

# FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

Mar. 12, 2021

Faculty Senate Chair: <b>YeVonne Allen</b>	Faculty Senate Chair-Elect: <b>Virginia Irintcheva</b>	Executive Committee member, Academic Standards and Assessment Chair <b>Jinger Doe</b>
Executive Committee member, Curriculum Review Chair <b>Katie Kolbet</b>	Executive Committee member, Professional Standards Chair <b>Cheryl Woehr</b>	Executive Committee member, Salary, Benefits and Budget Chair <b>Matt Leathen</b>
Administrative Faculty Committee Chair <b>Ashlyn Moreno</b>	Library Committee Chair <b>Rob Lively</b>	Part-Time Faculty Committee Chair <b>Edwin Lyngar</b>
Recognition & Activities Committee Chair <b>Erin Frock and Sidney Sullivan</b>	WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee Chair <b>Dan Hooper</b>	
Senators At-Large: <b>Yuli Chavez Camarena</b> <b>Staci Miller</b> <b>Adine Stormoen</b> <b>Sidney Sullivan</b>	Senator for Allied Health: <b>Heidi Himler</b> <b>Julie McMahon</b>	Senators for Technical Sciences: <b>Sam Byington</b> <b>Jeremy Coggin</b>
Senators for Biology: <b>Amy Cavanaugh</b> <b>Jinger Doe</b>	Senators for Computer Technologies: <b>Steve Bale</b> <b>Cathy House</b>	Senators for English: <b>Lenaya Andersen</b> <b>Karen Wikander</b>
Senators for History, Political Science & Law: <b>John Kemp</b> <b>Ben Scheible</b>	Senators for Humanities: <b>Eric Bullis</b> <b>Gabriel Chavez</b>	Senators for Math: <b>Hieu Do</b> <b>Rebecca McCleary</b>
Senators for Physical Sciences: <b>Ed Corbett</b> <b>Olga Katkova</b>	Senators for Social Sciences: <b>Julia Hammett</b> <b>Paula Reynolds</b>	Senators for Visual and Performing Arts: <b>Candace Garlock</b> <b>Rossitza Todorova</b>
Senators for Part-Time Faculty: <b>Gwendolyn Clancy</b> <b>Heather Haddox</b>	Classified Council Representative <b>Chynna Slocum</b>	Student Government Representative <b>Alyssa Fromelius</b>

**Absent:** Gwen Clancy (Proxy: Pat Miller), Candace Garlock, Olga Katkova (Proxy: Matt Leathen)

**Guests:** Amber Anaya, Natalie Brown, Elena Bubnova, , Anne Flesher, Alyssa Fromelius, Karin Hilgersom, Kate Kirkpatrick, Meeghan Gray, James Kuzhippala, Estella Levorio-Gutierrez, , Marie Murgolo, Jim New, Tina Ruff, Joe Sanpietro, Joan Steinman

**The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m.**

## Chair's Report – YeVonne Allen

Chair Allen ensured quorum was met opened her report congratulating all of the newly tenured academic faculty members, including Senator Heidi Himler from the Nutrition Department.

**Legislative Updates:** NSHE is tracking several bills with focus remaining on the budget and the appropriation bill. We will hear a more in-depth update from AVP Elena Bubnova today. On March 17, 2021, Chair Allen will provide testimony on to the Legislature to advocate against any additional cuts beyond the projected 12%. The NSHE Senate Council of Chairs is advocating for the restoration of Long-Term Disability Benefits in our PEBP plans and were able to incorporate many points from TMCC's resolution in their statement.

**NSHE Board of Regents Update (BOR):** The BOR met on Mar. 4-5, 2021 and the TMCC Strategic Master Plan changes were approved. Chancellor Rose shared with the Senate Council of Chairs that the NSHE code language for the performance pay merit pool will likely be on the agenda for the June BOR Meeting and upon approval would be implemented in FY 24. A salary study is slated for October. The NSHE Cultural Diversity Committee, Chancellor, and the Board of Regents have voted in favor to support the National Association of System Heads (NASH) Equity Action Framework. The next adhoc Fiscal Sustainability Committee Meeting will be on March 18 with a focus on NSHE sponsored programs and ways to centralize and share services.

