

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2023

1:30-3:00pm (UC 251)

Senators: Dr. Vikram Bhaduria, Dr. Brian Billings, Dr. Jaime Cantrell, Dr. Joy Cooper (Secretary/Parliamentarian), Dr. LuzMary Rincon, Dr. Sara Lawrence, Dr. Brian Matthews (absent), Dr. Sheila Moore, Dr. Craig M Nakashian (President), Dr. James Nguyen, Dr. Godpower Okereke, Dr. Sebastian Schmidl, Dr. Kevin Williams (Vice-President), Dr. Faycal Znidi

- I. Call to Order.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
- II. President’s Report.....Dr. Ross Alexander
 - a. Dr. Alexander discussed in addition to the implementation of the 5% market equity adjustment that was initiated on October 1st for full-time faculty and staff alleviated most salary compressions; however, there are still some individuals that fell below the CUPA benchmarks. Those individuals that fell below the CUPA threshold are being addressed.
 - b. Dr. Alexander announced that beginning January 1st, salary adjustments will begin for those faculty and staff that experienced salary compressions that fell below 85% CUPA after the October 1st market equity adjustment to bring them up to the CUPA threshold.
- III. Provost and VPAA’s Report.....Dr. Melinda Arnold
 - a. Dr. Nakashian provided a summary of the Provost and VPAA’s report to Faculty Senate in Dr. Arnold’s absence.
 - b. The Assistant Provost position has been closed. A committee chair has been appointed to review the applications and interview process. The goal is to have someone in place by Spring 2024.
 - c. The Assistant Provost position will organize department chair and coordinator trainings.
 - d. Dr. Arnold plans to meet with Tim Arnold and Dr. Matthews to discuss open education resources for future coursework integration.
 - e. Strategic enrollment management efforts will be launched in Spring 2024.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from 10/13/2023.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
 - a. Minutes from 10/13/2023 were approved and adopted without objection (10-0-1)
- V. President of Faculty Senate Report.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
 - a. Dr. Nakashian reported updates to commencement ceremonies. The goal is to host approximately 100 graduates per ceremony. The 9:00 a.m. commencement ceremony will include all CASE undergraduates and the 11:30 ceremony will consist of CBET and all graduate students.
 - b. Commencement ceremony rehearsal is scheduled for December 5th at 10 a.m..
 - c. Dr. Nakashian announced commencement rehearsal will be December 15 at 10 a.m..

- d. Dr. Nakashian discussed the structure of Senate Executive Committee meetings with the President and Provost. Beginning in the Fall of 2023, the Senate Executive Committee meets monthly with the Provost. Meetings with Dr. Alexander include the President of Faculty Senate, and every other meeting the President of Staff Council is included in the President’s meeting.
- e. Dr. Nakashian reported the October President’s meeting focused on cooperation between faculty and staff, (such as staff serving on Senate committees), and faculty and staff recognition achievement ideas.
- f. Dr. Nakashian reported the Faculty Senate Executive Committee October meeting with Dr. Arnold focused on academic calendars.
- g. Dr. Nakashian provided an update from the two town hall meetings regarding Department Chairs serving on Faculty Senate and the option of allowing full-time non-tenured faculty to serve on Senate.
 - i. There was a general consensus that Department Chairs should not be allowed to serve as Faculty Senators
 - ii. The idea of full-time, non-tenured faculty was generally supported.

VI. Committee Reports & Business Items

- a. Curriculum Committee..... Dr. Godpower Okereke
 - i. BAAS to BS- Leadership- Update
 - ii. Dr. Myers discussed the proposal to change the current Bachelor of Applied Arts & Scient (BAAS) degree to a Bachelor of Science in Leadership Degree. The motion was made to reconsider the change from BAAS to a BS in Leadership. The motion passed (10-2-1).
- b. Core Curriculum Assessment.....Dr. Faycal Znidi
 - i. Nothing to report.
- c. Educational Technology.....Dr. Kevin Williams
 - i. Nothing to report.
- d. Academic Rules & Procedures.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
 - i. Faculty Evaluation of Academic Administrators- update
 - 1. Dr. Nakashian met with Dr. Arnold regarding the procedure of faculty evaluation of academic administrators. Dr. Arnold expressed concern over the phrase of “relevant staff” in the faculty evaluation process. Discussion ensued regarding the language and Dr. Nakashian announced he would inform Dr. Arnold the senate and committee’s intent to leave the language as currently written.
- e. Academic Standards.....Dr. Sheila Moore
 - i. Nothing to report
- f. Faculty Welfare.....Dr. Joy Cooper
 - i. Nothing to report.
- g. FRED.....Dr. Jaime Cantrell
 - i. Approval of funding request for Dr. David Allard
 - ii. Approval of funding request for Dr. Jabia Chowdhury
 - 1. Approved by consent agenda.
- h. Budget Committee.....Dr. James Nguyen
 - i. Nothing to report.

- VII. Old Business
 - a. Faculty Handbook.....Dr. Sara Lawrence
 - b. Preservation of committee agendas/minutes
 - i. Draft expected in December.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Nursing and Health Sciences College.....Dr. Heather McKnight
 - i. Dr. McKnight provided a broad update and overview of the expansion plans for the Nursing and Health and Human Sciences College over the next five or six years.
 - b. Honors College.....Dr. Craig M Nakashian
 - i. Dr. Nakashian provided an overview of the proposed Honors College.
- IX. Next regular meeting of Faculty Senate- Friday, December 8, 2023 at 1:30pm in UC 251
- X. Meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m. -----Dr. Craig Nakashian