



Faculty Senate 2023-2024

MINUTES: March 13, 2024

Location: Whirlpool Room

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

K. Hall, Chair; J. Lim, Recording Secretary

Present [16]: Attendance: A. Bosman, K. Cave, G. Chi, V. Corredera, B. Davis, S. Elkins-Bates, K. Hall, S. Hatfield, N. Isaac-Dennis, J. Johnson, M. Keller, B. Maguad, T. Newkirk attending in behalf of K. Reiner, D. Nowack, B. Sanou, Z. Plantak

Regrets/absent [14]: M. Bacchiocchi, S. Badenas, A. Galeniece, E. Galenieks, R. Gatón, B. Gibson, D. Gonzalez-Socoloske, L. Hamilton, B. Henry-Saturné, J. Kidder, M. Moreno, J. Lim, R. Orrison, L. Sabas

Staff Senate Representative: M. Umana

Guests: C. Troy, K. Bailey, R. Hall, D. Murray, C. Perry, A. Coria-Navia, D. Weber

Votes & Actions taken (numbers [n] represent items on original agenda)

[2] Minutes of Prior Faculty Senate Meeting (A. Bosman)

MOTION: VOTE passed [16 yes]. To approve the minutes as presented with corrections.

[4] Council Reports (V. Corredera)

Council reports were received as follows:

- Undergraduate Council (February 5, 2024). Program deactivation and departmental changes. Discussion of certificate policy -- edited language of certification policy to distinguish non-credit certificates. Voted to decrease credit requirement for associate's degree from 62 to 60 (in harmony with reduction in bachelors requirements from 124 to 120).
- Graduate Council (none).
- Faculty Policy and Development Council (none).
- Academic Operations and Policy Council (February 12, 2024). Discussed language in attendance policy. Discussed Acadeum Course Fee. Restrict on-campus students from taking ACE courses online. *Note: The error message students see is unclear -- it should include an action plan so students know what to do. Request that the registrar to improve the messaging.*

VOTE to accept the council reports passed [16 yes].

[5] Classroom Observation Policy (A. Coria-Navia). There weren't many models to benchmark a policy regarding unannounced classroom visitations. All visitations should be preceded by a conversation with the observer and faculty, then scheduled. Three kinds of visits:

- Formative Dialogues
 - Arranged by the Faculty Member. Non-evaluative and non-threatening. Contributes to advancement.
- Student Complaints
 - Follow Academic Grievance Procedures.
- Classroom Concerns
 - Initiated by peers/administrators. Examples may include:
 - Sexual harassment, discrimination, student conduct.
 - Policy affirms that we should follow the three-step model, whether for celebration or concern
 - Needs to be escalated to different levels of authority: professor, chair, dean, provost, etc.
 - This is separate from "visit your colleague's classroom week," because signing up suggests the visit is announced.
 - Suggestion: documentation necessary for each step of 2 and 3
 - Clear documentation recorded of all steps leading up to, during, and after the classroom observation
 - Where would this documentation be kept?
 - Each department can decide on its own policies for other faculty in the department popping in to another departmental class

VOTE to support the policy passed [16 yes].

[7] Faith Development Committee Faculty Representative (A. Bosman). Nominated Heather Thompson Day. Nomination accepted.

VOTE passed to send Heather Thompson Day as our representative. [16 yes].

Senate Discussion & Announcements

[1] Worship & Prayer (K. Hall).

[3] ETLAC Announcements (C. Troy). Highlighted upcoming events: AUTLC (April 11). Innovation Teaching and Learning Grant due Friday March 15. Higher Ed Adventist Society Conference (May 30). Disability event is student-designed and student-led.

[6] Faculty Senate Elections. (K. Hall). Elections are proceeding in each college.

[8] Program Prioritization, Board Action, and Balancing the Budget (K. Hall).

- Report on Board, with a focus on budget
- Suggestion that the Faculty Senate Chair should attend and present to Board Executive Council
 - By current Board policy, the President of the university is the only university representative in the Board Executive Session. Others can be invited, but only to present. The president is the only one that sits with the Board.
- Questions:
 - Will every program undergo the process?
 - To what degree will faculty have input?
 - Will there be the possibility of appeal if a program is selected for closure?
 - Has there been fundraising done to solve these problems?
- Comment
 - Dashboard is not ready to be used for something as important as program prioritization
 - This is going to create an even greater toll on faculty well being. What can we do to help manage faculty mental health?

[8] Season of Prayer (K. Hall).