

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 7, 2024  
University Center 260 & Microsoft Teams  
11:15am - 1:00pm

Attendance (**senators denoted in bold**): **Larry Menter, Kate Cotter-Reilly, Steve Burnett**, Cephas Archie, **Erin Nagel, David Williams, Kendolyn Smith, Adam Kubik, Erica Gannon**, Rita Basile, Celeste Walley-Jean, Jojo Ardovini, Antoinette Miller, Eric Bridges, Pinar Gurkas, Chalie Harris, Reza Kheirandish, **Samuel Maddox, Stacey Reynolds, Michael Lindsay**, Adam Tate, Ade Thompson, Adel Novin, Alexander Hall, Allie Reece, Aloysius Amin, Amirrah Beeks, Amy Black, Andrea Jacques, Angela Hollis, Anita Whiting, Anna King, **Anthony Hannah**, Atoinette Frqance-Harris, Antwan Aiken, Arianne Adams, Ashlee Spearman, Ashley Washington, Barbara Hennie, Batavia Sumlin, Biron Ross, Brian Goldman, Brian Hunt, Brianna Vick, Bridgette McDonald, Brigitte Byrd, Byron Jeff, Caitlin Harris, Cantice Greene, Carin Lightner-Laws, Carol White, **Caroline Sheppard**, Carolyn Walcott, Cassandra Parker, Catherine Matos, Ceimone Henderson-Strickland, Charles Henderson, Charlie Harris, Chen-Miao Lin, Chizara Jones, Christie Burton, Christina Grange, Christopher Kodani, Christopher Stotemyer, Chyrel Lynn Panlilio, Clint Edmunds, Comfort Obi, Conner Wright, Corlis Cummings, Corrie Fountain, Craig Hill, **Crystal Marchant**, David Gilbert, David Greenebaum, David Murray-Stoker, **David Pena**, Deborah Davis, Denise Allen, Dennis Attick, **Dennis Miller**, Devon Ellis-Grant, Diane Day, Dmitriy Beznosko, Don Standberry, Dwyane Hooks, Ebrahim Khosravi, Eckart Werther, Elicia Collins, Elizabeth Taylor, Elizabeth Tillman, Elliot Krop, Elnora Farmer, Emanuel Abston, Emily Surber, Erica Dotson, **Erica Gannon**, Everett Sullivan, Feechi Hall, Frederick Bloom, George Nakos, Georj Lewis, Gwendolyn Harold, **Hae Ryong Chung**, Heather Eddy, Heather Hutton, Heidi Benford, Irene Ngonga, Jacob Chacko, Jada Mitchell, Jamal El-Amin, James Pete, Jason Davis, Jason Guthrie, Jelinda Spotorno, Jennifer Harris, Jere Boudell, Jermaine Rolle, Jesse Zinn, Jessica Conrad, Jillian Morgan, Joe Johnson, Joe Trachtenberg, Joey Helton, John Meyers, John Phelps, Joie Hain, Jonathan Harris, Jordon Steele, Joshua Clark, Joshua Meddaugh, Justin Spurley, Kamran Moghaddam, Karen Young, Keith Driscoll, Keith Miller, Kelli Nipper, **Ken Nguyen**, Kendolyn Smith, Kenja McCray, Kevin Chaney, Kevin Demmitt, **Kimberly Campbell**, Kimberly Johnson, Kirill Sheynerman, Kitty Deering, Kristoffer Johnson, LaSonia Espino, Latasha Adams, Latonia Alexander, Laura Herndon, Leah Pieper, Leon Prieto, Lindsay Changler, Lisa Holland-Davis, Lisa Smiley, Lou Orchard, Louisa Catalano, Lucretia Portwine, Marica Bouyea-Hamlet, Marica Butler, Margaret McAlister, Margaret Thompson, Mario Norman, Mark Daddona, Marko Maunula, Marla Cineas, Mary Lamb, Mary Miller, Matthew Carter, Matthew Hutcherson, Matthew Sansbury, Matthew Smith, Md Rokonuzzaman, Melanie Poudevigne, Meri Stegall, Mesa Davis, Michael Lindsay, Michael Ryan, Michelle Furlong, Michelle Nelson, Monay Sanders, Montrese Fuller, Muhammad Rahman, Naquilla Thomas, Narem Reddy, Nayab Hakim, Neena Smith-Bankhead, Nichelle Gause, Pamela Gordon, Patricia Smith, Patrick Coleman, Paul Melvin, Penelope Cliff, Randall Gooden, Rebecca Morgan, Reginald Porter, Richard Bell, Robert Vaughan, Ronda Hughes-Oguagha, Rosann O'Neill, Russell Wheller, Sandra Pisenno, Sanjay Lal, Sara Harwood, Scott Stegall, Sean Vogt, Shakil Akhtar, Shakyra Rivers, Shannon Cochran, Shannon Montgomery, Sharon White, Sharrell Porter, Sharren Thomas, Sheryne Southard, Shontelle Thrash, Shuju Bai, Sonya Gaither, Stephanie Benntt-Walker, Stephanie Vasquez, Stephan Burnett, Stephen Klusza, Steven Anderson, Steven White, Taralyn Keese, Tashira Jones, Terence Malloy, Terri Summers, Terry Appleberry, Thomas Cornwell, Thomas Garsombke, Thomas Lewis, Thomas Mcllwain, Todd Janke, Tomas Merchan Rodriguez, Toye Wheeler, Tuni

