

Chicago State University Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2023

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89804387862>

Present: William Jason Raynovich (President), Yashika Watkins (Vice President), Gabrielle Toth (Corresponding Secretary), Sarah Buck (Recording Secretary), Concetta Williams (Parliamentarian), Sarah Austin, Deborah Harper Brown, Eddy Gaytan, Nadeem Fazal, Leslie Roundtree, Loren Mindell, Dan Hrozencik, Joanna Kolendo, Gayle Porter, Leslie Baker-Kimmons, Gabriel Gomez, Jubilee Dickson, Soo Kang, Austin Harton, Patricia Steinhaus, Mohammad Newaz, Olanipekun Laosebikan, Mohammad Salahuddin, Anser Azim, Byung-In Seo, Jacquelyn Benchik-Osborne, Arthur Redman, Asmamaw Yimer, Yakubu Ubangiji, Walid Al-Ghoul

- A. Call to order 12:30
- B. Agenda 12:31-12:32
 - a. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Toth moved to approve agenda as amended, Watkins seconded > motion approved by unanimous consent
 - b. Rules of the Day (**Appendix A**)
 - i. Gomez moved to approve rules, Steinhaus seconded > motion approved by unanimous consent
- C. Approval of March Minutes ([March 2023 minutes](#)) (Rec. Sec.)
 - a. Kang moved to approve minutes, Watkins seconded > motion carried with 16 yes, 1 abstention
- D. Senator Comments/Speeches
 - a. Dr. Sarah Austin
 - i. Spoke on behalf of the bargaining team to thank those who were part of the process
 - b. William Jason Raynovich
 - i. Spoke on the concern of shared governance, specifically regarding making BOT meeting materials available to the FS President, which has not happened consistently.
- E. Provost Report (Dr. Roundtree)

- a. Received HLC re-accreditation for 10 years with no required additional reporting. Will stay on standard pathway to prepare for comprehensive visit in 2027
 - b. Including option for undergrad students to select option of pass/non-pass grades for spring 2023 (similar to during Covid). There are stipulations. Email was sent via University Relations
 - c. Commencement preparations underway. Will include Dec and May graduates
 - d. Provost Colloquium May 11. Details will be sent
 - e. Faculty Town Hall May 4
 - f. Student evaluations moved to last week of class. Encourage students to complete them as participation rate has steadily declined. Close at May 6 11:59pm. Reminders need to be sent from university to students
- F. Enrollment Management Update (VP Rodriguez)
- a. Not present. Will present at town hall
- G. Standing Committee Reports
- a. Executive Committee (Pres. of Faculty Senate)
 - i. Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws
 - 1. Remain in deliberations
 - ii. Student Evaluations deadline change- see above
 - b. Academic and Student Affairs (Chair)
 - i. Update on DFW Actions
 - 1. Written statement sent to committee from the Provost on the process
 - 2. In the future, feedback will be solicited from faculty about what resources are needed to aid students. Administration can/will attend department meetings to explain process and receive feedback
 - c. Rules and Operations Committee
 - i. Elections (**Appendix F**)
 - 1. Senators- see Appendix
 - 2. Committees- elections delayed for positions due to strike

d. Technology Committee (Chair/FS Pres)

i. Action Item: LMS, such as D2L Brightspace or Canvas

(Appendix B)

- Seo moved to accept item, Fazal seconded > friendly amendment to change language of the motion to indicate the need to explore a change, not to vote on making a change> motion carried with 14 yes, 4 no
- Discussion: Provost indicated is in July budget to make a change. Other concerns raised included having the data showing what other IL schools use, the cost for each system under consideration, the need for broader faculty input, the need for input from related advisory committees

e. Library Committee

i. Action Item: Usage of Open Access Materials (**Appendix C**)

