

University Senate –October 7, 2024



University Senate Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2024

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mary Amador-Rosario, Margaret Ball, Miguel Barbosa, Nurum Begum, Gregory Boyce, Jill Boyle, Christopher Brooks, Bill Broun, Donna Bulzoni, Marguerite Carver, Kevin Casebolt, Domenico Cavaiuolo, Marcy Cetnar, Jeuaprakash Chelladurai, Robert Cohen, Donna Marie Cole-Malott, Oliana Cole, Deena Dailey, Karen Danna, Susan Dillmuth-Miller, Caroline Dipippi-Hoy, Chris Domanski, Darla Drummond, Johan Eliasson, Melissa Geiger, Nieves Gruneiro-Roadcap, Bailey Higgins, Jan Hoffman, Lorna Hunter, Youngwook Ju, Kiondre Kenner, Heon Kim, Thomas Kish, Josie Kraemer, Brooke Langan, Kenneth Long, Andrea McClanahan, Kizzy Morris, Margaret Mullen, Michael Nichols, Jamire Parker, Elizabeth Richardson, Elaine Rodriguez, Melinda Rosen, Michael Sachs, Danny Schmidt, Elizabeth Scott, Robert Smith, Brandon Snyder, Krissy Sprankle, Brian Street, Keith Vanic, Daisy Wang, Holly Wells, Rosemary Samantha Williams, Lanxi Xu, Shiqi Zhang, Xuemao Zhang

ABSENT:

Laurene Clossey, Nick D'Angelo, Matthew Davis, Daniel DiCupe, Jaylon Duncan, Nakeem Facey, James Galdieri, Rebecca James, Damali Jackson, Chris Kavanau, Jamory Lee, Nahiry Lora, Pasqual Ortiz, Richard Otto, Tina Perez-Beltran, Mary Francis Postupack, Gina Scala, Jennie Smith, Santiago Solis, Ansumana Turay, Kelly Varcoe, Shawn Watkins, Bethanie Watson, Keiara Whetstone, Jahsim Williams, Sylvester Williams, Xiaochen Zhou

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) Review of September Minutes
 - a. No objections, approved by general consent.
- 3) University President's Report
 - a. A request will be sent out in the coming days for participation with Provost Ball in establishing a general education assessment committee. This has not been done in several years and is something that is noted on the Middle States evaluation. Will be asking for various stakeholders across the campus community to participate in the evaluation.
 - b. President Long met with the Executive Committee concerning how to phrase and approach sensitive subjects during Senate business/discussion. Remind Senate about the purpose of education, to provide educational opportunities for the

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community we represent and to keep the core purpose of a public post-secondary education in mind.

- c. During the All University Meeting last month there was a postponement of the official recognition of Dr. Andi McClanahan for the Distinguished Faculty Award. There will be a wider recognition that will be scheduled in the coming days that will formally recognize Dr. McClanahan for her outstanding service.
- 4) Fix the Agenda
 - a. September minutes approved by general consent
 - b. Agenda accepted by general consent
- 5) Committee reports:
 - a. Executive Committee
 - Met last week with President Long about the agenda items. Set the agenda for this meeting
 - b. Academic Affairs
 - Scheduled a meeting but individuals were unable to attend. Will have another meeting scheduled.
 - c. Rules and By-Laws
 - Have not yet met this semester
 - Meeting will be called for October or early November
 - d. Budget, Finance and Planning
 - Committee met on October 4th and set a schedule for meetings for the semester. Preliminary audit results for fiscal year 2024 discussed at the meeting. Met system requirements for sustainability, final determination will be at the Board of Governors meeting at the end of the week.
 - e. Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence Committee
 - Committee has not met, will set up a meeting before the end of the month
 - f. Research
 - No meeting yet, will have a meeting this month and have a report for November Senate meeting
 - g. University Senate Evaluation Committee
 - Waiting for the report to become accessible, will be added to the webpage
- 6) Student Government Association Report – Report by President Krissy Sprankle.
 - a. Welcomed 21 new senators and have started to get people settled into committees. Held first full body retreat since before COVID, which was a success. Looking forward to getting things accomplished.
- 7) Old Business
 - a. Senate Committees- still trying to fill committees
 - Rules and Bylaws: Nieves Gruneiro-Roadcap will fill the open Dean position
 - Student Affairs: added student senators Michael Nichols and Lanxi Xu

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- Research: IRB Representative still needed
 - Academic Affairs: College of Business representative still needed, will send out an email and invite individuals to fill the spot. Non-classroom spot filled by Jan Hoffman.
 - New committee members approved by general consent
 - b. Update: Efficient funding for professional tutors to meet the needs of students
 - Discussion about the funding for professional tutors and gathering more information about if this is feasible.
 - Complex issue concerning student success and retention. Will have to look at the data.
 - Gardner Study will help to identify areas that need work and areas that are already working.
 - President Long made a proposal to have Gardner information presented and a review of student support services so that we can make decisions to invest in areas that have demonstrated effectiveness.
 - Proposal: The Senate, along with committees will identify areas of student need and access effectiveness.
 - Rob Cohen made a motion that we have a presentation concerning Gardner information, which was seconded by Keith Vanic. No objections from senate, presentation will be invited.
 - Provost Ball stated the Gardner presentation would be presented to provide Senators context and understanding of the Gardner Report
 - c. Update from Academic Affairs: Delay the add drop and withdrawal window by 2 days for shortened sessions (winter).
 - No report, not discussed
- 8) New Business
- a. Proposal: University Senate Meetings to return to in person meetings- Brook Langan
 - Seconded by Brandon Snyder
 - Pros and cons discussed from faculty, administrator and student perspectives. Attempt to come to a compromise for efficiency as well as to build rapport and community on campus.
 - Motion on the floor to have them in person: Rob Cohen amends the motion to have first and last meeting in person. Seconded by Brandon Snyder.
 - Main motion approved for first and last in person. No objections to this motion, approved by general consent.
- 9) Open Discussion
- a. Tuition Remission policy update from Kizzy Morris
 - Commented on by Rob Cohen

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- Need to have an official leave of absence policy and a tuition deferral process that would work with Federal and State financial aid regulations or some type of tuition insurance process. She also added the group began drafting a leave of absence policy, which will need to be finalized to be vetted. This policy includes how financial aid can be handled.
 - Desire to continue having information updated on this moving forward
 - b. Enrollment and Retention Data
 - Rob Smith presentation on enrollment updates, please see presentation for further information.
 - c. Entrance Requirements for Students
 - Senate President Susan Dillmuth-Miller recommends to refer this to academic affairs to discuss. Rob Cohen makes the motion to refer this to academic affairs and seconded by Domenico Cavauiolo.
 - Student senators mention concern about classroom and behavioral issues and how they have an impact on students who are trying to learn. Also mentions living conditions and problems that have come up with that (conduct).
 - Provost Ball will invite Lorna Hunter, Vice President of Enrollment Management to discuss this in a meeting.
 - No objections to referring this to academic affairs and have them report on it before the end of the semester.
 - d. Support for Students
 - Information from the Gardner Report will be forthcoming.
 - Consider moving this topic to after the Gardner Report is given
 - Postponed: approved by general consent
 - e. EV Charging Stations at ESU
 - No other PASSHE school has them so far. Complicated because of cost and the actual process of having a station on campus.
 - Holly Wells will look into the possibility for grants and funding
 - Motion to refer it to finance and budget committee, seconded by Bill Broun. No objections to referring that to the committee.
- 10) Announcements:
- a. No announcements.
- 11) Adjournment @ 16:44

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