



MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES

February 26, 2025

3:00 PM – Moot Court Room (LB101)

PRESENT: Faculty Senate Officers C. Olszewski, D. Hubbard, and J. Jenkins; **Faculty Senators** M. Adams, J. Ausherman, M. Baumgartner, J. Bolt, S. Brockhaus, B. Browning, M. Buckley, C. Collins, M. Collins, B. Conti, P. Daiker-Middaugh, V. DePaoli, K. Fuller, M. Gallagher, J. Gatica, P. Lopes Gerum, T. Greer-Medley, C. Heyward, W. Kang, C. Kothapalli, E. Lehfeldt, J. Marino, J. Matthews, P. McGinty, J. Plecnik, A. Price, E. Raushert, Y. Shen, A. Smith, D. Smith, J. Vitali, A. Voight, B. Yusko, and N. Zawahri; **Administrative and Corresponding Members** L. Bloomberg, N. Sridhar, J. Gordon, A. Kersten, R. Carnell, M. Gruys, K. Neuendorf, and J. Samsa; **Ex Officio Limited Members** G. Dyer, M. Heath, L. Quinn, and M. Wiitala.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 73 participants.

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

- I. Approval of the Agenda for the February 26, 2025 Meeting
Motion was approved by voice vote.
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting
 - A. January 29, 2024
The minutes of the January 29, 2025 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
- III. Report of the Senate President
Senate President Olszewski said she heard of concerns about the draft policy 3344-28 Research Misconduct, that was posted for comment. The changes include edits of the type of required evidence. Upon consultation with the Provost, the draft policy has been sent to the Research Council for input.

Senate President Olszewski provided an update on core curriculum. Registrars has agreed to couple of updates to the catalog after its launch. This will not delay the launch, but it will provide the opportunity to add additional courses when they have been approved. She noted that curriculum committees should be reviewing degree maps.

Senate President Olszewski provided an update on athletics. She noted that the cuts to athletics have seen some press and sparked some conversations/concerns. She met with Kelsey Harkey and reported that it is not the purview of faculty to dictate the funding of athletics, that decisions were not taken lightly, that the committee worked with a target budget, discussed every aspect of athletics and the requirements of NCAA division sports. She also reported that work continues on name recognition and the management of student fees.

Senate President Olszewski provided an update regarding SB1/HB6. For now, faculty senate will maintain the equity, diversity and inclusion committee, but is ready to pivot to avoid harm to faculty senate, CSU and individuals. The EDI committee has been asked to review its charge, as have all the other standing committees. Senate President Olszewski suggested that perhaps their focus should be on belonging. She noted that for now courses are safe. She also noted that there have been impacts on research and suggested a difficulty statement for P&T, similar to that used during the pandemic. The impact on research may also impact programs which are funded internally through indirects. Lastly, she encouraged faculty to contact their representatives and pay attention to what is fact as opposed to what is alarmist.

Roster Updates (informational)

Student Life Committee: Appointment of Manuella B. Crawley for a partial term through August 15, 2025; and Lana S. Mobydeen for a partial term through August 15, 2026.

IV. Report of the President of CSU

President Bloomberg began her remarks by recognizing that these are difficult times, but that we have a remarkable capacity to make a difference and move forward. Her key message was to understand the difference between law and dear colleague letters, the difference between requests and law, and to be prepared, gather information, and inform elected officials. CSU will stay focused on our students, our community, our mission, and our strategic plan. She noted that any needed changes will be communicated clearly and directly to those impacted.

President Bloomberg then spoke about the Shore-to-Shore-to-Shore project. She reported that there is \$100 M invested and at the project presentations that morning, every presentation referenced CSU alums. She also spoke about the Peak Performance Institute being built on the riverfront and the Metropark's sailing school on East 55th which is focused on helping people understand and enjoy the riverfront and teach youngsters to swim. The north side of the Browns stadium will become a public park, with public art, public performance, recreation, which are new opportunities for our students and how we serve our community.

President Bloomberg then spoke about two fundraising sprints. The first was to recreate the East 13th gallery, which has received interest from Craig Hassall (President of Playhouse Square). The second was the biomedical discovery complex proposed for Euclid @ East 24th.

