

University Senate –April 7, 2025



University Senate Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2025
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Beers Lecture Hall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Margaret Ball, Miguel Barbosa, Greg Boyce, Christopher Brooks, Marguerite Carver, Kevin Casebolt, Jeyaprakash Chelladurai, Robert Cohen, Deena Dailey, Karen Danna, Susan Dillmuth-Miller, Caroline DiPipi-Hoy, Chris Domanski, Darla Drummond, Mary Fredette, Nieves Gruneiro-Roadcap, Jan Hoffman, Youngwook Ju, Kiondre Kenner, Heon Kim, Tommy Kish, Brook Langan, Kenneth Long, Margaret Matis, Andi McClanahan, Margaret Mullan, Mary Francis Postupack, Elaine Rodriguez, Melinda Rosen, Michael Sachs, Daniel Schmidt, Elizabeth Scott, Rob Smith, Brandon Snyder, Santiago Solis, Krissy Sprankle, Brian Street, Keith Vanic, Kelly Varcoe, Holly Wells, Sylvester Williams, Shiqi Zhang, Xuemao Zhang

ABSENT:

Mary Amador-Rosario, Nurun Begum, Bill Broun, Donna Bulzoni, Domenico Cavauiuolo, Laurene Clossey, Donna-Maria Cole-Malott, Benjamin Coyle, Nick D'Angelo, Matthew Davis, Johan Eliasson, Nakeem Facey, James Galdieri, Melissa Geiger, Lorna Hunter, Damali Jackson, Chris Kavanau, Nahiry Lora, Richard Otto, Jamire Parker, Jennie Smith, Taina Telfort, Aaliyah Velez, Daisy Wang, Shawn Watkins, Bethany Watson, Rosemary Williams, Xiaochen Zhou

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) Review of March 2025 Minutes
 - a. Minutes approved by general consent
- 3) University President's Report
 - a. Brief update on the status of a few items previously discussed
 - Retiring faculty as Grand Marshal
 - Will be emailing the presidents of the unions and coaches for recommendations (guiding criteria) and will speak to them this week. Must be an employee for a certain length of time, taking suggestions on what the length of time should be. Have participated in and/or attended commencement over the last several years. May be an employee of ESU or SAA or the Foundation.
 - Gardner Info
 - Did receive email link with the information, it will be going out to the whole campus community later today or tomorrow. Placed on the sharepoint drive so any employee at the university will have access to it.
 - Professional tutors
 - At this time, better served to continue with our approach to peer tutors. One issue is financial, another is student comfort and interaction. Hoping to increase engagement on campus with the peer tutors. Data shows peer

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tutors are beneficial to the peer as well as to the student receiving the tutoring. Not in a position to hire new individuals. Beneficial to enhance what we are doing with students serving as peer tutors.

- Commencement is May 9th and 10th, encourage everyone to attend any and all ceremonies that they can. Students really appreciate when faculty are there at commencement.

4) Fix the Agenda

- a. Agenda approved by general consent

5) Committee reports- status updates

a. Executive Committee

- Met last Monday and set the agenda. We will be having a gathering at Trackside after the meeting today with food and soda. Administration has graciously paid for this gathering.

b. Academic Affairs

- Met this month, several things were discussed:
 - **Mid Term Grades:** Increase in the number of midterm grades posted. 89.4% posted midterm grades. Posting grades can really help students know where they are in a class. Very beneficial to students.
 - **Withdrawal:** Community colleges locally have a much longer time period for withdrawal. Discussion about changing that here at ESU. Looked at PASSHE policies and what other schools are doing. Several partner schools have much later dates. Provost Ball will be going to the Council of Provosts to discuss this item. Very helpful if we all had the same dates, especially for Onesis.
 - Discussion about moving up midterm grade due date a week or two. Many faculty have done a great job of entering the grades, but moving the date earlier may help students and faculty both. Will be discussing this.
 - Transfer student credits: we are now just about 10% or less under the other schools, doing a good job accepting transfer credits and improving the transfer process.
 - Crucible opens this week in Fine Arts, doing a period production. Students are building all the clothes and putting a lot of work into the entire production.
 - Congratulations to the debate team that won at the Frederick Douglas Conference this last weekend. Students did wonderful and we are very proud of them.
 - Presentation on work-based learning. Dean Williams and Dr. Morris put together a presentation with EPIC and two student teams worked on a work-based learning project.