1. Al-Ghoul moved to approve, Harper Brown seconded > motion carried with 17 yes, 3 abstain
2. Discussion: concern over what disciplines are the focus of open access materials (response: only wanting to make OA as an option, not a requirement), concern over desire of students to have print copy (response: OA offered online and in print), copyright concerns

f. Buildings and Grounds

i. Action Item: CSU Personnel Searches That Affect Buildings and Grounds (**Appendix E**)

1. Toth moved to approve action, Austin seconded > motion carried unanimously

H. Old Business

a. Ad Hoc Campus Safety

i. Contact Raynovich if your department has not been assigned a person

b. Report: ad hoc committee on Faculty Mental Health and Morale

- i. A survey has been designed. Final draft will be ready 5/5 and will send to colleagues next week. Report out at September meeting

I. New Business

- a. IBHE March 2023 session/invitation/election (Representative)
 - i. 2 bills in Senate: SB 2288 would require up to 4 credits in their major. SB 1895 eliminates fees/textbook costs for courses at public universities.
 - ii. Have also discussed faculty mental health (state money for initiatives)
 - iii. Academic freedom, specifically regarding dual credit courses with students below age
 - iv. Concerns over AI technology
- b. Action Item: Department Chair Policy (**Appendix D**)
 - i. Provost indicated Chairpersons are appointed; elections serve as recommendation
 - ii. Motion carried with 19 yes, 1 abstention
- c. Open
 - i. Buck indicated need for discussion regarding syllabus statement for AI/ChatGPT. Raynovich suggested discussion for summer committee
 - ii. Steinhaus moved to request response from President Scott regarding why Provost remains interim, what is the plan for hiring a permanent Provost, how will the faculty be participants in that process; Gomez seconded > motion carried unanimously
 - iii. Raynovich acknowledged

J. Adjournment

- a. Toth moved to approve adjournment, Austin seconded > approved 1:57

Appendix A

Rules of the Day

1. All Senators and guests shall have their full name as their Zoom signature.
2. All Senators shall send a private direct message to the Corresponding Secretary, Prof. Gabrielle Toth for purposes of taking attendance and census for voting and quorum.
3. Only those who are recognized by the President of Faculty Senate shall speak.
 - a. All Senators shall mute when not recognized.
4. Senators may speak on any Action at most twice during any action, the first time for two minutes and the second time for thirty seconds
5. To speak, a Senator shall put the “hand” up in the Zoom feature reactions.
6. All Action Items shall be voted on via Zoom polls.
 - a. Only Senators shall vote in the Zoom polls.
 - b. The polls shall be anonymous.
 - c. The Parliamentarian and the President of Faculty Senate shall unanimously agree that the tally is the sense of the Senate.

Appendix B

Title: a newer LMS, such as D2L Brightspace or Canvas

Senate Committee Technology

Context/Rationale: We are requesting Faculty Senate to consider and vote on the request to the administration to change our current LMS (Learning Management System). CSU started with Blackboard, but changed to Moodle many years ago, since it was free at the time. Moodle is no longer free (it costs about \$30,000 a year) and is antiquated. Most all Illinois universities now use either D2L Brightspace or Canvas (University of Illinois switched to Canvas in 2021). These newer LMS are far more user-friendly and easier to navigate due to their integrated services. Students will definitely be able to learn and utilize these newer systems faster and more easily, reducing demands for assistance and support. The newer LMS are more costly (ranging between \$60,000 to \$70,000 a year and an initial setup fee) and will require lengthy process of learning (from pilot program to full training of staff and faculty), but with the growing demand for online learning and other online support, it will be a worthy investment for our students. Dissemination of information via the new LMS will also be easier, facilitating better communication and other needs of the CSU community.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action: The Faculty Senate requests the administration to change our current LMS (Moodle) to a newer LMS, such as D2L Brightspace or Canvas.

