



FACULTY SENATE – MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2024

3:00 PM – Student Center Ballroom, third floor

PRESENT: Faculty Senate Officers C. Olszewski and J. Jenkins; **Faculty Senators** M. Adams, J. Ausherman, M. Baumgartner, J. Bolt, S. Brockhaus, B. Browning, C. Collins, M. Collins, B. Conti, P. Daiker-Middaugh, V. DePaoli, Y. Fu, K. Fuller, J. Gatica, P. Lopes Gerum, A. Goodsett, C. Heyward, J. Kahler, W. Kang, E. Lehfeltdt, J. Marino, J. Matthews, P. McGinty, B. Nagy, A. O’Connor, J. Plecnik, A. Price, R. Raimer, E. Raushert, H. Richter, J. Sawicki, A. Severson, Y. Shen, D. Smith, A. Resnick, A. Tayyara, J. Vitali, A. Voight, N. Zawahri; **Administrative and Corresponding Members** L. Bloomberg, N. Sridhar, J. Gordon, R. Schoephoerster, R. Carnell, M. Gruys, S. Zachariah, K. Neuendorf; **Ex Officio Limited Members** G. Dyer, M. Heath, M. Wiitala, G. Shukla, and L. Quinn.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 75 participants.

Senate President Olszewski called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

- I. Approval of the Agenda for the September 11, 2024 Meeting
The agenda was unanimously approved by voice vote.
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the May 1, 2024 Meeting
The minutes of the May 1, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved by voice vote.
- III. Report of the Senate President
Senate President Olszewski first took a moment to reflect on the significance of the date, September 11 before thanking the Senate members for all that they do and for trusting her in this new role. She noted that such thanks were expressed in the recent letter sent out to Senators. She followed with a brief introduction of herself.

President Olszewski provided some brief comments on some ongoing matters. The first was to encourage timely updates to website information, recognizing shifting roles due to VISIP departures. Next, she commented on the continued work needed for core curriculum and thanked Marcus Shultz-Bergin and the Core Curriculum Ad Hoc committee for their work over the summer. She spoke of Faculty Senate leadership efforts to review committees and the overall committee structure, noting that those senators serving on multiple standing committees may choose to be replaced so as not to serve on more than one standing committee.

President Olszewski ended her comments by calling attention to two efforts where faculty input is being sought. The first effort was the work of the Strategic Planning group. She noted a forum had been held and a survey launched to collect input from faculty, staff and students. She has requested the Strategic Planning group extend the deadline of the survey to allow more students to participate and encouraged faculty to distribute the survey QR code in their classes. Strategic Planning will be on the next Faculty Senate agenda. The second effort was the Whitepaper on Integrated Advising. She noted that the whitepaper would be distributed for discussion at the next Faculty Senate meeting. **(Report No. 1, 2024-2025)**

IV. Report of the President of CSU

President Bloomberg began her comments by welcoming the Faculty Senate leadership team, and thanking faculty for welcoming our students to campus.

President Bloomberg provided remarks on the work of the Strategic Planning Task Force. A new strategic plan is needed as the current plan, CSU 2.0 was intended to sunset in 2025. She explained that the plan is to be a framework, comparing it to the structure of a mobile, which will link future CSU efforts. The strategic planning process began last spring, with input from the Trustees and then pivoted to eliciting input from the leadership team, and is now focused on gathering community input. She noted that the Faculty Senate leaders are members of the Task Force. The first forum has taken place and from the survey the Task Force has received very important feedback. The initial feedback to the Mission, Vision and Values has been ranked and generally the rankings are high. The next forum, which is focused on gathering staff input will be held next week. The survey has been extended, a new QR code is available for the survey, and information about the strategic planning process is posted on the website "Charting Our Path".

President Bloomberg commented on the VISIP and the small number of layoffs that have occurred, all part of the resolute determination to balance the budget. She acknowledged the need to do things differently and that she has restructured her cabinet, achieving a flatter, broader structure. A few notable changes were Nicole Addington moving into the role of CFO and Randy Deike joining as VP, Enrollment Management. Kelly Thompkins had temporarily stepping in and will remain as Special Advisor to Business Affairs, specifically for real estate matters. A Deans' Representative position was added and filled by Stephanie Brooks. Rethinking the structure at the administrative level, with 5 senior leadership groups, will better facilitate shared governance, allowing administration to work more closely with faculty senate standing committees.

