

Faculty Senate Minutes *(approved 9/6/2023)*

Session 15

3:15-5:15 pm Wed May 17, 2023 (zoom)

Attendance: Corsianos, Curran, Neufeld, Waltz, Judd, Elton, Barton, McVey, Flowers, Lee, Brewer, Ferdousi, Logwood, Soltani, Foster, Millán Serna, Ramsey (guest), Graves (guest), Brock, McCleary, Gray, Walsh, Welsh, Baker (guest), Bavery, El-Sayed (guest), Wasiuddin, Longworth (guest), Braun Marks, Carpenter, Spragg, Putzu, Evett, McFarland (guest), Koolage (guest), Li (guest).

- I. Call to Order 3:15pm
- II. Approval of the Agenda 05/17/2023 Moved by Elton, seconded by Soltani. Passed 19 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.
- III. Approval of the Minutes from 4/12/2023 (amendment to 4/12: add Waltz, Welsh to those attending) Moved by Soltani, seconded by Elton. Passed 17 for, 0 against, 2 abstaining.
- IV. Appointments and Elections (Corsianos)

Elections: -Vice President - Elton
 -Membership Coordinator - Millan-Serna
 -Secretary - Curran

Slate elected by acclamation (moved by Barton).

V. Discussion

- A. Provost's Update
 - i.-Enrollment for Fall down 0.7% which is not too bad. FTIAC enrollment is down, but retention rate has improved to pre-pandemic levels. CHHS and COB enrollment is slightly down, CAS flat. Excited to have a new enrollment manager next week.
 - ii. Funding for Roosevelt renovation from the state seems likely
 - iii. Strategic Planning Steering committee (August retreat)
 - iv. Cluster hires - [Cluster Faculty Hire initiative](#)
 - v. Dean for CHHS will be announced next week
 - vi. Hiring VPs of Academic programs and academic studies. Focusing on timeline for Chief Diversity Officer first.
 - vii. Want to start a review of the general education program in the fall.
 - a. Unique aspects of our program
 1. learning beyond the classroom
 2. upper level writing
 3. diversity, equity, inclusion, and global focus
 - b. Need to make the case for the value of the general education program and college education

c. We need to establish our process in year one; and two more years for redesign and evaluation.

d. Aviation and Nursing programs can demonstrate the value of a 4-year degree, where one is not required as such but employers see the value.

Comment: I think a personal financial course could belong in the general education program.

A: Definitely one of the things we can discuss. We should also talk about how we modify what we currently do.

Comment: A revamp will not work if our focus is on student credit hours. We cannot have a holistic conversation if we are fighting each other for credit hours.

A: We will need to think this through in the process. It will take a few years. We also need to think about AI, grading, and information literacy

Q: Where does the general education program report? Aren't we understaffed (one half-time faculty member) to lead this?

A: Doug Baker has oversight. Gen ed reports to the office of undergraduate programming (currently vacant). Considering adding more faculty in support of the curricular part.

Comment: We have not received follow-up information from Valdes.

A: Should be able to respond shortly.

B. Update on Utility Services Agreement

-CFO presented to FS on April 12, 2023 (Fac Senate presentation in shared drive)

-BOR authorized President Smith to finalize and execute utilities services agreement with CenTrio (April 20, 2023 BOR meeting)

-Strategy session hosted by FS and EMU-AAUP leadership (April 26)

-Faculty Affairs session with BOR (lunch meeting) April 27

-Townhall meeting this Thursday May 18 at 7pm (zoom)

BoR surprised to hear how long faculty were in the dark about this

VI. Guests: Calvin McFarland (Associate Vice President of Student Engagement and Academic Support Services)

[Knack Contract](#)

A. Organization chart for Student Success & Academic Support

i. SOAR – orientation program. Faculty are welcome to attend the resource fair at these.

ii. Advising – exploratory students (undecided)

iii. Wrap-around services. Holman Success Center, Starfish (early alert system).

Q: Who do I contact about homeless students?

A: (per the Provost) Dean of students, Ellen Gold. Social worker is DeAndre Caldwell

Q: Could you comment on the vacancies in academic support services, e.g. for DRC? Is the DRC move from student center to location in McKinney, which is less accessible? What do the exit interviews say?

A: We need to look at how we can retain talent. It is not unusual for people to change institutions in this area. We promote and train our staff; we want them to advance. Many institutions in Michigan are experiencing these vacancies. DRC should still be accessible; it is being reconfigured to make it suitable. We want it closer to the advising offices.

Q: Why was the Knack contract extended to December?

A: This is just a pilot. We haven't seen the results we want yet. Asked for the extension since we were slow to roll out the program. Please let us know of alternatives you are aware of.

Q: What kind of training do Knack provide?

A: Like we do. FERPA, Title IX, communication skills.

Q: How measure effectiveness?

A: Looking at it this summer. We have not collected enough data yet.

Q: Why outside if we can do this training internally? What about student privacy?

A: We do not have the software; it matches students with tutors who are available at the time they request. The partner does not hold data.

VII. New Business

A. [Dual Degree time extension](#) and [Proposed Revisions to GA-DF policies](#) (McVey)

i. Dual degree: For those enrolled in certificate program and masters program at the same time, we want to give more time to finish

ii. Lengthening time of GAs' fellowships and providing greater flexibility for how they may allocate tuition waiver

iii. Please put comments in the linked document for the benefit of the next graduate council

Q: Have you seen data about unspent credit hours for GAs?

A: Believe the unspent credits are a thing of the past, but can check. Some programs cannot offer all the hours they would like to.

Vote for revisions to GA-DF policies passed: 23 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Vote on dual degree time extension passed: 23 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining

B. Gen Ed - [Final GEGA, UD, GEKA Assessment Rubric - update](#) (Koolage and Li)

No changes are being made to SLOs. We are operationalizing the last few areas, and providing rubrics to help instructors assess each SLO. We have taken extensive input from departments and faculty.

Vote to approve. Passed 23 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

C. Safety in the classrooms (Corsianos)

Door locks have arrived on campus. Will be installed on all classroom doors in PH over the summer. Then other buildings will follow but budget allocation may be needed. A picture of the lock was presented.

D. Privacy Committee - [Privacy Statement of Rights](#) (Carpenter)

Vote to affirm Passed 21 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining,

IX. Announcements:

A. Next Faculty Senate meeting scheduled for Wed. August 9 (3:15 to 5:15pm)

B. FS/FSEB meeting scheduled for 2023-2024 - [Meeting schedule \(tentative\)](#)

X. Adjournment 5:18pm