

## CMU Faculty Senate MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 5, 2024, 3:30 – 5:00pm

Venue: Library 331 Conference Room

### Senators/Representatives present:

Karl Castleton, David Collins, Kathy Diehl, Ann Gillies, Eli Hall, Christopher McKim, Kyle McQuade, Steve Merino, Vail Shoultz-McCole (for Josh Meuwly), Christine Noel, Brian Parry, Nathan Perry, Markus Reitenbach, Stacie Schreiner, Rachel Weinzimmer, Rhema Zlaten, Leilani Domingo

### Senators/Representatives Absent:

Josh Meuwly

### Guests:

Chad Middleton, Richard Scott (for Laureen Cantwell Jurkovic), Michelle Mellenthin

Renae Phillips- Recorder

#### I. Call to Order and Roll Call by Sign-In

- a. President Schreiner calls meeting to order at 3:30pm

#### II. Consent Agenda

**Motion: to approve the Consent Agenda  
(Hall, Seconded Gillies); Motion Carried**

- a. UCC Minutes from August 29, 2024
- b. Curriculum Committee Year End Report for 2023-2024

#### III. Approve Faculty Senate Minutes from May 1, 2024

**Motion: to approve Faculty Senate Minutes from May 1, 2024  
(McQuade, Seconded Castleton); Motion Carried**

#### IV. Committee Minutes and Reports to Approve

- a. Assessment Committee Report for 2023-2024

**Motion: to approve Assessment Committee Report for 2023-2024  
(Reitenbach, Seconded Castleton); Motion Carried, 1 abstention**

- b. Academic Policies 2024 Final Report

**Motion: to approve Academic Policies 2024 Final Report  
(McKim, Seconded Merino); Motion Carried, 1 abstention**

- c. DFAC 2023-2024 Year End Summary

**Motion: to approve DFAC 2023-2024 Year End Summary  
(McQuade, Seconded Castleton); Motion Carried, 1 abstention**

- d. Faculty Salary and Benefits Year End Report 2023-2024

**Motion: to approve Faculty Salary and Benefits Year End Report 2023-2024  
(Reitenbach, Seconded Hall); Motion Carried, 1 abstention**

e. Salary and Benefits Committee Minutes from February 1, 2024

**Motion: to approve Salary and Benefits Committee Minutes from February 1, 2024 (Gillies, Seconded McKim); Motion Carried, 1 abstention**

V. Information Items

a. DFA nominations are open until October 1, 2024

- i. Six awards including four new Distinguished Faculty Awards, have been sent out for nominations. Language has been added to the email that explains each award.

b. PPEH changes – Instructor rank (Chad Middleton)

- i. Promotion of instructor ranking will be emailed out to all faculty members by the end of next week. Cher is asking for as much feedback on all items listed as possible.

VI. Continuing Business

a. Course evaluations-Faculty Success (Michelle Mellenthin)

- i. Discussion: How to build a culture around evaluations. There have been questions on whether students understand the language within the student course evaluations. Do students understand what each level means for the questions being asked. Holly Oberle, the Vice Chair of the Faculty Success committee, reworked her Research Methods class in Poli-Sci to include a topic on focus groups to discuss evaluation. The class is a 1<sup>st</sup> mod course, so should have results back by mid-November from the student run, focus groups. The committee believes it is important to use the feedback from this pilot program to continue a charge for the committee. There is discussion about how to separate the questions that are university wide as opposed to the departmental specific courses to meet the needs of essential and non-essential questions. What is the long-term goal for the data? It is valuable to give student feedback. Some departments utilize the evaluations for staffing, etc. CMU Tech reminded the FS that most of their students complete their programs in one to two years, so if we only focus on junior/senior levels, the evaluations may miss those students/programs. It might be important to determine what question(s) are departmental specific.

**Motion: to charge the Faculty Success Committee to develop, implement and collect data through current and proposed evaluation questions via students across all departments.**

**(Weinzimmer, Seconded Hall); Motion Carried**

b. Online overload pay versus in-person overload pay

- i. Discussion: The Executive Committee had a discussion with President Marshall about this and VPAA Cher Hendricks will pull the information that is already available and will share with Faculty Senate. The incentive to teach online for overload is higher than teaching in-person overloads, as online pays more than in-person. Historically, teaching online was

tougher to get faculty to teach, but with recent changes, finding faculty to teach online is less challenging.

