

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

December 8, 2023

Faculty Senate Chair: Rick Bullis	Faculty Senate Chair-elect: Jinger Doe	Past Chair Amy Cavanaugh
Executive Committee member, Academic Standards and Assessment Chair Jon Lau	Executive Committee member, Curriculum Review Chair Katie Kolbet	Executive Committee member, Professional Standards Chair Karen Wikander
Executive Committee member, Salary, Benefits and Budget Chair Bradley Summerhill	Administrative Faculty Committee Chair Ben Davis	Learning Commons Committee Chair Fred Lokken
Part-Time Faculty Committee Chair Edwin Lyngar	Recognition & Activities Committee Chair Tara Connolly	WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee Chair Frank Amankonah
Senators At-Large: Amber Burroughs Tara Connolly Ben Davis Katie Paul	Senators for Allied Health: Julie McMahon Rori Wilkis	Senators for Computer Technology Steve Bale
Senators for Biology: Laura Briggs Jon Lau	Senators for English: Martha Johnson-Olin Joe Sanpietro	Senators for History, Political Science & Law: John Kemp Dustin Moore
Senators for Humanities: Gabriel Chavez Nancy Faires	Senators for Math: Frank Amankonah Lars Jensen	Senators for Physical Sciences: Michael Leonard Dan Loranz
Senators for Social Sciences: Marynia Giren-Navarro Joylin Namie	Senators for Technical Sciences: Jeremy Coggin Kelly Oswald	Senators for Visual and Performing Arts: Ron Marston Ted Owens
Senators for Part-Time Faculty: Cara Dopf Jessikah Kipf	Classified Council Representative Viola Pellissier	Student Government Representative Brayson Gomez

Absent: Steve Bale, Cara Dopf, Brayson Gomez, Ted Owens (Proxy: Ron Marston), Katie Paul (Proxy: Ben Davis), Viola Pellissier

Guests: Vickie Abel, Jeffrey Alexander, Amber Anaya, John Goetz, Crista Jorgensen, Brianne Lee, Nathan Lower, Staci Miller, Jim New, Mike Peyerl, Natalie Russell, Kim Studebaker

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

Approval of the November 3, 2023 Minutes

Motion: To approve the Faculty Senate Minutes for November 3, 2023.

Movant: Senator Joe Sanpietro

Second: Senator Kelly Oswald

Vote: Motion passed.

Approval of December 8, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda

Motion: To approve the December 8, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda.

Movant: Senator Ron Marston

Second: Senator Jeremy Coggin

Vote: Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the December 8, 2023 Faculty Senate Consent Agenda

Movant: Senator Ron Marston

Second: Senator Joe Sanpietro

Vote: Motion passed.

Chair's Report – Rick Bullis

Rick's report included the following: the Administrative Faculty Evaluation forms have been approved by the Cabinet, voting has opened for the Faculty Evaluation Committee, the Council of Senate Chairs created a Statement Affirming Shared Values, the Ad-Hoc Committee on Senate Representation will issue a survey in the Spring, recommendations for a tenure pay bump and equity salary adjustment are going to the Planning Council, the 11% COLA increase was approved at the Board of Regents (BOR), and the core network shutdown begins at 5 p.m. on December 15 through Dec. 18. On December 19, staff are to be on call with operations returning to normal on December 20. Forced updates to NSHE laptops will begin soon. Be sure to log in early to receive the updates.

Chair-Elect Report – Jinger Doe

The Ad-Hoc Committee on Senate Representation is continuing their work and a survey is coming soon. Jinger also provided updates from each division and noted three works recently published by Senator Martha Johnson-Olin.

Past Chair's Report: Amy Cavanaugh

Past Chair Amy Cavanaugh had nothing to report.

Administrative Report: Karin Hilgersom, TMCC President

The President's report, provided by Dr. Alexander, was an update from the Board of Regents meeting. NSHE will be updating the master plan to include the fire training center. TMCC would like to have support from regional stakeholders. Student and course fee increases were also approved. TMCC was able to report savings from the previous year of 206 deleted course fees and Open Educational Resource (OER) savings to students to the BOR. The estimated savings from OER is \$920,000.

Administrative Report: Jeffrey Alexander, Vice President of Academic Affairs

The VPAA reported on curriculum decisions made during the Academic Affairs Council Meeting. The Certificate of Achievement in Drafting Technology and a skills certification in CAD were eliminated. Skills certificates were approved in Communications, Light Duty Diesel Technician, and Music Recording Technology. The AS in Dietetics was renamed Nutrition and Dietetics. Approvals were received in the Associate of Science for Agricultural Science, and Psychology as well. These items will go to the Academic Research and Student Affairs Committee (ARSA) next. The Planning Council will have their second read on the revised policy on Credit for Prior Learning.