**Campus Updates:** Commencement is required for academic faculty and volunteers are needed. The Faculty Senate Office is facilitating a performance survey March 11-31 on the VPSD and other administrators who supervise academic faculty. The incoming VPAA, Dr. Jeffery Alexander, will receive feedback at the end of year 1. His first day is June 1, 2021. Dr. Melissa Deadmond will serve as interim VPAA from April 2 thru the end of May. Dr. Murgolo's last day is April 2.

**COVID-19 Update:** Washoe County is still working through the priority lanes and NSHE is advocating to the state to get all NSHE employees vaccinated. The TMCC COVID-19 Crisis Management Team continues to meet weekly to discuss the latest data, scientific findings, and information from the governor's offices.

**TMCC Budget Reduction Taskforce:** The taskforce met this week. The anticipated reduction was 12%. Due to an error at the system level the budget will be reduced another \$1M bringing the reduction to just over 14%. This does not include any enrollment and registration fee declines. Buyout savings total \$892,000 per year and \$3.7M in vacancy savings. The contingency fund holds \$14M with \$500K being used for FY21. TMCC is fortunate to have a robust savings.

**Fall 2021 Course Planning Snapshot:** 57% of classes will be held in person, 7% hybrid, 6% web live and 30% web.

**Faculty Senate Updates:** Cheryl Woehr has volunteered to chair the Professional Standards Committee for the remainder of the year. Chairs are needed for Fall in the Learning Commons and Professional Standards Committees. The April Faculty Senate Meeting will feature presentations from Melissa Deadmond on the NWCCU accreditation process, Cheryl Scott will present on hiring demographics, and we may have Elena Bubnova return to provide an update on the Legislative session. Elections will open for the Faculty Senate Chair-Elect following today's meeting.

Chair Allen closed her report thanking Dr. Marie Murgolo, VPAA for her service to TMCC wishing her well in retirement.

## **Chair-Elect's Report – Virginia Irintcheva**

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Chair-elect Virginia Irintcheva opened her report asking the Senate body to consider running for Chair-elect or one of the standing committees needing chairs. Members are also being sought out for the Survey Results Committee. Please reach out to Chair Allen or Chair-elect Irintcheva if you are interested.

## **Administrative Report – Dr. Karin Hilgersom, TMCC President**

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Dr. Hilgersom expressed gratitude for the Senate leadership for all the work being done this Spring term, congratulated the newly tenured faculty, and Erin Frock who received a Regent's Award. The Fall schedule has been set and we are headed in to a count year. Dr. Hilgersom thanked the Part-Time Faculty for their outstanding work. Dr. Melissa Deadmond was also acknowledged for the work done in getting the TMCC Strategic Master Plan updated for approval at the Board of Regents. The Chancellor and the 2 YR College Presidents met with the Governor's staff about a bill what will be dropped soon. The bill legislates a study to be completed by the next legislative session (16-18 months) will likely replace the Governor's preliminary statement establishing an independent authority for Nevada's Community Colleges. The Study committee will look at independent structures and best practices. The Covid Taskforce met and voted to move to Stage 3 on April 1. Many thanks were given to Dr. Murgolo for her service as VPAA and the programs she brought to TMCC. It has been a great partnership. VPAA Marie strengthened many partnerships, including with TMCC student services and to the great benefit of our College.

## **Administrative Report- Dr. Marie Murgolo, Vice President Academic Affairs**

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Dr. Murgolo opened her final report thanking everyone for all the work done and congratulating the large list of newly tenured faculty. Dr. Murgolo is excited for TMCC's future and wishes the new VPAA Dr. Jeffrey Alexander all the best in his new role.