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- Hope all faculty, staff, and students have a wonderful rest of the semester, thanks to everyone for their input.
 - Big increase in Warrior Fish with entering flags and the midterm progress reports. Student success initiatives can really make a difference in how a student progresses.
- c. Rules and By-Laws
- Met several times via zoom and through email. Looking at proposals to change languages in the by-laws regarding leaves of absence and online meetings. We cannot vote on it today because there was not time for edits, will have the changes in September.
 - Constitution wording is doubled, does not require a vote but simply an issue with extra words. This will be deleted. Changes will be discussed at the next meeting.
- d. Budget, Finance, and Planning
- Committee met on March 26th
 - Tuition extension policy: no report back yet from Kizzy Morris and her group
 - Update from the Green Initiative: was discussed at their last meeting and do have recommendations
- e. Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence Committee
- Committee met several weeks ago. Identified goals in the fall semester around the shuttle, resources for students, safety on campus, parking, and university calendar.
 - Shuttle: timeliness of the shuttle is a problem for students. Frank, manager of parking, stated that they are and will continue to monitor the shuttle tracker. Shared questions and concerns from students that they are late because of the shuttle not being on time. Will continue to monitor. Meeting to discuss if a new app would be a better fit.
 - Parking: usual questions about the lack of parking and one specific question and recommendation is that parking for students be issued by seniority. Parking review is in progress, will provide an update once they have the results.
 - University calendar will be reviewed.
- f. Research
- No report
- 6) Student Government Association Report – Report by President Krissy Sprinkle.
- a. Recognized ESU DECA as an organization and approved constitutional amendments and revisions for the Outings Club.
 - b. Held the Unity Ball and had a great turnout.

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- c. All clubs are doing great work and many were recognized at the Student Organization Awards.
 - d. This is President Krissy Sprankle's last meeting, as she is graduating. Elections are underway and new officers will be announced soon.
- 7) Old Business
- a. Electric Vehicles
 - Budget committee report for if we should have electric charged on campus. General consensus is that it is not recommended to have a level 3 charger on campus as it would be very expensive to install and operate. Would recommend a level 2 charger for ESU vehicles. Seconded by Greg Boyce.
 - Proposal: ESU should investigate the installation of a level 2 or slow charger restricted for ESU vehicle use. No= 22, Yes= 8
 - Facilities will assess what the benefits and costs are for either gas or electric. Committee is making the recommendation that ESU review this, Michael Sachs will look into this with facilities.
 - Proposal: "ESU should investigate if electric fleet vehicles would be practical for this campus".
 - Amendment to the Proposal. Drop the word "fleet". (Proposed by Greg Boyce. Seconded).
 - Amended proposal: ESU should investigate if electric vehicles would be practical for this campus.
 - Discussion: Review if this is beneficial and sustainable for campus from different perspectives. Recommendation that this proposal go back to the committee and facilities for discussion. Budget committee will be working with the Green Initiative. President Long will talk to the Cabinet to see what the best way to continue this conversation will be. He will bring it back to the Senate for some direction. Since the proposal was recommended by the Green Initiative and came out of the Budget Committee that the proposal should not go back to the Budget Committee.
 - Robert Cohen: suggestion that the Green Committee come up with sustainability goals for this campus since we do not have a clear sustainability vision.
 - Proposal voted on. Proposal passes with a majority vote.
- 8) New Business
- a. Nominations
 - Rob Smith nominated for the President position
 - Secret ballots will be used for voting

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- President: Rob Smith and Susan Dillmuth-Miller (Susan Dillmuth-Miller won the election, 15 votes to 23 votes)
 - Vice President: Elizabeth Scott (unanimous)
 - Secretary: Darla Drummond (unanimous)
 - Member at Large: Christopher Brooks (unanimous)
- b. Proposal: Class waiting lists remain until add/drop period is over
- Brought forward, currently class waiting lists go away the first day of class. Proposal is that they stay open. Seconded.
 - Keeping the wait list open would be beneficial for student. Not fair for the students who have been waiting all summer on the waitlist that they disappear. Looking to extend the waitlist for second and fourth quarter classes too until the add/drop period ends, this would also increase enrollment.
 - One of the issues with this is allowing students into a class too late and how hard it may be for them to catch up.
 - Another concern is that students have 48 hours to join the class when they are added from the waitlist, this time lag makes it difficult for other students on the wait list to potentially be added. It is possible that students are given less time to join the class if it is after classes have started.
 - Amendment to the Proposal: Class waiting lists should remain until the add/drop period for the class is over. Seconded by Brian Street. No objections.
 - Provost Ball: will look into how other PASSHE schools are doing this. Move to postpone it to talk to the other schools. Seconded by Brooke Langan. Once she gathers information, talk to the chairs and the registrar so that we can move on it.
 - University Senate recommended bringing the proposal to a vote since the proposal was going to be acted upon. No objections.
 - Amendment: Class waiting lists should remain until the add/drop period for the class is over. Voted upon, passed 28=yes, 8=no.
- 9) Open Discussion
- a. Faculty senators from departments that start with I-Z start their term in the fall. Contacting department heads to elect senators. A-H will have another term.
- 10) Announcements
- a. Trackside gathering right after the meeting
 - b. Provost colloquium on athletes with concussions
 - c. CJ Day 11-2 on April 30th
- 11) Adjournment @ 4:35 pm