

Chicago State University Faculty Senate  
Meeting of Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Attendance: Justin. Akujieze, Phillip Beverly (presiding), Robert Bionaz, Patrice Boyles, Emmett Bradbury, Jane Crossley, Miguel Fernandez, Monique Germain, Kathleen Haefliger, Tonya Hall, Janet Halpin (recording), Aref Hervani, Troy Harden, Ann Kuzdale, Crystal Laura, Byron Martin, Paul Musial, Vincent Osaghae, William Raynovich, Alesia Richardson, Eddie Gaytan, Yashika Watkins, Elizabeth Wittbrodt, Chyrese Wolf,

Regrets: Guest VP Enrollment Management

Guests: Shaila Christofferson, Chair General Education Committee; Angela Henderson, Provost; Farah Muscadin, AVP Student Affairs, Deborah Lynch, Joanne LaBonte

The meeting was called to order at 12:39 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of August 25: moved by Senator Bob Bionaz, seconded by Senator Ann Kuzdale. Corrections: add Senator Crystal Laura to list of attendees. Vote to approve minutes. yes 18 no 0 abstain 0. Minutes approved.

#### Senator Speeches

Senator Aref Hervani. CSU team received a grant from the US Dept. of Education, SSA special office. Senator Hervani was asked to serve as principal investigator. He received a letter of appointment to serve till 2016, but had to resign on August 15 due to his employment status. Two others in the grant also resigned. President Watson assured the team that he would find replacements, but that apparently has not been done because student workers have not been paid. The grant is in jeopardy.

#### Committee Reports

Shared Governance: Senator Bob Bionaz reported that the Fall 2015 headcount is 4756, 62 fewer than spring 2015, and 455 fewer than Fall 2014. The outlook for spring is worrisome, because there is usually a drop off in Spring, so possibly 4400. This is the tenth consecutive semester of enrollment decline, based on the annual fall count. The goal for fall 2015 was 5367.

Q. Where is most of the decline? Unsure, because, just received the census report this morning. COE and COB, and Special Programs have been most affected by enrollment decline. COE went from 1600 down to 600. partly due to state regulations, the job market, etc.

#### Visitors

1. VP of Enrollment Management Carol Cordilet-Albrecht sent regrets for absence due to a death in her family. Her visit is rescheduled for October 6 meeting.

2. Shaila Christofferson: General Education Committee/General Education Assessment Committee finished Curriculum Review 2012-2015 process and has submitted a final report. Two most significant changes:

1. Addition of oral communications requirement: In the best interest of students to add a 3-credit course for oral communications. Other programs in Illinois have such a course. Committee had debated over several meetings whether to burden students with another course; however, found that many programs already have it as a requirement. Program evaluations indicated that elective credits are available, so there is minimal change to credit hour requirements.

2. The embedded Fine Arts requirement has been shifted down into a renamed Humanities and Fine Arts General Education requirement. Students must take an embedded course anyway, so the committee opted to regularize it. It raises the requirement to 39 credit hours. The state average is from 37 to 42, placing CSU in that range.

Explanation of courses missing from the current review process: most of these courses were not truly eliminated, but have not been approved at that time, along with reasons. Wording in the document is stronger than the reality. There were incomplete documents, or pieces missing, and the committee is awaiting clarification and further information regarding those courses.

The report will be shared university-wide by email, and submitted to Academic Affairs. Questions?

Q: Has there been faculty input? A: There was a series of town hall meetings where the university community commented and provided feedback.

Q: should or could we consider the oral communication as an embedded requirement.

Q: when will the changes be implemented? A: trying for spring 2016, but definitely by Fall 2016 in time for the new academic catalog (Fall 2016 to summer 2018)

Q: what is the next step? A: it will be presented to Academic Affairs., and also to University Curriculum Coordinating Committee. Faculty senate should vote on it but senators need time to read it. Senator Hall will distribute it again to the mailing list of attendees, to be presented to senators' home program faculty. This will be an agenda item for the October 6 meeting, although Senator Beverly expressed concern about the speed of this turnaround time.

3. Farah Muscadin, AVP Student Affairs. Reported on several projects and initiatives underway to bridge the relationship between student affairs and faculty.