## VII. New Business

- a. Climate Survey this fall-student survey in the spring
  - i. Discussion: Brian Parry worked with Cher over the summer to craft new language for the climate survey that will be implemented Fall 2024. Department Heads/President Marshall have already vetted the modifications and edits. Close to finalization and will be put into Qualtrics (about 80 questions)
  
- b. Department travel funds
  - i. Discussion: During the Faculty Senate retreat a discussion arose about the different ways departments utilize travel funds. President Marshall stated that each department gets \$1000 per year per tenure-track faculty.

## VIII. Reports

- a. VPAA Report, Chad Middleton
  - i. Climate Survey: should go out from the President in the next couple of weeks. Incredibly important to get good data set, so please encourage everyone to participate.
  - ii. Handbook: please make time to review and provide feedback.
  - iii. Professional Development Fund: deadline is 5pm on 9/6/24
- b. Faculty Trustee Report, Brian Parry
  - i. Mid-August was the last meeting. The campus experienced growth, with the biggest freshmen class in history. The growth was very well rounded (no specific county was higher than usual). Our undergraduate head count is up 8.2% had count and credit hours are up 7.4%. CMU Tech has shown major growth with 41% increase in certificate programs. Mesa County freshmen enrollment is up 27%. CMU Promise went into effect last year, the counties west of the continental divide had an increase of 52% who qualified for the CMU Promise. 60% of freshmen class has merit aid as opposed to 47% in previous year. Financial Aid packaging was problematic, but CMU offered early packaging, which helped with the 16% increase in freshmen enrollment. We will see if this a trend or not.
  - ii. Housing needs have increased, which has led to supplementing through hotel room use. There was a proposal to the Board of Trustees to build a new 300-bed residence hall, which was approved to be constructed near the new Performing Arts building. The Board of Trustees are entertaining the idea of temp-housing for faculty, which had been previously okayed, but has been tabled when the discussion of the need to increase student housing was proposed. There is property near the CMU Tech campus, which might be a better option for temp-housing for faculty. It would allow a short-term transition (i.e. 1-year).
  - iii. 10-year master plan has been released. They identified the Fine Arts Building and the Moss Performing Arts Center are the most in need of restructuring to add increased classrooms as the utilization target flagged

these buildings a being utilized above the target. All other buildings appear to be utilizing their space lower than the target usage. The project identified needs ten years out for the standard size classrooms (i.e. 30) in the Medical Education Building, larger classrooms in Moss, labs in Confluence, Fine Arts, Health Sciences, and Wubben and studios in Fine Arts. We are going to see land acquisition shift to the west of the Health Sciences' building, and those individuals have not yet been notified. There will be town meetings and mailings going out in the near future.

- iv. New marketing strategies for CMU Tech stackable credential programs, there have been a guaranteed salary with each “stack” from those programs negotiated with local employers.
  - v. Treasure: \$38 million portfolio that CMU stands with. Projection is that the State of Colorado will have modest growth, but with the recent tax credits on real estate, there will be a short fall soon, which will affect funding for higher education.
  - vi. A motion passed to authorize the first \$500,000 of cost savings from the geothermal project to go to the Colorado River Conservation, in support of the accusation of water rights from the dam in Glenwood Canyon, extending water rights for western Colorado. Colorado River Conservation needs \$99 million to purchase that accusation.
- c. CFAC report, Christine Noel
- i. No report, first meeting is next week.
- d. VP report, Christopher McKim
- i. Most committees are staffed and will have accurate representation in the spreadsheet shortly.
- e. Student Government Report, Leilani Domingo
- i. Student Senate passed a resolution that student contribution for providing 60% personal coverage for travel costs outside 250 miles or 40% personal coverage for travel inside 250 miles. First tailgate is next week. Asked reps to reach out to departments to see what is happening and how to support.
- f. Executive Committee Report, Markus Reitenbach
- i. Cher Hendricks updated on work for the Handbook. Offered three prospective titles for instructors, Assistant Professor of Instruction, Associate Professor of Instruction and Professor of Instruction.
  - ii. John Marshall would like to have help in pointing out faculty achievements so that CMU can recognize them.
- g. President's Report, Stacie Schreiner
- i. No report

IX. Adjourn

**Motion: to adjourn the meeting  
(Collins, Seconded Hall); Motion carried 4:37p**