been response from the RFP for the Equity Study. BCN has received bids and will coordinate the responses.

COLA Recommendation: Dr. Hilgersom reviewed the COLA Recommendation and wondered if SBBC remembered funding is not fully funded by the state. TMCC is expected to cover 36%. The recommendation may necessitate leaving positions vacant or other similar measures.

One-Time Award to all staff: A policy change will need to be implemented to disburse the one-time retention awards. The first read will occur at the November Planning Council. Dr. Hilgersom is working with NSHE to verify that we can move forward with this one-time funding, so this one-time payout for all employees is not approved yet.

Accreditation Visit: The accreditors visit went well and we received two strong commendations in relation to our connection to the community and streamlining our KPI's to support the Strategic Master Plan. The only recommendation concerned strengthening areas of transfer program assessment. Questions received were: the COLA breakdown, whether

TMCC's portion is legally mandated, and the COLA recommendation. Dr. Hilgersom confirmed it is legally mandated. TMCC's portion was 20%, but it was increased during the last budget cycle. SBBC Chair Matt Leathen noted the recommendation language included requesting the COLA to be fully funded by the State.

Administrative Report: Jeffrey Alexander, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Alexander Zoomed in from the NWCCU Accreditation Conference in Seattle.

An Open Educational Resources (OER) Practitioner's Group will be started in the Spring Semester. Please contact Dr. Alexander if interested in joining.

Dr. Alexander discussed course sharing which is sharing 3-5 seats between courses and colleges for online courses. This is in the exploratory stages now.

Academic Affairs Council meets each quarter to discuss new updates at each institution. There are new certificates, program updates, and program changes coming.

Bylaw Change 2nd Reading

The 4.3 Committee met on September 30, drafted a change to the Faculty Senate Bylaws, and approved the draft. The first read occurred at the October 7, 2022 Faculty Senate Meeting. The second read presented today for action.

Original Language:

4.3 – Term of Office:

Each Senator shall serve a two-year term commencing on June 1 of the year in which elected, except for the two Part-Time Faculty Senators, who shall serve a one-year term commencing on June 1 of the year in which elected.

Terms of office for two year terms shall be staggered so that each year only half of the Senate positions shall be open for election.

Senators can only serve two consecutive terms.

Proposed Language: (changes in red)

4.3 – Term of Office:

Each Senator shall serve a two-year term commencing on June 1 of the year in which elected, except for the two Part-Time Faculty Senators, who shall serve a one-year term commencing on June 1 of the year in which elected.

Terms of office for two year terms shall be staggered so that each year only half of the Senate positions shall be open for election.

Senators can only serve two consecutive terms **or a total of four consecutive years, whichever is greater.**

Senator Haley Orenthal-Clark moved and Sharif Rumjahn seconded to approve the second read of the Faculty Senate Bylaw 4.3 – Term of Office. A suggestion was made to remove the second "total" from the text shown at today's Faculty Senate Meeting. The motion and amendment were approved with 26 ayes.

Approval of the October 7, 2022 Minutes

Motion: To approve the Faculty Senate Minutes for October 7, 2022.

Movant: Senator Gus Stuart

Second: Senator Haley Orenthal-Clark

Vote: Motion passed, as amended, with 25 ayes and 1 abstention.

There was one correction, Senator Ben Davis was present at the October 7, 2022 meeting.

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the November 4, 2022 Consent Agenda.

Movant: Senator Jennifer Pierce

Second: Senator Jeremy Coggin

Vote: Motion passed, as amended, with 26 ayes.

There is one correction to the Consent Agenda, it was requested by the submitter to recall the Certificate of Achievement in Music at this time.

Amendment to the motion: Senator Gus Stuart moved and Senator Cara Dopf seconded to approve the amendment to Consent Agenda Item B: Curriculum Decisions, the motion passed as amended with 26 ayes.

Standing Committee Reports

Academic Standards and Assessment Committee – Jinger Doe

The ASA has not met since the last Faculty Senate Meeting. The Critical Thinking GELO Taskforce continues its work. The next meeting of the ASA is November 18, 2022 via Zoom. Feline Senator Sir Chunk would like noted his absence at today's meeting is not his fault.

Administrative Faculty Committee – Ben Davis

The committee met on October 21. The committee discussed reviewing and making recommendations for the Administrative Professional Advancement Reclassification Program. An adhoc committee has been established. This program is in its beginning stages. The committee next meets November 18, 2022 via Zoom.

Curriculum Review Committee – Katie Kolbet

Katie thanked the Senate for approving all the curriculum decision items on today's consent agenda. The submission date for making catalog changes is November 11. Please make your changes no later than November 10 as the 11th is a holiday. The committee next meets December 2, 2022.