## Legislative Update – AVP Elena Bubnova

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Associate Vice President Elena Bubnova gave an overview of the 2021 legislative session which is virtual this year. The priorities for NSHE are the budget, financial aid, compensation, PEBP benefits, and community college governance. Some of the items AVP Bubnova highlighted were the 12% budget cut, PEBP restoration of long-term disability, and a few of the 200+ bills being tracked by NSHE. Individual advocacy is welcomed and AVP Bubnova encourages anyone who might want seek advice to reach out to her or Senate Chair YeVonne Allen. The next budget hearing is March 17. More communication will be forth-coming via townhalls, open meetings at TMCC, and weekly meetings with Senate and SGA leadership as the legislative session progresses.

## Approval of the February 12, 2021 Minutes

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**Motion:** To approve the minutes for February 12, 2021

**Movant:** Senator Amy Cavanaugh

**Second:** Senator Karen Wikander

**Vote:** Motion passed with 23 ayes.

## Consent Agenda

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**Motion:** To approve the March 12, 2021 Consent Agenda.

**Movant:** Senator Amy Cavanaugh

**Second:** Senator Julia Hammett

**Vote:** Motion passed with 24 ayes.

## Standing Committee Reports

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- **Academic Standards and Assessment Committee – Jinger Doe**  
The committee last met on March 5, 2021 and reviewed more PURs. The Diversity Subcommittee met and would like more members. Please let Jinger know if you are interested. The next meeting of the Diversity Committee is March 20. The next meeting of the Academic Standards and Assessment Committee is March 26, 2021.
- **Administrative Faculty Committee – Ashlyn Moreno**  
The committee met in February and has reviewed the survey of Academic Faculty. The main priority that emerged was professional advancement for Administrative Faculty. The committee will continue work on this item at a later date. Professional Development Days will be in June or July and the sessions will be hybrid. The committee next meets March 26, 2021. Sidney Sullivan will be stepping in as chair for the remainder of the semester.
- **Curriculum Review Committee – Katie Kolbet**  
The committee met on March 5, 2021. Chair Katie Kolbet had two informational items. Per the Board of Regents, no 300-400 level courses should appear the first two years of a program, so the transfer agreements can be seamless. NSHE will be requiring faculty at other institutions be consulted if a program exists before implementing a program at your institution. Programs must go through the Academic Planning Council. Today is the last day to submit items for the April 2 CRC Meeting and April 16 is the last day to make submissions for the final CRC meeting of the year.
- **Learning Commons Committee – Rob Lively**  
The committee met on March 4, 2021. A donation of books and other items was received from the Raggio Family which will be on display in the Learning Commons soon. The Tutoring Center needs tutors. Please refer any students to the online form or Brandy Scarnati. The Electoral College Panel went well. The next panel is about the Roaring 20's. The next meeting of the Learning Commons Committee is April 1, 2021.
- **Part-Time Faculty Committee – Heather Haddox for Edwin Lyngar**  
The committee met today. Over 100 responses were received in the survey of Part-Time Faculty. The committee will continue to review the data for key findings to present at Cabinet. The Coffee Klatch featured Nicole Scollard from HR, who answered many of the faculty's questions. The next meeting of the Part-Time Faculty Committee is May 14, 2021.
- **Professional Standards – Cheryl Woehr**  
The committee met March 5, 2021 and formed a subcommittee to compare the In-Person Observation Form with the WebLive form for possible edits to ensure consistency. The committee voted against the Resolution to Publish

Courses in Advance and bring this topic to Senate today for a discussion. The committee also discussed enrollment caps. Please step forward if you are interested in being a chair for this committee. The next meeting of the committee is April 9, 2021.

Chair Allen provided a brief history of the resolution and opened the floor for discussion. The resolution originated with the WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee and was assigned to Professional Standards for a wider scope. WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee Chair Dan Hooper said his committee discussed the resolution again today in their meeting and asked for a second chance to continue reviewing the resolution.

