



Faculty Senate 2023-2024

MINUTES: May 15, 2024

Location: Zoom

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

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

Present [24]: M. Bacchiocchi, S. Badenas, A. Bosman, K. Cave, G. Chi, B. Davis, S. Elkins-Bates, A. Galeniece, E. Galeniaks, B. Gibson, D. Gonzalez-Socoloske, K. Hall, S. Hatfield, B. Henry-Saturne, N. Isaac-Dennis, J. Johnson, M. Keller, J. Lim, B. Maguad, M. Moreno, Z. Plantak, K. Reiner, C. Troy attending for L. Sabas, B. Sanou

Regrets [6]: V. Corredera, R. Gatón, L. Hamilton, J. Kidder, D. Nowack, R. Orrison

Incoming Senators for 2024-2025 [4]: J. Cadet, E. Gallos, K. Koudele, K. Thompson

Staff Senate Representative: M. Umana

Guests [8]: C. Arthur, R. Bates, B. Cross, A. Coria-Navia, E. McCree, D. Murray, M. Murray, C. Woolford-Hunt

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

[2] Minutes of Prior Faculty Senate Meeting (K. Hall)

MOTION: VOTE passed [17 yes]. To approve the minutes as presented with corrections.

[4] Council Reports (V. Corredera)

Council reports were received as follows:

- Academic Operations and Policy Council (April 8, 2024). Discussion of gateway courses, which are pivotal for students continuing on within the major. Supports needed to help students through gateway courses. Further discussion about 100 and 200 level courses, cognates, curriculum. Supports are needed in reading and math.

VOTE to accept the council reports passed [22 yes].

[7] Update on the Faculty Policy and Development Council (K. Hall). FPDC in December asked the Faculty Senate to nominate a qualified faculty member to serve as the faculty chair. Motion to recommend Karl Bailey to serve as the chair of FPDC passed [20 yes].

[8] Faculty Senate Officers Elections (K. Hall).

Discussion of how elections are conducted to result in selection of Senators. Note that not all colleges actually conducted elections. The constitution says that elections should be conducted by the Senate. Suggestion to have the Assessment Office help run the elections.

“Eligible candidates representing divisions/departments shall be nominated and elected by the respective academic units through secret ballot. It is the duty of the senate officers to solicit nominations for vacancies from the academic unit(s). After consultation with the candidate and the appropriate dean, division head, or department, the senate officers will conduct an electronic election for the vacancies. Elections for the following academic year shall be held in March.”

Motion: To reaffirm the election process as defined in the Faculty Senate Constitution passed [19 votes].

Election of Officers. Nominations were taken and those nominated confirmed or declined their willingness to serve. The following officers were elected by secret ballot:

- Anthony Bosman, Chair
- Sonia Badenas, Vice Chair
- Betty Gibson, Communications Officer
- Janine Lim, Executive Secretary
- Stefanie Elkins-Bates, Parliamentarian

Senate Discussion & Announcements

[1] Worship & Prayer (K. Hall). Joshua chapter 1: Be strong and of good courage. God will be with you as you are servant leaders serving on Faculty Senate.

[3] ETLAC Announcements (C. Troy). Thank you. Research Retreat. May 16, How to write your book proposal. May 30, Higher Education Adventist Society Virtual Conference. Encouragement for Senators to pass the word to colleagues at College faculty meetings. Reminder of individual support via consultations. Mentoring and formative dialogue available for the 2024-2025 school year.

[5] Faculty and Staff Family Fun Night: May 19 (K. Hall). Staff Senate has canceled this event due to conflicts. Planning for next school year.

[6] Educational Recording Policy: Faculty Recording (J. Lim). Discussion of the addition of the faculty recording language to the overall educational recording policy. Clarification of how it connects to social media policy and what students sign upon admissions. Concerns raised about a faculty requiring students to sign an NDA when sensitive topics are discussed in class. Discussion between the policy for using the recording in the same class vs. in the future.

[9] Program Prioritization Across the University (C. Arthur and A. Bosman). Program Prioritization for academic programs: The Review Committee received reports April 29; have been working 15 days; the review ended today, May 15. Needed more time, but we don't have the luxury of time because of the June 1 deadline from the Board for a balanced budget. Special meeting of Deans' Council tomorrow. The Deans statements tomorrow will be attached to the Review Committee's recommendation. That recommendation will sent to the administration. There may be follow up questions. The recommendation will go to the board of trustees on June 9 & 10. Insights might be shared to deans, which deans might share with chairs before it goes to the board.

Regarding the Program Prioritization for the Academic Support and Service Departments: Two meetings have occurred on the process of review. The group will meet again next week and will meet over the summer. In the fall, that committee will have recommendations on these departments. The focus is on efficiencies. There are broad questions that will be used to delve into how those departments are performing. Benchmarking will be needed. Professional service standards will be used to create the rubric. The recommendations will be made with an eye to become more efficient.

How will the program prioritization hand off work as the Provost leave? Before too long the president will name an interim provost, which will have some overlap with Provost Arthur. Prioritization and other things can be handed off in the overlap. The Provost office in the future may lead it or may delegate guiding it to another person.

Will the report be confidential? Will there be transparency or some executive summary? Any detailed recommendations will come from administration to protect the faculty who served on the Review Committee. The process includes revisions by the review, the deans, administration, and finally the board. Several steps of analysis are still happening. What comes from the university to the board; at some point the university needs to know what will be submitted to the board.

Question on the composition of the board; what proportions. The new board is one year old. They started in June 2023. In March the constituency meeting constituted the new board. Our constituency meeting is every five years or about a month after GC session. COVID changed the timing this year. Half of our board members are church employees and ex officio; and the other half are lay members. The group that could change is the 20 lay people; 5 to 10 changed with new board members. The process of finding new board members included faculty representation at the Constituency Meeting in March 2023. The board has 40 members.