



Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2025

Attendance: Julie Orr, Vanessa Godfrey, Darrel Malamisura, Kristin Hicks, Vince Mateescu, and Sarita Rhonemus.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm. Since there were not enough Senate members present this meeting was treated as a “for discussion” only. Previous meeting minutes could not be voted on.

Old Business: The Provost gave us an update on subjects related to our old business concerns.

List Servs, Post- Tenure Review incentives, Security Updates, and Upward evaluations: there is still no update as the Provost and President have not met to have any discussion on these subjects.

A lengthy discussion took place as to why certain people and who should have access to specific list servs.

The request for a master schedule calendar: Darrel will try to meet with Sarita after she recovers from her surgery to work on this.

HLC Update: The report was accepted and approved our response report. Everything is the same as before. All criteria were met except the one on governance that is still met with concerns. The HLC visit Dates have changed to April 13 & 14th. The BOG is having an additional virtual training with Tom Bordenkircher on August 24th.

Committee Reports: There are no reports due to lack of meetings during the summer semesters.

Faculty Institute: The first general assembly meeting will take place during University Institute. Also, Darrel will speak on the Electronic Policy and the Attendance Verification Policy that was voted on and approved by the BOG. There is a concern that those policies have yet to be posted on the BOG page. No one (including Sarita) knows who is supposed to get those posted. This is considered another communication issue.

Students being removed from courses toward the end of a semester: There are issues with Students being removed from courses for non-payment. But then when the student pays it is left to the faculty member to do a large amount of paper work and extra time to catch up work for the students. This should not happen nor should this be piled onto the faculty’s shoulders. If a student has not paid their bill and the registrar drops the student, it’s not the faculty’s responsibility to deal with fixing what the faculty had nothing to do with. This is an issue between the Registrar and the Student, not the faculty member.

Sarita will send out a copy of the policy that addresses this issue for faculty’s review and suggested edits.

Hiring Shortages: There was discussion related to the current faculty shortages and concerns of overloads that could eventually jeopardize some accreditations. It has been difficult to find faculty willing to take positions at the low salaries offered. It is recommended that a salary range be posted with every job posting. This would save time and financial resources of interviewing applicants and going through the process to have someone deny the position. If the applicant knows up front the range, the applicant will already be able to know if they wish to interview.

New Business: Faculty Emeritus: Sarita has no updates to know when this will be recognized. There is a back log of Emeritus awards going back to 2017. The Deans need to be contacted to see who needs to be recognized if and when it is finally done.

Faculty of the Year Process: There needs to be specific guidelines for the faculty of the year nomination/voting process. Vanessa is working on specific guidelines and will send out to all Senate members for review and suggested edits. Once the document is complete, it will be brought forward to all faculty in the general faculty meeting for a vote.

Changes in employment status: There is a recent opening in the HR and Title IX position. It is believed it will be filled by someone already in-house. Faculty have deep concerns with the proposed person being given that much power considering issues during the previous administration.

Institutional Effectiveness and Research position: No one in this position, and to anyone's knowledge the position is not being advertised due to budget constraints. HLC requires someone has this responsibility as a designated job description. This can be brought up during executive leadership meeting.

Faculty Handbook Update: Amanda Matoushek worked very hard to update and edit the handbook and has it as a live document for review. The link was sent by Darrel and Amanda to faculty for review and comments. The provost will have reviewing rights but will not have editing rights for this handbook. This was agreed on by the current Provost.

Cutoff Amount for Classes: Discussion took place related to low enrolled courses and the cutoff number to run a class. The process does not equitably serve the faculty and the work involved to build a course to have it cancelled or to be paid a minimal amount due to the low enrollment. Some faculty may falsify attendance verification to assure they get paid the full amount even if students aren't attending. The formula needs re-evaluated.

Enrollment: Darrel shared the document of current enrollment. There are 106 students signed up for new student orientation. We are currently down in re-admits and also down in provisional students.

Adjournment: With no further discussion Vanessa Made a motion to adjourn and Kristin Seconded the motion. All present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