Learning Commons Committee – John Kemp

The committee met on November 3, 2022. The Monster Panel was cancelled this year. The committee is gathering steam and generating ideas for the Earth Day event in April. John will be meeting with the Sustainability Champions. The next meeting of the Learning Commons is February 2, 2023.

Part-Time Faculty Committee – Pat Miller

The committee met prior to today's Senate Meeting. The Part-Time Faculty of the Month Awards have received many nominations thanks to the committee's efforts. The committee also wondered if mandated trainings would include a stipend. The committee next meets December 9, 2022.

Professional Standards – Marynia Giren-Navarro

The committee met prior to today's Senate Meeting. The main discussion item was access and permissions for evaluations/observations by supervisors. The committee will reach out to Deans, Chairs, and Coordinators to get feedback concerning what permissions they need and do not need. Marynia will also reach out to the Deans, Chairs, and Coordinators concerning needs for the electronic tenure binders. Academic Freedom was also briefly discussed and will be on the next meeting agenda. The committee felt any items concerning Academic Freedom are already a part of its charges that could be discussed, and a new committee charge is not needed at this time. The committee next meets December 9, 2022.

Recognition and Activities – Tara Connolly

The committee met on November 1, 2022. They have placed earth-shaped, seed-embedded, paper earths in the Student Center to be added to the Gratitude Manzanita Tree. Kat Dow was the most recent winner of the Professional of the Month. Nominations for Career Champions will go live later this month. The next meeting of the Recognition and Activities Committee is December 6, 2022 via Zoom.

Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee – Matt Leathen

The committee met on October 14, 2022. The budget committees were discussed and the COLA Recommendation being brought for action today was crafted and approved in committee. The next meeting of the SBBC is November 18, 2022.

Chair Leathen displayed the COLA Recommendation with Senator Marston's assistance. The senators voted and the motion to recommend a 9% COLA was passed with 26 ayes.

Approved by the Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee October, 14, 2022

Whereas the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) year-over-year from September has increased by: 8.2% for 2022, and 5.4% for 2021 based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Whereas the compounded effect of inflation over the past two years is 14%. Over that same time period, NSHE received a 1.0% COLA.

Whereas Social Security benefits will have a Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) of 8.7% for 2023, and had a previous COLA of: 5.9% for 2022.

Whereas the Nevada State Legislature passed a COLA for NSHE Professional staff of: 1.0% for 2022, and 0.0% for 2021. Previous COLA adjustments have not kept up with increases in the cost of living.

Whereas Nevada's tax revenues for 2022 are 25% higher than projected.

Be it resolved that the TMCC Faculty Senate urges the Nevada State Legislature to fully fund a COLA adjustment of at least 9% for Financial Year 2023 and 6% for Financial Year 2024 in order for salaries to be maintained relative to inflation.

WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee – Blisin Hestiyas

Senate Chair Amy provided Blisin's report. The WebCollege met prior to today's meeting. The committee discussed ways to support the WebCollege staff during the first week of the Spring Semester. Fred Lokken attended today's meeting and offered tips for managing the Spring Semester WebCollege workload demands and will take concerns to the Deans and Chairs. Blisin also gave a demonstration of the Redirect App located within Canvas. The committee next meets December 2, 2022 via Zoom or in SIER 117 if you would like to attend in person.

Student Government Association (SGA) – John Fenton

A new Student Life and Development Coordinator, Becca Franssen, has been hired to advise and support the Student Government Association.

Classified Council – Sarah Gill

The Turkey/Ham Raffle and Silent Auction are returning to the Holiday Party. The Gift Basket Silent Auction will be done online to ensure other campus locations can view the baskets and participate. The committee are seeking donations for hams, turkeys, and baskets. There will be a Best Basket Contest with the winning basket receiving a pizza party for the department. The September Classified Employee of the Month was Valerie Lambert. The October Employee of the Month has been selected and will be recognized soon. November nominations are now open. A nominee for the NSHE Classified Employee of the Year was submitted to the Regents.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Senator Lars Jensen proposed a bylaw change to the Faculty Senate Bylaws 7.6: "Faculty Senate meetings shall be open. All interested." His proposal is to strike this sentence citing a decision made at the Community College of Southern Nevada in consultation with Attorney General Ford, which stated their Faculty Senate Meetings are not open meetings. Senate Chair Cavanaugh requested the bylaw change in writing to be included on a future Senate agenda.

Senator Gus Stuart suggested a Faculty Senate Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee to review the Senate Bylaws and any suggested changes. He also noted the Senate does have the option available to enter into an executive session.

Adjourn

It was moved by Chair Elect Rick Bullis and seconded by Senator Ron Marston to adjourn the November 4, 2022 Faculty Senate Meeting. The motion passed with 24 ayes.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:09 p.m.