Acosta, 3 Unknown Users, Ursula Gordon, Victoria Foster, Vinod Vincent, **Vivian Padin-Irizarry**, William Hearn, Xueyu Cheng

1. **Introduction of Senators**—In person then online.
2. **Approval of Minutes**—9/23/2024, Approved unanimously
3. **Remarks and Q&A, Dr. Georj Lewis, President—(online)** Updates from the USG are limited as there was a board meeting last week, but because of the storm it was postponed until tomorrow. Cyber security training ends Tuesday 10/15. As of now 33% of faculty have completed their training. USG can see who did and didn't do it. IT council meeting is in UC260 and the network Wi-Fi upgrade project kicks off today. CSU Wi-Fi and the new Wi-Fi will be faster and assist enabled devices. 6,173 for enrollment, which is a 5-6% up in headcount. Credit hours are up 2%, but second session fee payment deadline in tomorrow and reinstatement is October 9-11. Capital project update: Met with governor's office to update them on the project. Had a good visit with senator Warnock's staff to tour our labs that may get earmarked for funds to upgrade. Update on provost search—the committee will meet to narrow down the 98 applicants that we have so far. Fun facts our students are really engaged and bouncing back from covid. Club football beat Gordon on Saturday. No rivalry but turned the tennis courts into a skating rink and it was great. Renovation projects on campus question about maintenance of the furniture in the lecture hall. What are priorities for next things for things like that. When we discuss buildings those funds are different from carpet and furniture. Would encourage people—since facilities monitors both—it would be helpful if people, as you see those items funnel those up through chairs and deans so that it gets to people in business and operations. We are constantly looking for things to upgrade as funds are available. Sometimes we just don't know what needs to be updated. Could there be a survey or input page for people to enter that information. Yes, we can do that. Will figure out the best way to do that. Dr. Lindsay, please hold me accountable. Question about 0 base budgeting that was mentioned at one of the other meetings—are we moving towards that? Can we? Nick Henry and his staff are working with the different colleges to have budget conversations. When we do that that can be an item of discussion. That is a desire for us to move towards. Will meet with everyone over the next month or so.
4. **Remarks and Q&A, Dr. Joanne Ardochini-Brooker, Interim Provost**—A list of items that USG gave her to accomplish while she's here: Implementation of core impacts getting done. We are working towards that but at a stalemate at a certain distribution of credits. Encourages a discussion at another time to figure that out in the best interest of the students. Move or lessen the speed bumps that students encounter. ASPIRE—that needs to begin preparation and a bachelors of cyber security wants to move forward. Contract with NISS study is beginning this fall. We are working on the contract now and should be done soon. An issue brought to her attention of hurdles to hiring adjunct faculty—showing paperwork to the cabinet. Not anymore. They are part time faculty that the president can sign off on. Proper submission of promotion and tenure things. And what can she do to have things align with the strategic plan. Come speak to her and utilize her so that she can implement whatever tweaks,

adjustments, etc. she can while she's here.

Some part time faculty can be useful across many colleges sometimes. Sometimes they are hired at the beginning of the year, but then they don't get paid until the end of September. Because of paperwork that had to be shuffled around—could that be streamlined? Shared services, possibly? Will look into it, but if it's shared services, that might not be something she can do anything about. If that process is going to bottle neck processes and this and other institutions, can the usg do something about this? They will be hiring more and more shared service people; the bottle neck will be relieved.

Where are we on the interim dean for Arts&Sciences—a decision will be made this week.

Has there been a decision on the new head of the honors program? Dr. Archie—there should be an announcement this week.

## 5. Subcommittee Reports

### a. **University Curriculum Committee**

The meeting schedule has been created. The website is updated. And presently there is not much but looking at a number of proposals coming down the pipeline.

### b. **Academic Policy Committee**

The meeting will be scheduled this week. We will elect a new chair—that will be our main priority. Virtual meeting.

### c. **Faculty Affairs Committee**

Meet 9/30 via teams. Immediate past chair spoke on what had been done before and what the committee will be looking at moving forward. SEI: which items are included in faculty members evaluations and looked at it—in the PDF everything is together, but before that it is separate. What are the 7 items? Will send out what those are. Talking about having a broader discussion about how the evaluations are used. We haven't always used a single summary score across all classes—yes, actually we have. Should we continue to look at that model? That has never been the policy in math and sciences. So, there appears to be variability. Issue of response rates and whether or not there should be a minimum response rate. If 4 of a 40-student class respond, is that an accurate evaluation of that faculty member? The Smarteval won't show if there's a low response rate now it seems. How can we compare the 2 instruments now that we are using a new system? Could force a better return rate because students couldn't see final grades until they did the survey. 6 or 7 years ago that stopped when everything was centralized through banner. There would be a delay to seeing final grades—response rates were much better back then. Recommendation for online students, the portal won't open until evaluations have been completed, which has caused some problems (where they can see grades). Smartevals will allow faculty to see them live and faculty can see the response rate each day of the eval period.