President Bloomberg's final comments were focused on the website updates. She thanked Roy Gifford and his team for carrying out this large effort. She noted that glitches are expected, that the rollout has been staged to better address issues that occur, and encouraged everyone to speak up when they encounter issues. The new website will be ADA compliant, which has been needed for some time, and will better adapt to different devices. And finally, she drew attention to the new Free speech webpage. **(Report No. 2, 2024-2025)**

V. University Curriculum Committee

Committee Chair Michele Heath presented a consent agenda from the committee. The consent agenda was unanimously approved **(Report No. 3, 2024-2025)**

- Adult, Professional & Higher Education, M.Ed. - 1110 - Fall 24
- Human Resource Management, MHRM - 1110 - Fall 24
- Women's and Gender Studies Minor - 1110 - Fall 24
- Women's and Gender Studies, B.A. - 1110 - Fall 24
- Accounting Analytics Graduate Certificate - 1110 - Fall 24
- COM - 248 - Intercultural Communication
- CRM - 201 - The Criminal (In?) Justice System
- Online Teaching Graduate Certificate - 1110 - Fall 24

VI. Budget and Finance Committee

Committee Co-chair Judy Ausherman first presented a timeline tracking the transition of the CFO position from David Jewell, to Kelly Thompkins, to Nicole Addington.

Committee Co-chair Girish Shukla presented the FY 23 actuals vs. FY 24 preliminary actuals, and FY 24 preliminary actuals vs. FY 25 budget, highlighting the VISIP expenses of \$8.5 M in FY 24 and \$6.3 M in FY 25, commented on the operating surplus and cash and investments lines and provided a list FY 25 budget upsides. Committee Co-chair Judy Ausherman also noted there were downsides and provided a list of them, and then provided a list of questions, and asked whether the targets from the EY Parthenon report have been met, and whether administration has been right sized along with faculty. She noted that moving forward PFAC meetings have been setup to inform the Budget and Finance Committee in a timely manner prior to Faculty Senate. **(Report No. 4, 2024-2025)**

VII. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Provost Sridhar began by welcoming everyone to the new academic year. He then gave a moment to recognize the losses that have occurred, that staff and colleagues have left, and noted the passing of former CSU Library Director Ann Marie Smeraldi.

Provost Sridhar then addressed the first question raised by the Budget and Finance Committee, about whether the targets had been met. He said that the employment information about faculty and staff is protected, not public and cannot be released. However, the deans and VPs do know who have applied to VISIP so they can plan for those departures. Also, the structure of the VISIP provides time for applicants to change their minds.

Provost Sridhar then addressed the second question raised by the Budget and Finance Committee, about the ratio of faculty to administrators. He noted that the budget book, which is prepared every year and is public, was delayed because the budget was not prepared on time. He committed to supplying the information about cuts to PFAC.

Provost Sridhar then went on to talk about enrollment as it is the primary driver in the budget. A \$5 M decrease from FY 24 to FY 25 was expected. As of yesterday (i.e. census day) enrollment was up by 20 some students. He purports the reasoning is an increase in domestic incoming students, faster than expected growth in online programs, and improved retention rates. His office is working to confirm this.

Provost Sridhar commented on the summer work that took place, planning for the course schedule build for 25-26, which includes adjustment, reductions, moves, and investments. He noted that program review work is continuing and should be discussed next month. For core curriculum, he noted 78 proposals were either approved or close to be approved. He recognized that the timeline to get core courses approved is short, that it is linked to the schedule build for next year, to have classes available for registration in March, but his office is looking where adjustment can be made.

Provost Sridhar provided an update on the Center for Civics Culture and Society, which was created through the state budget. He noted that there is now a 7-member academic council,

which is also acting as a search committee for the Center. They are working on a job description and search launch is forthcoming.

Provost Sridhar closed his report by thanking the faculty who worked over the summer on core pathways, launch courses, and the student experience project.

Question Time

Faculty Senate President Olszewski opened the floor for questions.