President Bloomberg then made announcements about Giving Day Feb 27, the Celebration of faculty excellence at 4 pm April 9th in the student center ballroom, Commencement May 9th for doctoral graduates, and the May 10th Commencement ceremonies. She remarked that it means the world to students to have faculty attend. She then added that the career fair was a success with upwards of 900 students and 80 employers. **(Report No. 40, 2024-2025)**

V. University Curriculum Committee

Senate President Olszewski explained that at the consent agenda from the January 29, 2025 senate meeting had not been voted on. **(Report No. 33, 2024-2025)**

Consent agenda from January 29, 2025 was approved by unanimous consent.

Approval Items

Committee chair Michele Heath presented the consent agenda. The items were brought forth and received no discussion. Consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent. **(Report No. 41, 2024-2025)**

B. Consent Agenda (see attached)

- Chemical Engineering, B.ChE - 1140 - Fall 25
- Culture, Communication, and Health Care Graduate Certificate - 1140 - Fall 25
- Electronics Engineering Technology, B.S.E.E.T. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Exercise Science, B.S. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance (GRC), Graduate Certificate - 1140 - Fall 25
- Music Therapy, B.S. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Neuroscience Minor - 1140 - Fall 25
- Psychology, MA - 1110 - Fall 24
- Research and Assessment in Education and Human Services
- Social Work, MSW - 1130 - Summer 25
- Social Work, MSW - 1140 - Fall 25
- Sociology, B.A. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Special Education (with licensure), M.Ed. - 1140 - Fall 25
- Superintendent License - 1140 - Fall 25
- Veterinary Social Work Certificate - 1140 - Fall 25

VI. Budget and Finance Committee

Committee chair Judy Ausherman provided highlights from the February 13th PFAC meeting, including an overview of the new dashboards Katie Corcoran has created that will show real time enrollment and other data, and budget snapshots provided by CFO Nicole Addington. Regarding the cuts to athletics, Chair Ausherman requested information. She also noted that PFAC is in the process of collecting college priorities, as input into the budget process, although she didn't think there was an agreement yet as to how the budget and finance committee will provide input. The committee will attend the next PFAC meeting scheduled for March 17th. **(Report No. 42, 2024-2025)**

VII. SGA Updates

SGA President Justin Samsa reported that since his last address to senate, advisor participation is on the rise, that he is hearing good things about faculty showing up and helping students. He reported that SGA's official stance is to oppose SB1 (formerly SB83), explaining that they see the potential impact to faculty, and recognize that it will trickle down to the student body. He provided an update on the campus beautification projects, noting 15-20 trees will be planted in the engineering lawn, but the artistic initiatives are on hold for now. He concluded with the announcement that SGA elections have been launched for the next academic year, and that every position comes with a scholarship, which can make a difference between a student staying at CSU and dropping out.

VIII. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Provost Sridhar began his remarks by noting that he had spent the last two weeks reading T&P dossiers and external reviews, and that he is proud of what colleagues are doing.

Provost Sridhar provided an update on the status of the Union building, noting that it is an old building with old systems, and the repairs needed require specialized parts and people with specialized knowledge. He vowed to improve communications. He also noted that there was a meeting with the Psychology department, which AAUP attended, to work through the situation. They are also working through a long-term plan for that building.

Provost Sridhar then commented on the executive orders, and changes in NIH policies, noting that the provost's office is focused on minimizing the impact on students, and are preparing to respond, although did already respond to the federal funding notice and NIH memo. There may be impacts to internal programs but at the moment the internal awards are being kept at the levels they were planned for, although they may need to be adjusted. He also noted that there was an Attorney General meeting to hear from universities and potential impact, such as that to Jobs Ohio fueled by NIH research funding.

Provost Sridhar commented on the budget and finance committee report, confirming that more control is being returned to the deans, that he is identifying specific parts of the budget that can be responsibly handed over. Also, the dashboard being created by Katie Corcoran will provide much improved data for decision making, and those future measures will be shared.

Provost Sridhar then thanked the senate for not approving the proposal to remove the data and digital literacy requirement from core that was presented at the last meeting. He noted that some adjustments have been made to the calendar, to extend some timelines, but there have not yet been any new proposals submitted for data and digital literacy courses. He offered support to develop such courses.

Provost Sridhar provided a brief summary of some achievements, which illustrate our commitment to our priorities, including the intense focus on our academic offerings with the development of the inquiry core, integrated degrees, and the construction management program, which is supported by 35 companies. He added that there are 88 faculty members who get together once per week to talk about teaching, focusing on what we do in the classroom and to make our students feel they belong. He also noted that high DFW courses are being examined to determine where more support can be given to faculty.

