

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

November 3, 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: Jeremy Coggin (Proxy: Kelly Oswald), Tara Connolly (Proxy: Amber Burroughs)

Guests: Jeffrey Alexander, YeVonne Allen, Karin Hilgersom, Jeff Hutchinson, Crista Jorgensen, Kate Kirkpatrick, Matt Leathen, Brianne Lee, Gay Lutz, Jim New, Mike Peyerl, Natalie Russell, Nicole Scollard, Kim Studebaker, Chris Westin

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m.

Approval of the October 13, 2023 Minutes

Motion: To approve the Faculty Senate Minutes for October 13, 2023.

Movant: Senator Ben Davis

Second: Senator Joe Sanpietro

A correction was requested to note that Mark Maynard is a committee member of the Online Canvas Access Committee rather than a chair.

Vote: Motion passed with correction to be made.

Approval of November 3, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda

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

Movant: Senator Ron Marston

Second: Senator Joylin Namie

Vote: Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the November 3, 2023 Consent Agenda.

Movant: Senator Steve Bale

Second: Senator Frank Amankonah

Vote: Motion passed.

Chair's Report – Rick Bullis

The Faculty Evaluation Committee (FEC) elections will be held soon pending more volunteers. A tenured faculty member in Technical Sciences and two more Administrative Faculty are needed. The Go Fund Me for Corina Weidinger will close on November 15. A charge statement has been created for the Adhoc Faculty Senate Representation Committee. The committee exploring Sub-Level Access in Canvas next meets November 15.

Chair-Elect Report – Jinger Doe

The Ad hoc Committee for Senate Representation is continuing to meet.

Past Chair's Report: Amy Cavanaugh

The Sabbatical choices have been ranked and submitted to the President.

Administrative Report: Karin Hilgersom, TMCC President

TMCC President Dr. Karin Hilgersom reported her focus is on system items for the upcoming December Board of Regents Meeting. There are two COLA scenarios:

- 11% COLA beginning in October 2024 with a 5% student fee increase
- 9.25% COLA effective July 2024, with a 5% student fee increase

TMCC is ready to support the 11% COLA option pending the decision from NSHE. TMCC will need to work together and be ready to raise fees in February pending approval. The 5% Tuition Increase may be offset by savings to students from Open Educational Resources (OER) savings.

An amendment to the Master Plan will be requested at the Board of Regents to include the Fire Tower Training Facility. The lands, owned by NSHE, will need to be allocated for the facility.

Mike Peyerl, Vice President Finance and Government Relations reported the quarterly report is completed with budget to actuals shown. There are two scenarios for COLA. The budget office is completing an analysis of LOAs, Fees, utilities, and where resources are short. The Budget Planning Council will begin in January.

Administrative Report: Jeffrey Alexander, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Jeffrey Alexander reported the digital process for tenure binders is being used this year for the first time. He will be adding text to the webpage to describe how digital tenure binders are to be routed for signatures, how to add letters, and how to submit the digital binders. The Faculty Evaluation Rubric has been sent to the Professional Standards Committee and the Senate Chair and Chair-Elect. The rubric will come to the Faculty Senate at a later date.

TMCC Tenure Process – Senator Lars Jensen

Senator Lars Jensen noted concerns with the candidate must be documented with a remediation plan in a timely manner. The process can be found on the [VPAA's website](#) on the tenure process and in the [NSHE Handbook \(Title 2, Chapter 4\)](#).

Standing Committee Reports

Academic Standards and Assessment Committee – Jon Lau

Work is continuing on the People and Cultural Awareness GELO and the Communication GELO. The committee next meets November 17, 2023.

Administrative Faculty Committee – Ben Davis

Changes to the Faculty Senate Bylaws were brought to the Senate for a first read. The proposed changes were reviewed and there was no discussion. Ben reviewed the Self-Evaluation Form and the Performance Evaluation for Administrative Faculty Form changes. Each form was voted on and the motions passed for each vote. The committee next meets November 17, 2023.

Curriculum Review Committee – Katie Kolbet

The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting. The deadline for changes to the 24-25 catalog is Nov. 10. The committee next meets November 17, 2023.

Learning Commons Committee – Fred Lokken

The Monster Panel returned to TMCC. The Political Divisiveness Panel will be on November 30. The Tutoring and Learning Committee has begun to meet. The Learning Commons Committee next meets February 1, 2024.

Professional Standards Committee – Karen Wikander

Karen reviewed the changes to the Annual Plan/Self-Evaluation Form. Suggestions and concerns received were to adjust the points for publishing an article versus a book. It was recommended to send that request to committee for a more thorough discussion since it is not part of today's motion. A change that received a lot of discussion was compressing the required elements. It was noted as problematic for some departments where the dean might require more detailed documentation. It was suggested to add a space for documentation of those items while limiting redundancies at the same time. It was also suggested to leave S1 A and B for documenting purposes and lump the other items together. The motion was voted on and did not carry, the forms will return to Professional Standards for further work.

The committee will discuss student evaluations, the rubric, and the forms on their next agenda. The committee next meets November 17, 2023.

Part-Time Faculty Committee – Edwin Lyngar

The committee met today and discussed other ways to award Part-Time Faculty besides pay. The committee is working on a Part-Time Level 2 designation for faculty. The committee is also reviewing retirement benefits for PTF and ways to notify faculty of the benefits that do exist. The committee next meets December 8, 2023.

Recognition and Activities – Tara Connolly

People, Pets, and Pumpkins returned to TMCC in person and online. One carved pumpkin was displayed. The committee is continuing work in preparation for the Distinguished Faculty Awards. The committee next meets December 5, 2023.

Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee – Bradley Summerhill

The Tenure Award Motion was voted on and passed at today's Senate Meeting. The next steps are to forward this motion to the Planning Council and the President. Dr. Hilgersom noted her support of this motion as well.

The Equity Study Resolution was also voted on and passed at today's Senate Meeting.

The committee next meets November 17, 2023.

WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee – Frank Amankonah

The committee approved a motion to **enable** to apply score to ungraded feature option in canvas. The motion will come to December's Faculty Senate Meeting. The committee next meets December 1, 2023.

Student Government Association (SGA) – Brayson Gomez

The SGA hosted a Dios Los Muertos celebration. The Harvest Festival is November 8. The SGA is continuing to work on student concerns at other TMCC locations. The Mental Health Committee has been formed.

Classified Council – Viola Pellissier

The Ham and Turkey Raffle and the Gift Basket Auction has returned to TMCC.

Old Business

None

New Business

BOR Consultant Group – Senator Johnson-Olin: Senator Martha Johnson-Olin read a statement concerning the Board of Regents Workshop, held on October 20 featuring the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal. The center pushes a conservative ideology. Senator Johnson-Olin requested a statement from TMCC condemning the workshop.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:33 p.m.