Pam Daiker-Middaugh asked what the total enrollment was. Provost Sridhar responded 14,213.

Yongjian Fu asked why the investment income was low for FY24 compared to FY 23. Provost Sridhar responded that FY 23 was good year and that we cannot expect the same fortune moving forward. He noted that we should be looking at the operating surplus/deficient line. President Bloomberg interjected that there is need to pay for the future technology transfer.

Aaron Severson asked for an update on the integrated degrees. Provost Sridhar responded that all 14 integrated degree program have gone through ODHD review and are waiting on final approval from Chancellor. He added that marketing these new programs will begin as soon as approval from the Chancellor's office is received.

Linda Quinn noted that the Senate approved the 7 appointees to the Council and asked why the Board submitted the names that they did, given the LGBTQ comments made by one of them. The President acknowledged that this is troubling and explained that the appointees needed to represent a range of thoughts and that regardless of their personal position can follow the rule of law.

Pam Daiker-Middaugh asked where the list was and the Provost said it would be sent to Senate President Olszewski.

Emily Rauschert commented on the Cabinet and their role in shared governance, noting that only one of the members is teaching and none are doing research, which impacts the ability to work together, and that there is a need to bring committee structure together with the role of faculty senate. President Bloomberg responded that administration is doing a better job at aligning structures between the Cabinet and Faculty Senate, which is not achieved by expanding the Cabinet. Emily Rauschert replied that faculty don't know most of the people. President Bloomberg responded that Cabinet members attend Faculty Senate. Provost Sridhar added that Senate President Olszewski and he are working to get senate committees to work better with ex-officio members. He noted that both Senate President and Linda Quinn are members on the board. Senate President Olszewski agreed that they are working on it and will review mid-year and adjust

Judy Ausherman asked about the search for Dean of Students. President Bloomberg responded that the search was stopped, and agreed to follow up and obtain the protocol used by HR for that situation.

John Plecnik inquired about what was being done to celebrate the 60 year anniversary of CSU, then presented a gavel to Senate President Olszewski. President Bloomberg responded that there

are plans underway including a “if not for CSU...” story campaign and noted that one of the largest gifts CSU has ever received will be announced. Pam Daiker-Middaugh asked when and President Bloomberg said to put the Radiance event on your calendar.

Adam Voight asked about the retirement of Meredith Bond. Provost Sridhar responded that the Office of Research is reporting to the Provost, that VISP departures are not being replaced, and that the internal award programs and so forth will continue. Provost Sridhar reminded everyone that the USRA poster session is September 19, 12-3 p.m.

VIII. New Business

Approval Item

C. Continuation of Ad Hoc Core Curriculum Committee through Fall 2024

Senate President Olszewski explained that UCC Chair Michele Heath had requested to increase the size of the UCC membership and at the same time the Director of Core Curriculum has asked to make the Core Curriculum Ad Hoc committee a standing committee. Senate President Olszewski moved to continue the Core Curriculum Ad Hoc committee through fall and then transition members with core curriculum experience to UCC. The motion was unanimous approved by voice vote.

Information Item-Responses Requested

D. Addressing Opportunities on the Faculty Senate, Standing Committees, and Other University Assignments

Senate President Olszewski explained that there are open seats in standing committees, for committee chairs to provide names of candidates. She also noted that Senators should only serve on one standing committee, except if they also serve on Steering, and if they were to choose to give their seat to someone else, to let their committee chair know. **(Report No. 5, 2024-2025)**

John Plencik asked if he could serve as the Graduate Council representative on UCC and also as the Law Senator. Senate President said she would follow up with him.

Kim Neuendorf, representing Retired Faculty read a statement regarding their concern over the implementation of Section 3344-16-07 Retirement, stating that retirement faculty are receiving less than the 9 credits, and requested an open recording of this practice. Provost Sridhar stated that he would work with them to make sure people are being treated fairly, that it would be more effective to first address those currently dealing with the issue instead of producing a report.

In closing, Senate President provided a recap noting to distribute the slide deck and the list of the Civic Board members.

IX. Adjournment

Faculty Senate President Olszewski adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON OCTOBER 9, 2024

Jacqueline Jenkins
Faculty Senate Secretary

