

#643

# MINUTES FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2025, FACULTY SENATE MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. IN MICHENER LIBRARY MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

<u>Present:</u> Almquist, Brown, Cieminski, de la Torre, DeKrey (Iannacchione), Dietz, Doerner, Elkins, Garrett, Gershwin, Iannacchione, Kang, Kyle, Landry, Larson, Leatherman, Muller, Newman, Paytoe Gbayee, Shafie, Senbet, Walder

**Zoom:** Allen, Castro, Fischer, Fleming, Greene, Lee, Luanris, Mondy, Schaberl, Trask, Wieben

Absent: Benedict, Feinstein, Wieben

**Guests:** Debbie Farris, Leanne Frisinger

- 1. Call to Order: 4:01pm
- 2. Approval of the February 17, 2025 Agenda: approved without objection
- 3. Approval of the February 3, 2025 Faculty Senate Minutes: approved without objection
- 4. Chair's Report (Kyle) Thank you for the feedback following the last Faculty Senate meeting, 20 senators responded to Kyle's email: one-third wants to move on and allow the administration to do what they stated, one-third say this is there top issue and want to continue the conversation, with several saying that they would like to see more concrete examples of how things will change. Some respondents prefer different, more collaborative approaches, while others support periodic check-ins on the topic. Two individuals expressed discomfort with the tone of the discussion, regarding both President Feinstein's and Senbet's approaches. Kyle has offered to attend a Professional Administrative Staff Council (PASC) meeting to address conversations about growing division and will reach out to Mondy regarding the Classified Staff Council (CSC). Committee chairs should send Kyle brief reports for the Board of Trustees meeting. The all-faculty meeting is scheduled for April 17th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Panorama Room with potential topics including faculty involvement in recruiting, either through a faculty panel with admissions or a brief presentation from the City of Greeley on their initiatives. President Feinstein will provide food for the meeting. Additionally, the shared governance reception is tentatively set for April 8th at 6:00 PM.

# 5. Administrative Reports

**President** (Feinstein) – No report

**Provost** (Fleming) – At today's Cabinet meeting, there was discussion about the dear colleague letter from the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and how to proceed.

**Dean's Representative** (Doerner) – Deans are currently working on their budgets for 2026, with a deadline to have materials ready by mid-March.

**Board of Trustees** (Fischer) – F&A next Thursday and BOT next Friday

As Faculty Perceptions of Administrators Committee chair – The Faculty Perceptions of Administrator Survey has been sent, please check "OTHER" folder and encourage colleagues to take the survey.

# 6. Staff Council Reports:

Classified Staff Council (Mondy) – No report

**Professional Administrative Staff Council** (Castro) – No report

#### 7. Standing Committee Reports:

**Academic Policies** (Newman) – The Academic Policies Committee (APC) has items under New Business. APC is currently working on updates to the Undergraduate Catalog, including certificates and residency requirements. The Micro-Credentials Committee will be chaired by Kamel Haddad and currently has a few members, but they are still looking for more. Faculty interested in joining should reach out to Newman or Lee.

**Codification** (Schuttler) – Codification reviewed the items from APC. Codification continued to work on "Availability of Greeley Campus Seats for Programs Supported by Extended Campus" and committee/council/board bylaws.

**Elections** (Newman) – The call for Faculty Senate nominations have been sent out. Please self-nominate or nominate faculty that may be interested in serving.

**Faculty Welfare** (DeKrey) – Faculty Welfare continues to work on faculty evaluation procedures.

**Salary Equity** (Senbet) – Salary Equity is working on the compensation outcomes report. The committee gave HR feedback and hope to receive an updated report by the next meeting. Once received, the committee will review and move forward to Faculty Senate.

- 8. <u>Student Government Association Report</u> (Walder) Student elections and hiring of new senators are currently underway. The survey on the potential implementation of a fall break and the introduction of a three-year degree program received a 22% response rate from the student body.
- 9. Special Orders

# 10. Special Reports

- Website redesign (Debbie Ferris and Leanne Frisinger)
  - o Discussion on the website redesign
    - How much input will the department have from a content point of view?
      - Departments will collaborate with their communication specialist to provide content.
    - Will the faculty be able to make updates?
      - Faculty will update content through their designated communication specialist.
      - Editing rights will not be given to faculty directly, templates will be provided for faculty to make the edits they want.
      - While there is no ability to police all users, content will be carefully monitored.
    - It is important to understand that Extended Campus (EC) supports online courses and that online courses cannot exist without EC. Should the EC remain separate?

- Confirmation was received from the EC to remain separate.
- A future discussion may need to be had post-launch.
- How long will the process take to send a message?
  - The response time will depend on the promptness of parties involved.
- Grouping Economics with Business might cause confusion, as Economics belongs to the HSS department.
  - The grouping is designed with students' needs in mind, based on what they are looking for (undergrad, grad school, etc.).
  - Each page will have a defined goal to streamline content and user experience.
- The new design aims to better serve students by improving the interface for audiences like undergrads and graduate school applicants.
- The current website's functioning is challenging, and improvements are being made for internal teams working across departments.
  - A well-used directory will be incorporated, making navigation easier.
- Content for the Liberal Arts Council will be under Academics.
- Non-academic content such as grants will still be included, content will be rearranged for better organization.
- There's also a concern about whether the site reflects the university's identity.
  - The current website is outdated and has accessibility issues (violating ADA guidelines).
- Debbie is currently writing content for each unit, in collaboration with communication specialists or designated personnel.
  - Some pages have already been written.
- Faculty Profile Pages:
  - Faculty members will collaborate with their communication specialist to create their profiles.
  - Each faculty member will have one profile, with the option to include as much detail as desired.
  - They are encouraged to get updated headshots and start updating their information now.
- Launch Date:
  - The new website is scheduled to launch on June 29th.

# 11. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

#### 12. New Business

- Final exam catalog language (APC Newman)
  - o DISCUSSION
    - Muller raises an amendment to:
      - Point 3 End the first sentence with "or as soon as possible if unexpected circumstances arise."
      - Point 4 End the first sentence with "one or more exams, as appropriate."

- Newman accepts the amendment.
- Proposed final exam rotation (APC Newman)
  - o MOTION: Motion to approve the Final Catalog Language and Proposed final exam rotation moved by Garrett, seconded by Leatherman
  - o VOTE: Motion passes unanimously
- Grad AI policy (APC Newman)
  - o DISCUSSION:
    - Contradictory Points:
      - One part of the policy states that AI cannot be used, while another section suggests the use of AI for certain tasks.
    - AI should be used appropriately, mainly for third-party editorial purposes, not to create content or generate original ideas.
    - Consider adding this clarification to the "unless" clause.
    - Raised amendments:
      - Insert "thesis/dissertation/comprehensive exam committee or" to the first point for clarification.
      - Rewrite the sentence before the second set of bullets as "Appropriate uses of AI without the expectations listed above are limited to:"
      - Newman accepts friendly amendments.
    - There is a view that students may not use AI at all while others see AI as a progressive tool, but one that could potentially reduce faculty autonomy.
      - The decision on whether to use AI should ultimately lie with the faculty.
    - This policy is not intended for course-based work, only for theses, dissertations, or comprehensive exams.
  - o MOTION: Motion to approve the Grad AI policy.
  - o VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote.

#### 13. Comments to the Good of the Order –

Bear news will be filming the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Adjournment – 5:40pm