



MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE

December 4, 2024

3:00 PM – Student Center Ballroom, third floor

PRESENT: Faculty Senate Officers C. Olszewski and J. Jenkins; **Faculty Senators** M. Adams, J. Ausherman, J. Bolt, S. Brockhaus, B. Browning, M. Buckley, C. Collins, M. Collins, B. Conti, V. DePaoli, Y. Fu, M. Gallagher, J. Gatica, P. Lopes Gerum, A. Goodsett; T. Greer-Medley, C. Heyward, J. Kahler, W. Kang, E. Lehfeltdt, J. Marino, J. Matthews, P. McGinty, B. Nagy, A. O’Connor, J. Plecnik, A. Price, E. Raushert, A. Resnick, A. Severson, Y. Shen, A. Tayyara, J. Vitali, A. Voight, and B. Yusko; **Administrative and Corresponding Members** L. Bloomberg, N. Sridhar, R. Schoephoerster, R. Carnell, M. Gruys, C. Hansman, and N. Imam; **Ex Officio Limited Members** J. DeMarco, G. Dyer, M. Heath, L. Quinn, and M. Wiitala.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 74 participants.

Senate President Olszewski called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

- I. Approval of the Agenda for the December 4, 2024 Meeting
The agenda was unanimously approved by voice vote.
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting
A. November 6, 2024
The minutes of the November 6, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved by voice vote.
- III. Report of the Senate President (**Report No. 21, 2024-2025**)
Senate President Olszewski began her remarks by thanking everyone for their commitment to service. She then provided several updates. First, the use of eFAAR to generate faculty profiles will provide faculty with the option to select which items they would like to be included. Second, the Ad Hoc Committee on Core Curriculum continues to review proposals. Third, the University Curriculum Committee is expecting to change the curricular approval process in the future. Fourth, the statement of support was shared and faculty are encouraged to complete the brief survey that was sent out December 2. Lastly, the interpretation of the current procedure for Emeritus status has moved through Steering. Senate President Olszewski closed her remarks with wishes for the end of the year and the beginning of 2025.

B. Emeriti faculty guidance (**Report No. 22, 2024-2025**)
Senate President Olszewski provided a brief description of the current process.
- IV. Report of the President of CSU (**Report No. 23, 2024-2025**)
President Bloomberg began her remarks by recapping the previous night’s Unity celebration, highlighting the stories told by the graduating students about their experiences and the impact of advisors and faculty. She then announced that the Strategic Plan was approved by the Board in November. She explained that the plan provides the framework for us to build on our objectives and initiatives, in part by partnering with faculty senate committees and by reflecting on what we are currently doing, including prioritizing the integrated degrees and inquiry core initiatives and

our work on our financial models. The leadership team is in the process of developing a dashboard to help track our progress. She noted that one target is to achieve 80% of first year students who persist into second year by the year 2030. Currently this metric is at 70.9%. President Bloomberg also announced that the kick-off for the spring semester will be held January 28th. The third announcement was regarding the beginning of the Top of Mind video series. President Bloomberg noted that she just finished the first video and that these videos will provide an additional touchpoint for faculty and staff to let leadership know what's on their minds. President Bloomberg concluded her remarks by encouraging faculty to attend commencement. She noted that commencement is her favorite day and that our attendance signals that the education of the graduates truly matters. She is always gratified to hear stories from parents about how CSU's commencement feels personal to them.

V. Discussion item

C. CSU Athletics Presentation (**Report No. 24, 2024-2025**)

Jodi DeMarco, Chair of the Committee on Athletics, provided an overview of the committee's charter and proposed changes to better connect faculty and student athletes. She then introduced the Athletics Director, Kelsey Gory Harkey. Kelsey provided an overview of the athletics department, student success, and internship programs, highlighting academic priority and success and the athlete's successes on the playing fields. Kelsey also provided an overview of the athletics department budget. Total expenses include about \$400 K of required fundraising which goes into the operating budget. The overview also included a description of the benefit of Division 1 sports to CSU, in terms of attracting students, the majority of whom pay full tuition and fees. She highlighted the exposure CSU athletics provides through numerous sporting events. Athletics Director Harkey encouraged faculty to engage with, and celebrate student athletics, inviting all to come learn how to fence on Tuesday January 14th, and attend the upcoming Basketball events as well as the challenge the Deans event, which recognizes honors student athletes.