Standing Committee Reports

Academic Standards and Assessment Committee – Jon Lau

GELO work has been completed and will be sent to the Curriculum Review Committee. The ASA committee will review the lead-in stems for GELO's in the Spring along with the 8 PURs scheduled for review. The committee next meets January 26, 2024.

Administrative Faculty Committee – Ben Davis

The committee discussed a rough draft of the Salary Advancement Policy/Procedure. The committee next meets December 15, 2023.

Motion: To approve the second read of proposed changes to the Faculty Senate Bylaws 6.1 and 9.4. The Faculty Senate approved the motion.

Curriculum Review Committee – Katie Kolbet

The committee has met twice since the last Senate meeting. The catalog changes for AY 24-25 have been completed.

Small, minor changes are still coming. Any courses submitted will be for AY 25-26.

Motion: To approve the AS Additional Courses. The Faculty Senate approved the motion.

For or the Associate of Science Requirements under the Additional College Requirements for Science:

Currently it states

Any transferable science units

Requesting to change that to :

Any General Education course that meets the Science area for the AA, AS and Bachelor's degrees.

Any transferable course that is taught under the following Subjects: AST – Astronomy, BIOL – Biology, CHEM – Chemistry, CS - Computer Sciences, GEOL – Geology, NRES – Natural Resources, or PHYS – Physics.

And the following courses:

ANTH	202
ANTH	225
ANTH	226
ANTH	227
ENGR	100
ENGR	110
GEOG	210
NUTR	223
NUTR	233
PBH	234
PBH	120

PBH 220

PBH 281

Learning Commons Committee – Fred Lokken

The After Dark Event in the Learning Commons was held on November 27-29 for students to prepare for finals. The student counts for attending were 87 on Monday, 121 on Tuesday, and 124 on Wednesday. The students who met with instructors were 38 on Monday, 40 on Tuesday, and 32 on Wednesday. The committee is working on programming for the Spring Semester and will next meet February 1, 2024.

Professional Standards Committee – Karen Wikander

Motion: To approve the Annual Plan/Self-Evaluation forms with the satisfactory items uncompressed. The Senate approved the Annual Plan/Self-Evaluation with the satisfactory items uncompressed.

A subcommittee has been formed to review the Dean's Rubric. The committee next meets January 26, 2024.

Part-Time Faculty Committee – Edwin Lyngar

The committee has created a draft of the Level 2 Part-Time Faculty which will be shown for feedback. Edwin is also drafting a letter to advertise to Part-Time Faculty changes, benefits, and programs they may not be aware of. The committee next meets February 9, 2024.

Recognition and Activities – Tara Connolly

Nominations for Distinguished Faculty will begin in January. Elyssia Fraga is the latest Professional of the Month. The Fall 2023 Career Champions will be awarded soon. The committee next meets February 6, 2024.

Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee – Bradley Summerhill

The Salary Survey results were reviewed. Brad mentioned items where there was consensus in the survey. Brad also presented to the L-Team prior to today's meeting. The committee next meets January 26, 2024.

WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee – Frank Amankonah

The subcommittee for access in Canvas has completed its work and Frank updated the Senate on the status of outstanding motions. The Department Chairs will continue to have access to Part-Time Faculty in Canvas. The motion to add, delete, or reset a course is pending signature. The WebCollege is reviewing survey results and will report to the committee soon. The committee next meets February 9, 2024.

Motion: To apply score to ungraded feature option in Canvas. The Faculty Senate approved the motion.

Rationale:

This Feature Option would allow instructors to quickly apply the same score to all ungraded submissions in an Assignment in Canvas. "Feature Option" is Canvas terminology for something that is still in beta-testing; this feature has not been widely released and may have some bugs. This feature would be enabled at the account level by WebCollege, and would apply to everyone at TMCC. For a visualization of how the tool would work, please see the [Apply Scores to Ungraded Canvas Guide](#).

Clarifications:

1. This allows faculty to assign scores to a group assignment
2. This would not change the way the gradebook looks in Canvas now
3. Instructors can still assign scores/zeros to individual assignments as it is now.

4. This release may have some bugs, but one can avoid it by not using it.

Student Government Association (SGA) – Brayson Gomez

SGA President Brayson Gomez was not present at the meeting. Faculty Senate Chair Rick Bullis wished to thank Brayson for his public comments at the Board of Regents Meeting in support of COLAs for the faculty.

Classified Council – Viola Pellissier

No report was given.

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion: Senator Lars Jensen moved and Senator Julie McMahon seconded to ask media services to fix the audio for meeting attendees on Zoom before the next meeting. The motion passed with 16 ayes. There were 8 nays.

Senator Martha Johnson-Olin requested a resolution from the Senate for instructors to choose to opt-in to the services of the Retention Specialist. Faculty Senate Chair Rick Bullis will review the bylaws and refer the issue to the appropriate committee.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:08 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 9, 2024.