Appendix C

Senate Committee: Library

Senate Meeting Date for Consideration: 5/2/2023

Sponsor: Walid Al-Ghoul

Co-Sponsor: Deborah Harper-Brown

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale: One of the discussions in higher education is the rising cost of textbooks, which causes students financial concerns. Open Access Materials may be an alternative that benefits the entire university and supports teaching and learning. Open Access Journal Resources and Open Education Resources offer the opportunity to freely distribute materials to students.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action: The Faculty Senate supports the promotion of Open Access Materials as well as Open Education Resources and investigation of them as possible options for use in the classroom as a means for limiting students' cost for textbooks. Additionally, the Faculty Senate supports the University's OA Committee and promotes OER webinars and programs created by the GBL's faculty. This is a link to information from the Library with OER sources: <https://library.csu.edu/c.php?g=448788>

Appendix D

Senate Committee: N/A

Senate Meeting Date for Consideration: 5/2/2023

Sponsor: [Patricia Steinhaus](#)

Co-Sponsor: None

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale:

April is the time of year when Chairperson elections occur, if a department chairperson's term is expiring. As the department's senior most faculty member, I have been charged with managing the process.

To that end, I have tried to gather as much information as possible about the position and the process for determining a chairperson so that faculty members in the department are well informed when they make a decision.

What I've discovered is that there is little to no information about the position, or the selection process, with the exception of a list of duties and the fact that there should be an election. The Contract Administrator's office will not even confirm the term of the chairperson or the means of determining a chairperson's salary, except that it's a formula.

The Provost indicates that “. . . *job descriptions are generated through administration and HR. The President sets to [the] process for position preparation and review. It is a practice of CSU to allow the departments to provide feedback on chairpersons through an election process.*”

Department Chairperson are critical to the operation of the university. Departments can thrive or they can flounder as the result of a chairperson's management.

Apparently, there is nothing in any of the university governing documents which provide any further guidance in the selection of persons in the key positions of chairperson across the university.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action:

The Faculty Senate investigates the lack of policies and procedures around the Chairperson selection process with the goal of establishing policies and procedures which reflect transparency and shared governance.

Appendix E

Senate Committee: Buildings and Grounds

Senate Meeting Date for Consideration: 5/2/2023

Sponsor: Dr. Anser Azim

Co-Sponsor: Dr. Walid Al-Ghoul

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale:

Current search for VP of Facilities did not involve or notify the Faculty Senate President nor Buildings and Grounds Committee Chair.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action:

The Faculty Senate requests the Administration notifies the President of the Faculty Senate and the Chair of the Buildings and Grounds be notified prior to upcoming personnel searches, that pertain to CSU buildings and grounds. including search committee formation for the VP Facilities position and any other peer leadership positions in Facilities. The Faculty Senate requests that a minimum of two faculty members serve on these search committees.

Appendix F

Faculty Senate List: [Senate 2022-2023 List](#)

Senate Seats :

Department faculty elect

Group 3: Term for 2020-2023. A subsequent election will occur in March 2023 for a term which will extend from 2023-2026	
Department:	
SocialWork	1
ArtandDesign	1
Education Studies	1
English&ForeignLanguage&Literature	2
Music	1
Management,Marketing&InformationS ystems	1

Rules and Operations Committee:

Faculty Senate elects

Group 2: Term for 2022-2025. A subsequent election will occur in May 2022 for a term which will extend from 2022-2025
Senator
Group 3: Term for 2023-2026. A subsequent election will occur in May 2023 for a term which will extend from 2023-2026
Senator
Non-Senator

Academic Program Elimination Review Committee:

College faculty elect

Group 3: Term for 2023-2026. A subsequent election will occur in May 2023 for a term which will extend from	
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2023-2026	
Seat:	
Education	1
Health Science	1
Pharmacy	1

Honorary Degree Committee:

University Faculty elect.

Three seats

University Personnel Committee:

College faculty elect

Group 3: Term for 2023-2026. A subsequent election will occur in March 2023 for a term which will extend from 2026-2029	
Library and Instructional Services	1