



Faculty Senate

801 Campus Drive

Perla Salazar —President
Seth Kristalyn — Secretary
Liz Tharman — Senator
Larry Jenkins—Senator
Susan Ortega —Senator
Brian McCallum —Senator
Courtney Morris —Senator
Nicole Dick —Ex-officio

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Date: 8/28/2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom ID: 966 5003 8638

- A. **Call to order:** 1:33 pm
- B. **Present:** Perla Salazar, Seth Kristalyn, Liz Tharman, Larry Jenkins, Susan Ortega, Brian McCallum, Courtney Morris, Nicole Dick, Larry Pander, Gary Kuenstler, Lachelle Greathouse, Phil Terpstra, Renee Harbin
- C. **Absent:** None
- D. **Program Highlight:** None
- E. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes from the May 18th meeting were approved.
- F. **Report from College Council:**
 - a. Nicole reported that the June meeting was mostly about enrollment, reopening, and planning for the fall.
 - b. As the new Faculty Senate President, Perla starting attending at the July meeting. She reported that the discussion focused on the new GCCC app. There was discussion over a faculty version but it was decided against pursuing it so that faculty would see the same thing as students.
 - c. Perla reported that the August meeting centered around the fall semester and flexibility. She reported that when faculty runs out of cleaning supplies, they are to send a work order for them to the custodial email. Pres. Ruda discussed grant opportunities to increase funding. The calendar was amended to include the addition of a four week fully online mini-session in January. Perla reported that College/Career Success can be waived for students who already hold a degree or have 24 or more credit hours completed with a 2.5 GPA. The waiver form can be submitted to Leslie Wenzel to waive the class as required for graduation. There's a \$35 fee to cover graduation costs since students pay for graduation through taking College/Career Success. Perla reported that the Employee Handbook is in the final stages. It was asked if GC3 Educators could have a look at the handbook to verify that it aligns with the Negotiated Agreement. College Council also discussed the Peaceful Assembly Policy.
- G. **Report from Board of Trustees:**

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- a. Nicole reported that the June meeting centered around the budget and the college's response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- b. Perla began attending at the July meeting as the new Faculty Senate President. She reported that the majority of the July meeting was focused on discussing the budget with special attention being paid to maintaining enough in the college's reserve fund.
- c. Perla reported that the August meeting included discussion over the increased insurance cost for the college, comments on the Bradforth case, and enrollment numbers. Leslie Wenzel presented info to the Board about the new GCCC app. AS of now, enrollment is only a little bit under last fall's and has improved significantly since the summer.

H. Old Business

- a. Vote on new members
 - i. Seth confirmed his list of nominees with the individuals nominated. Perla will send out an email for voting which will close on Friday, September 4th.
- b. Vote on New officers
 - i. The vote on new officers will take place during Faculty Senate's next meeting once new Senators have been appointed.
- c. Vote on time & date for future meetings
 - i. The discussion on setting up this semester's recurring meeting time was postponed until the next meeting once new Senators have been appointed.
- d. Learning Communities
 - i. Perla reported that the Faculty Senate Vice President will continue to oversee Learning Communities. She reported that Vice President for Instructional Services Marc Malone presented ideas to her to improve attendance such as potentially allowing Learning Communities to count toward salary advancement or using professional development funding for it.
- e. Survey Administration Policy
 - i. Following up on discussions from last year, Nicole showed the request form and will email Faculty Senate more information about the current state of the Survey Administration Policy. Perla asked everyone to review it before the next meeting.
- f. Awards for last year
 - i. Faculty Senate discussed the status of awards from last year. Once obtained, Perla will deliver them to the recipients.

I. New Business

- a. Evaluations in COVID-19 times
 - i. Perla reported that because of attempts to limit the number of people in classrooms, the plan is that tenured professors will not be observed in class this fall and maybe all year. Those teaching hybrid or online may be observed. Those who are probationary will still be observed. Department Chairs and administration are still discussing observations for outreach and adjunct instructors. Seth brought up that observation attached to evaluation requires notification to the faculty member prior to the observation.
- b. Grade Change Appeal

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- i. It was reported that VPI Malone presented concerns over the Grade Change Appeal Policy being unclear. Last year, Faculty Senate had been working on combining and streamlining various appeals policies. Nicole shared that the policy draft is available on the Faculty Senate Canvas course. Perla asked everyone to look it over and be ready to discuss it for the next meeting.
 - c. Time between classes
 - i. Several faculty members have voiced concerns that five minutes between classes is not enough time to talk to students, sanitize, and make sure everyone is scanning in. Seth reported he talked to administration about this in the summer and that seat time calculations were a concern. Dean of Academics Phil Terpstra echoed that concern and said he'd have the calculations done to see what the options for this semester are.
 - d. Spring schedule
 - i. Brian brought forward questions about the spring semester such as if it will be the same as this semester, how will sports look in the spring, and what other potential models might emerge such as removing spring break. Phil said they would continue to discuss it at College Council, but that administration was aware that earlier decisions make for easier transitions.
 - e. Degree requirements for graduation
 - i. Larry brought up concerns over students who take time off and then return to the college. Sometimes classes are exactly the same but the course names or numbers have changed requiring a substitution form to be filled out. It is also possible that certain classes are no longer offered. Faculty Senate discussed the creation of a document each time the catalog year changes that shows equivalent courses within the college among other potential options to help ease the difficulty of advising these students.
 - f. Personal information being breached at GCCC
 - i. Larry reported that a faculty member discovered their social security number was breached and someone filed for unemployment using their number. The faculty member was concerned about Human Resource's response and handling of the situation as they feel their questions and concerns are not being adequately addressed. Faculty Senate discussed that the college should have a system in place for how to proceed in these situations and discussed how best to follow up on the situation.
- J. **Joys and Concerns:** Nicole reported that the semester has been awkward but smoother than anticipated. Most students have embraced the changes. Seth presented concerns on the Peaceful Assembly Policy being possibly abused to exclude groups. Nicole brought up Exploration Day and whether classes are officially canceled. The calendar on the website doesn't specify that Exploration Day has classes canceled. Phil will seek clarification for faculty.
- K. **Executive Session (if needed):** None called.
- L. **Next meeting:** September 11 at 1:30 pm
- M. **Adjournment:** 2:38 pm

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