Senator Birch Browning asked how much is spent per student athlete. Athletics Director Harkey responded with \$36,020 per student athlete.

VI. University Curriculum Committee

Approval Items

D. Consent Agenda (**Report No. 25, 2024-2025**)

Committee Chair Michele Heath presented the consent agenda, noting only the highlighted items required Faculty Senate approval.

The following consent agenda items were approved by voice vote:

- Data Analytics in Education, Graduate Certificate – 1120: The proposed change is to delete two courses
- from the certificate
- Property Management Minor - 1140 - Fall 25: PRM 477 is being sunset so it must be removed.
- Statistics Minor - 1110 - Fall 24 – UGRD Program Change
- Art, B.A. - 1140 - Fall 25: Change Studio Art program's Senior Studio requirement from one of two
- choices (ART 437 or 439) to a single required course (ART 437).
- Computational and Applied Modeling Certificate - 1110 - Fall 24: UGRD New Minor or Certificate

- Chemistry, MS - 1110 - Fall 24 (Resubmitted): GRAD Program Change
- Civil Engineering, B.C.E. - 1140 - Fall 25 (Resubmitted): UGRD Program Change
- Exercise Science Minor - 1140 - Fall 25: Addition of EXS 326 to the certificate which is the co-requisite
- lab that was recently developed for EXS 325 which is a required course in the minor.
- Electrical Engineering + Environmental Science - Integrated Degree. New Integrated Degree.

VII. Admissions and Standards Committee

Approval Items

Committee Chair Michael Wiitala presented two proposals.

D. Articulation Agreement between Tri-C and CSU College of Health for the Health Coaching Pathway (<https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposal:8726/form>)

Approved by voice vote.

F. LCCC/CSU 2+2 Health Sciences Agreement

(<https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposal:8692/form>)

Approved by voice vote.

VIII. University Faculty Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Gary Dyer presented the second reading of updates to 3344-11-13 which take into account the footnotes supplied by the AAUP. (**Report No. 26, 2024-2025**)

Approval Item

G. Revisions to 3344-11-13 Attachment A to Chapter 3344-11 of the Administrative Code -1940 statement of principles on academic freedom and tenure. Second reading and justifications for proposed revisions.

Approved by voice vote.

IX. Budget and Finance Committee (**Report No. 27, 2024-2025**)

Committee Chair Judy Ausherman presented a report approved by the Budget and Finance Committee, noting what has been accomplished and what is still to be addressed, the availability of the budget book, Moody's credit rating status, and the 80 by 30 metric. She also provided the schedule of upcoming meetings.

X. Undergraduate Student Success Committee

Senate President Olszewski, on behalf of Committee Chair Kevin Mueller, presented an update about a survey that the committee conducted to collect feedback from advisors (including faculty advisors) and administrators about the shift towards a unified academic advising model. The feedback will be shared with the Provost's office.

XI. E-Learning and Academic Technology Committee

The E-Learning Committee Chair Carole Heyward presented the committee's recommendation to renew the Blackboard contract. The recommendation was made after reviewing alternate platforms and considering the current schedule to upgrade to Blackboard Ultra by spring 2016.

Information Item

Committee Recommendation - Renewing Contract with Blackboard (**Report No. 28, 2024-2025**)

XII. GPSA Report

Nida Imam, VP for GPSA spoke about a survey developed to gain feedback about experiences with various service centers, which will help GPSA to become aware of patterns and issues. She noted that students can reach out to GPSA directly or submit the anonymous survey.

- XIII. **Action Item** Vote to approve Aaron Severson to a three-year term
Senate President Olszewski called for a vote to approve Aaron Severson to the University's Patent Review Committee through August 2027.
Approved by voice vote.

- XIV. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer
Provost Sridhar first spoke about the student experience project. Currently, there are 25 faculty participating, who meet regularly and have administered the student survey in their classrooms three times over the fall semester. The survey is focused on student belonging and success. The project will expand to 100 faculty for the spring semester with support from the Provost's office.
(Report No. 29, 2024-2025)

Provost Sridhar then encouraged faculty to consider upgrading to Blackboard Ultra, and that the E-Learning staff are ready to help in making the transition from Blackboard to Ultra.

He noted that there had been a national outage on Monday to the Student evaluation of instruction (SEI) system and as such the review window has been extended from Tuesday night to Friday night.

Provost Sridhar provided an update on the Unified Academic Coaching Model. VP Banks and Human Resources are reviewing existing staff salaries, grade levels, etc. Human Resources will meet individually with advising staff about changes and timeline.