- Women's Resource Center will open soon (ADM 203). They are waiting for furniture. Students are participating in management and programming. Will have domestic violence awareness, lactation area for nursing moms, and donations of coloring books, small toys, etc. will be needed in coming weeks
- clothes for Cougar Closet in a location that used to be a conference room. Watch for an email for this year's collection. The center receives continuing donations, and is partnering with Bar Association. Donors receive a receipt for tax purposes. Third Thursday of every month will be "Dress Professionally Day"
- Recognize a need to reach out to evening students. They plan a welcome to colleges. HWH, BHS, COE have had excellent response. They are on the first Friday of every month. Food is served and is well-received as students often arrive for evening class hungry after work.
- international students. They are attempting to remove barriers to participation, hosting an end of year social. This semester they will work with international program to organize events.
- LGBTQ: several faculty are working with Student Affairs on safe zones, safe zone email and website. There will be additional training sessions. This year CSU participated in Pride Parade for first time, and it was a good experience
- Veterans affairs. Monday, November 9 is National Veterans Awareness Day. Students Affairs will partner with the counseling center on ways to help to retain veteran students.
- students resource center: this is an open space that all student clubs use. There are now 80 clubs up from 60+.
- working on annual report to show campus community what we have been doing - this week - 2 student athletes worked on the design of the report.

#### Questions:

Q: when is the anticipated opening of the student resource center? Will there be computers? A: computers have been donated by a corporation. They are waiting for tables, but it is open now.

Q; What about the former Women's Resource Center room next to counseling center? A: It will be re-engaged. A student intern in Counseling will work with Dr. Paterson. As faculty member, can we refer a student to that center? A: They will address issues like homelessness, domestic violence. Students want a place that is theirs. They are collecting materials such as diapers, wipes, etc. as an emergency resource.

Q: Is the space available for events? A: Yes, it is. Space is booked through the Student Activities Office. They send students to conferences as well.

#### Angela Henderson Provost and Chief Academic Officer:

1. HLC: CSU received got 10-year accreditation, under leadership of Drs. P. Musial and G. Mulugeta. HLC has changed its model, now focused on continuous quality improvement. An assurance report speaking to all criteria must be prepared every four years. Additionally, there will be site visit within next year and 1/2 - fall 2016 or spring 2017. Dr. Tonya Hall and Dr. A. Kwembe are co-leaders. Other faculty and staff co-chair the criteria sub-committees.

Senators and other faculty are invited to reach out if interested in serving on a committee, such as Federal Compliance sub-committee, Communications. CSU sent 51 attendees to the recent HLC conference, and there will be other events throughout the coming year. The 2016 monitoring report on enrollment planning is coming due under the leadership of co-chairs Senator Dr. Sarah Buck AVP Ms. Cheri Sidney. Individual reports will be part of the assurance report.

2. August 20, reception for new faculty. Prof. Roxanne Stephenson of Music performed, and there was work exhibited from Art&Design. Two students from CMAT performed a scene from August Wilson's *Fences* (Christopher Taylor and Corey Bailey), two professors from Engineering Studies reported on their research.
3. Budget. Situation has been critical since spring. The state budget has still not been passed. MAP grants, etc. have been covered by CSU while waiting for state budget. Travel is at a minimum, even grant-related travel limited.

Q. Does the university have an internal budget to work with? A. Upper administration attending meetings in Springfield, but it is unknown when it will be resolved. For now, the first quarter budgets were loaded, and we await word on the second quarter budget.

Q. Faculty Development: faculty not allowed to fund their own travel, but cannot attend a conference without funding. Provost replied that they should talk offline.

Q. Describe new personnel changes in Academic Affairs

Dr. T. Bernie Rowan now has responsibility for Contract Administration

Dr. Paula Carney has responsibility for Graduate and Professional Programs, International Programs, and IRB

Dr. E. Arnott-Hill is the new Assistant Provost for Assessment and Curriculum. There is an assessment conference upcoming

### Old Business

Action Item Status List of unresolved and resolved issues. An update will be sent out shortly using the new format. There are some new materials that must be incorporated.

### New Business:

Representatives of UPI and Faculty Senate met to discuss personnel issues. A letter was generated and is being circulated for comment and approval. The letter will be an action item if it passes.

Moved by Senator Aref Hervani, seconded by Senator Ann Kuzdale to approve the memorandum of the joint committee.

Yes 23 No 0 Abstain 1

Motion Carried.

## Other

Article in This month's Atlantic - "*The coddling of the american mind*" regarding college students' proclivity to not want to hear unpleasant things, and invites those interested to read the article.

## Announcements

Next Meeting of Faculty Senate: Tuesday, October 6, 2015, in NAL Auditorium  
Meeting of CSU Board of Trustees Friday, September 18, 2015, in NAL Auditorium

Entertain motion to adjourn. So moved. Meeting adjourned 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Janet Halpin  
Professor of Geography