- **Recognition and Activities – Erin Frock and Sidney Sullivan**  
Sidney Sullivan reported Rebecca Eckland will be the committee chair next year. The committee will continue with the Career Champions program. The Distinguished Faculty Awards are in process and will be announced April 30. The Professional of the Month for January was awarded and February's will be announced soon. The next meeting of the Recognition and Activities Committee is April 6, 2021.
- **Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee – Matt Leathen**  
The committee met February 26, 2021 and discussed recent activity related to the budget. NSHE recently held Retirement Week and the web sessions were well-attended. The recorded sessions are available online for a limited time. The PEBP Resolution that came from SBBC and the Faculty Senate was sent to the NSHE Council of Chairs to draw talking points from. The Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee next meets on March 26.
- **WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee – Dan Hooper**  
The committee met today and discussed the resolution to publish courses. The committee was not able to come to any consensus and will table the item until their next meeting. James Kuzhippala was selected as the new committee chair. The next meeting of the WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee is April 9, 2021.
- **Student Government Association (SGA) – Alyssa Fromelius**  
The SGA are working to support the possibility of a TMCC Game Room, more hydration stations, and healthier options in the vending machines. SGA Elections are now open for the Fall SGA positions. The First 200 student voters will receive a cupcake and there is a raffle for 3 laptops for students who vote in the election.
- **Classified Council – Chynna Slocum**  
Chynna reported the Classified Employee of the Month for January was Hans Meadows. The Classified Employee of the Year nominations are now open until April 16. President Bledsoe was able to help the Facilities Department employees receive iPads for use while they provide service throughout the TMCC campuses. The Classified Council next meets on Thursday, March 18, 2021.

## Old Business

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### Agenda Item 10A Bylaw Revision Pronouns – second read

*Senator Ben Scheible moved and Senator Amy Cavanaugh seconded to approve the Bylaw Revision Pronouns. The motion was approved unanimously.*

Senate Chair Allen noted the changes do align with the APA Style Guidelines. There was no other discussion.

## Resolution for Fall 2021 Enrollment

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Chair Allen introduced the resolution and mentioned the language was shared with NFA president Cheryl Cardoza.

*1<sup>st</sup> Amendment: Senator Ben Scheible proposed an amendment suggesting to change wording from "Resolved, temporarily adding seats shall be agreed to and approved by the faculty member teaching the class;" to "requires the agreement and approval of the faculty member teaching the class..." 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment: Senator Ben Scheible moved and Senator Julia Hammett motioned to approve the wording change. The motion passed with 25 ayes.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment: Ben Schieble moved and Senator Julia Hammett seconded to strike last whereas clause "Whereas web-based, web-live, and hybrid modality courses may need to increase enrollment numbers above class enrollment caps to balance lower enrollment caps in on-campus classes;" The motion passed with 20 ayes.*

*Original Motion: Senator Jinger Doe moved and Senator Julia Hammett seconded to approve the Resolution for Fall 2021 Enrollment. The motion passed as amended with 25 ayes.*

During discussion the following concerns were noted: a sunset date, NFA's opinion, and the concern that extra enrollments would become permanent. NFA Vice President Amy Cavanaugh mentioned she and NFA President Cheryl Cardoza met with the VPAA and ensured the enrollment is voluntary and a sunset date is contained in the resolution.

## New Business

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It was asked by a member of the Senate if office hours, mandatory to be in person? Senate Chair YeVonne Allen cited an email from VPAA Murgolo which stated office hours may be in person. Chair-Elect Irintcheva noted this is for the Fall semester and an option to conduct online office hours is available. Chair Allen will forward the email sent by VPAA Murgolo to the new VPAA concerning office hours.

## Adjourn

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*A motion was made by Senator Ben Scheible and seconded by Senator Jeremy Coggins to adjourn the meeting. The motion passes with 23 ayes.*

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:11 p.m.