Provost Sridhar then provided a brief history regarding the need for a Program Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee. Previously, there were 21 programs whose admissions were suspended considering the need for budget reductions. An AAUP formed committee reviewed these programs. Now, the departments need to act on their affected programs and submit the appropriate proposals for program closure, program merger, and so forth, and have the proposals go through the curricular approval process. A charge was submitted related to this AAUP formed committee and these programs. That charge has since been amended to focus on developing a report regarding low enrolment courses and programs and duplicate programs which must be submitted to ODHE. This is an opportunity for shared governance, to have faculty advising the administration and providing input during this process. The report needs to be approved by the board during their May 2025 meeting.

Provost Sridhar then reminded faculty to fill out their eFAAR. He explained that he envisions the eFAAR as the main database for faculty profile information, merit application details, etc. He noted that there will be a check box to identify what to include on faculty profiles and that training will be forthcoming. He added that he was pleased that so many faculty signed up to get their headshots taken to update their faculty profile pictures.

The last item was about campus closures for winter weather conditions. Provost Sridhar explained the process of monitoring weather conditions, and issuing a closure notice, noting that the latest a campus closure notice will go out is 5 am the day of the closure. In the event of a campus closure, courses have a snow day, courses do not go remote.

XV. Question Time

Catherine Hansman, CSU Retirees Association, asked about updates to retired faculty profiles. Provost Sridhar responded that the focus will first be on full time faculty, however the system will be able to support retired faculty and adjunct faculty who want faculty profiles. Catherine Hansman also raised the concern about retired faculty getting assigned 9 credit hours. Provost Sridhar responded that when a faculty member retires they can be assigned up to 9 credit hours for up to 3 years. He acknowledged that there have been concerns about implementation. He asked the association to report those individuals that have been impacted to Danielle Ruiz in the Provost's office.

Senator Aaron Severson asked for clarification as to whether classes could go remote if stated on the course syllabus. Provost Sridhar confirmed that was the case and reiterated that the default is that the class is cancelled.

Senator Plecnik stated that December 18th marks the 60th anniversary of CSU and asked whether there is an appetite to create a time capsule for the 100th. President Bloomberg said it was a brilliant idea and noted that there are celebrations currently scheduled for January and September and suggested including a history art piece.

XVI. New Business

Senate President Olszewski referenced a the flyer for CSU's Campus International K-8 school. Senator Marino noted that admissions have been moved up to December and that now is the time to apply. Provost Sridhar added that his daughter attended for 9 years and that their commencement was fully scripted and performed by the graduating grade 8 students.

Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Program Improvement and Evaluation

H. Committee Charge (Report No. 30, 2024-2025)

Senate President Olszewski provided a brief overview of the charge, noting that the committee will have access to the data. Faculty will be able to volunteer online.

Approved by voice vote

Senator Ausherman announced that there will be 400 high school students from across the state that will visit campus to use CSU's aquatics center and learn critical water safety and swim skills. She recognized two members from the College of Health for their work on the event: Tammy Sos (visiting faculty) and Manni Crawley (assistant lecturer).

Senator Matthews asked whether the number of people leaving this month due to VISP was known. Provost Sridhar responded that between 40-55 staff and about 15 faculty are scheduled to leave this month but some may choose to stay.

Linda Quinn, Faculty Rep to the Board of Trustees asked about the status of Central Garage and whether there is a plan to fix it. Provost Sridhar responded that an engineering firm is evaluating all campus buildings older than 22 years. President Bloomberg added that the administration is thinking about a way to prioritize needs. A decision on Fenn tower could happen as early as the January board meeting. Ultimately, Central Garage needs to go.

Senator Vitali asked about the status on the elevators in Berkman Hall. She also noted that the elevator outside of Main Garage doesn't work. She also asked when the parking spots in front of

Fenn Tower will reopen. Provost Sridhar responded that he will receive a status report from the engineering review which will include the Central Garage and Berkman Hall elevators. As for the Fenn Tower parking spaces, they will remain closed while the area around the building has been secured. Senator Price suggested improving the pathfinding around Fenn Tower, specifically to Julka Hall. Provost Sridhar agreed. Joanne Goodall offered to provide what she knows about Fenn Tower.

XVII. Adjournment

Carol Olszewski adjourned the meeting at 4:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Jenkins
Faculty Senate Secretary