Understanding was that we had to stop withholding grades because that was illegal. We need to look into that and be more intentional in how we use SEIs. If we want faculty to improve themselves and their courses, we should be very intentional in which course we evaluate and why.

Is there a code or something that the student can get to let us know they did it? USG gets the names. Some faculty give extra credit to the whole class if a certain percentage is

reached. Another faculty member has students screenshot the completion page and have it uploaded as an assignment. Should be careful, though, because there might be an issue with the students knowing that the faculty member knows that they completed the survey or not. So, we should be careful about how we handle that. As you address this issue, please separate the uses of the evaluations to improve teaching as opposed for them to go towards faculty evaluations. Those 2 things need to be separated. Student evaluations are a requirement. Learn how to use the low responses if there are low response classes. How were responses when did whole class percentage completion? Better, but did not reach threshold to get extra credit. Excellence in teaching includes a bit of self-reflection. If reminders are sent out there is a better completion rate. Thank you for highlighting the separation of those things. If I get it from a student, I feel like I would be more responsive to student feedback. We can still benefit from the comments from students even if there are only a few responses. Making it as evident as you can that you are using that feedback, maybe mentioning in the next semester that you heard xyz. Perhaps also asking for feedback partway through the semester and try to enact changes while the semester is going so that students can see that we do care. SEIs are only 1 small portion of the long list of annual evaluations and P&T.

d. **Student Affairs Committee**

We have our meeting 10/14 at 11:30am. On Teams. Will continue working on the things they didn't finish from last year. Possibly adding student to the committee; possibly add a student activity hour; had a request to redo the student interest request survey so want to resend that out to see what has changed for our students. Will elect a new chair or co-chair.

6. **Update on Provost Search**—Dr Lewis already said it: the search closed on 10/1 with a total of 98 candidates. The committee is scheduled to meet this week to narrow it down, and the zoom meetings with candidates will be schedule for 10/28,29. How many does it usually get narrowed down to. The search firm is guiding us. At first 10-12 was a number discussed, but don't know if that will go up or down based on the number of applicants.

7. **Old Business**—None.

8. **Rita Basile, Supplemental Instructor at Center for Academic Success**—Been here for 10 years. Been a tutor since 2007. Here to identify students who might be a great tutors and/or supplemental instructors. Students that understand the course material, but that can also connect with other students as well. Created a rubric for faculty to see to identify students. Students of all ages accepted. It's the ability to connect and want to support their peers that is important. During COVID had several students in their last semester of the nursing program and had so much that they were taking on and the students were devoted to making time to continue tutoring. Faculty knows what it was like when they got into their field and they can see other students getting excited about that subject as well. Maturity and responsibility are really important, but faculty experience with the students is also important. Come to Finals Study Jam to see the students who are tutoring to see what the CAS is looking for. Tutors aren't as scary as trying to talk to the professor. We're all here to support them—an extension of the faculty. Will create a website with job descriptions,

recommendations, email templates that faculty members have used in the past that faculty can send to the student. Something easy and intuitive for faculty to use. Some of the students are just new to the university, are there tutors that are better for acclimation needs, not just studying. The CAS will get a lot of questions about a lot of things, so they do try to work with students and inform them. Looking for support for older students—orientation over the summer was very intentional. Rita spoke to parents; Karrina would speak to students. In Edgewater Hall and third floor of Laker Hall. The CAS tries to be everywhere. Students attending, coming in is usually word of mouth. Online Tutor.com is more for undergraduate students but can there be intentionality to support graduate students. If a tutor has taken a class, they can tutor for it. For the faculty who do teach graduate classes, be proactive and set up study groups and or teams to study. Not every graduate student knows what graduate school takes. Students that we cater to are less likely to visit a tutoring center, which would be more so with the graduate students. Trying to reframe that the CAS is not just there if you are struggling, but also just if you need someone to help study, prep for exams with, etc. There to make students feel confident, showing students how to use Google, D2L, etc. because sometimes students can feel very overwhelmed. Since AI is a thing, how do we show our students to use these things responsibly? What do we have in place that supports students going to the CAS as opposed to AI. Have been talking to the director of the Writers' Studio about using ChatGPT, etc. There are things where the phone can scan the problem and solve it. Students often have everything on the computer, but they try to encourage using paper to help students engage with the topic as opposed to just completing the homework. Likes to support using paper and pencil and developing these skills. AI: Gordon is hosting an AI workshop, there is another one on the basics of using AI. Provost was very impressed by a presentation by someone at KSU and she will do a presentation for us—basically AI 101. Seeing AI as a blender—you get out what you put in essentially. Librarians have also discussed AI, so maybe we can all get together to discuss this.

**Adjourn—12:31pm**