Provost Sridhar then made announcements about the Distinguished Faculty Awards, the Provost's Teaching Summit, and Viking Teach Week, which is a week-long event where over 100 classrooms are opened to visitors.

IX. Unfinished Business

Carol Olszewski

C. [FPP 3344-13-03 Standing Committees](#)

- Asking all Faculty Senate Standing Committees to review language regarding functions and purposes.
- **Proposed revisions should be sent to UFAC by March 5 or as soon as possible** (in order to have first and second readings of the changes, with a final approval at the May 7, 2025 Senate meeting).

- NOTE: In order to meet this timeline, after the first reading, if possible, the changes need to be posted for public comment by the last week of April or sooner.

X. New Business

Kim Neuendorf, representing CSU Retiree Assoc. presented their new release regarding SB1 and encouraged faculty to contact their representatives and government offices. (**Report No. 43, 2024-2025**) The document has been included in the senate materials as per Sen. Carole Heyward's suggestion.

Sen. Judy Ausherman stated that the College of Health went over procedures for when ICE visits campus and encouraged other colleges to do the same.

XI. Question Time

Fac. Rep. to the BOT, Linda Quinn asked for an update about sunseting computers given the upcoming expiry of Windows 10. In the ensuing conversation, Wesam Helou, CIO, outlined a plan to replace primary devices, purchased by CSU, which will expire in October, and that the refresh plan to replace primary devices every 4-5 years, is based on feedback IS&T received. A similar process will be taken to develop a refresh plan for secondary devices, but the priority is those computers affected by the expiry of Windows 10. Provost Sridhar noted that IS&T already has a database of office computers but does not know about devices purchased through grant, so if there are things IS&T needs to know, let them know. Several faculty asked about their specific situations and CIO Helou suggested an information session to ask questions.

Sen. Tawanda Greer-Medley brought up an issue regarding graduate contracts. Provost Sridhar responded.

Fac. Rep. to the BOT, Linda Quinn explained the difficulties of satisfying the data and digital literacy core requirements for one of her STA courses. Sen. Emily Rauschert noted similar. Provost Sridhar suggested a meeting with Debbie Jackson, Marcus Schultz-Bergin, and Linda Quinn. Senate President Carol Olszewski suggested a possible motion to senate.

Fac. Rep. to the BOT, Linda Quinn asked about the availability of the enrollment dashboards. Provost Sridhar confirmed that they have been taken down and will be replaced by the new dashboards Katie Corcoran is creating, and that if data is needed now, see Debbie Jackson.

Fac. Rep. to the BOT, Linda Quinn asked for an update on faculty profiles. Provost Sridhar noted that faculty should let Ray Henry know about issues. Senate Vice-President Hubbard noted that Ray is aware of many issues common to everyone. Provost Sridhar clarified that if the question is about your discipline missing, let Ray Henry know. Sen. Adam Voight asked whether the old profiles were still accessible, which was affirmed by Senate President Olszewski

Senator Voight asked whether the NIH changes, which are currently being challenged, were to be implemented, are there other things that would be impacted and are there any contingency plans? Provost Sridhar affirmed that indirect costs would be impacted which are used in maintenance and facilities operations, facilities and administration costs, and staff positions, that there are contingency plans, however currently the guidance is from NIH and all federal grants use the same negotiated overhead costs.

Sen. Anne Price asked about obtaining DFW reports. Provost Sridhar referred to Debbie Jackson, who noted that department chairs, deans, and associate deans have access to new dash boards. Debbie explained that they are working through data governance and Provost Sridhar referred to John Holcomb.

Fac. Rep. to the BOT, Linda Quinn commented on the report from the budget and finance committee, that multiple requests have been made to get the bottom line for the 6 buckets shown on the PFAC report, and the cuts. President Bloomberg referred to the target from the EY report.

Senate President Olszewski announced Giving Day, and encouraged giving, even a few dollars, and suggested picking your favorite thing, noting music therapy is an option. She noted the importance of showing the participation of the community.

XII. Adjournment

Senate President Olszewski adjourned the meeting at 4:43 pm. (**Report No. 44, 2024-2025--Full meeting slide deck.**)

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON MARCH 26, 2025

Jacqueline Jenkins
Faculty Senate Secretary