

Fairmont State Faculty Senate

Minutes, 12/09/25

Members Present: **J. Tomlin** (SocSci, ExCom), **Jason Frazer** (COBA, ExCom), **Bob Niichel** (CompSci, ExCom), **Troy Snyder** (Humanities), **Paul Reneau** (HHP), **Deb Hemler** (AcAffairs), **Derek Nuzum** (Library), **Kylie Ford** (AAD), **Joe Ferguson** (Aviation), **Stephanie Jones** (CSM), **Candice Moench** (Education), **April Townshend** (NatSci, ExCom), **Rebecca Cepek** (ACF), **Jim Matthews** (AcAffairs), **Tim Oxley** (AcAffairs), **James Long** (Math/CS), **Alyssa Schwartz** (Humanities), **Tabitha Lafferre** (ET), **Chris Moss** (SocSci), **Jason Bolyard** (ET), **Kara Burgard** (BSN), **Gina Fantasia** (COBA), **Moshe Machlev** (BehSci),

Guests: **Kurt Meader** (HLC Steering Committee), **Josh Smallridge** (HLC Steering Committee), **Allen Bedford** (Provost), **Mike Davis** (President), **Brian Selmeski** (Presidents Office), **Spencer Flanagan** (Student Engagement), **Janna Bredeson** (Student Affairs), **Rachel Cook** (Proxy Ganga Sharma, NatSci)

1.-3. Order, Agenda, Minutes: Changes to Agenda. None proposed. Agenda approved. Minutes from November. No changes proposed. Minutes approved without change.

4. Address of President: Mike Davis: Board meeting next week. Ins. Research and effectiveness plan has been forward to full board for approval next week. Tuition and Fee adjustments will also be before board for approval (3% raise in tuition in state, 5% out of state, and 3% room and board; grad tuition will be equalized between in and out of state). Faculty party will be tomorrow (Dec 10). Next week will launch Fairmont State Beer in partnership with Short Story brewing. Available at events on campus and locally. Next installment of speaker series is Feb. 12. Speaker series will close with last guest at end of April.

5. Old Business: None

6. New Business:

Major Items- Core Curriculum Procedure Changes- First reading at last meeting. No questions. Motion from Fantasia to approve for second reading. Seconded by Frazer. Approved by voice vote.

Minor Items- Provost Request for Sen. Recommendation on Chair terms- Motion from Tomlin for executive committee to review data for presentation to full Senate at January meeting. Seconded by Frazer. Motion approved by voice vote.

7. Provost: Dr. Bedford: Presentation on BOG academic affairs committee meeting (Dec 3). Feedback on survey instrument on role of the provost had over 80% faculty representation in

results. Special thanks to faculty for their work this semester. Message being drafted to all faculty on the work being done in each unit/department. 11 implementation plans with each having 3-5 strategic objectives. Each of these will be mapped to connect them to implementation of the strategic vision. This was accompanied by a budget summary of anticipated costs and potential funding sources. By the end of August '26, over half of these plans will be before the BOG for approval. Intention to use the senate format to get faculty feedback on these plans and initiatives. Two readings through senate to suggest changes and shape final draft by May meeting. Strategic vision is already in place. We also have a master academic planning process that is being written for final approval by April 2027. Planning process will launch on Dec. 18th of this year. Second launch meeting is January 8 during faculty development week. Desire to identify top five categories of strategic objectives by end of day on Dec. 18th meeting. Complete draft ready by April, final review by May, and approval by Board planned for June 2026.

ACUE (assoc. of college and community educators) has provided FSU with an opportunity to participate in Carnegie Initiative for Deliberative Dialogue Grant for Faculty Development (Full Slideshow coming via email to full faculty). This offers things like seminars and certifications for faculty to develop their pedagogy. Spring of 26 will see visit from HLC to evaluate our progress in online teaching. This initiative will support those efforts, among others. Desire by provost to put Gray AI data in the hands of faculty on market needs across disciplines. More info on this coming. Question from Townsend on timeline regarding Gray Analytics data. Some time after academic year 2026-27.

8. Reports:

a) VP Update: Dr. Janna Bredeson/ Spencer Flanagan: Bredeson) Presentation on Student Affairs (New division at FSU) about their scope, mission, current projects, strategic implementation plan, and faculty partnerships. Question from Cepek about the SA work through the Care program. Care form is available and online fillable on the SA website. Question from Fantasia about what physical assets or assistance is available on campus immediately, rather than a slower more bureaucratic process. Bredeson says this is something that SA is working over the break to open up a physical site in the falcon center. Agreement from Furguson about need for an immediate resource to provide students. Commitment from SA to have this in place by next spring. Question from Moench about followup information on how students referred to CARE fare afterward. Bredeson says communicating this data is part of the strategic plan and implantation for CARE rolling out in spring 26. Ford says CARE has excellent crisis protocol in place, and information resources. Question from Frazer about where to direct immediate questions before spring. Directly to Bredeson and her office. Question from Moench about Grad students. Bredeson says all resources apply to them equally, aside from first year support. **Flanagan)** Fall 25 semester review on online bookstore. Beth Coleman is contact person for book adoption issues (bcoleman@ecampus.com) \$180k in sales, and \$7k in returns across around 1200 orders. About 25% of enrolled students used the ebookstore. Ecampus estimated student savings at about \$88k (compared to common market prices of selections elsewhere). Question from Fantasia about whether ecampus conducts a review process of their procedures? Will get detailed answer from the vendor. Question from Townsend about what happens if faculty miss adoption deadline? Recommendation to reach out to ecampus through Beth

Coleman to coordinate late submissions. Ellucian faculty card (faculty resources) has the link to ecampus for book adoption. Question from Furguson about exam copies for faculty. Clarification will be provided from ecampus.

b) ACF: Cepek: Working on resolution in support of restoring student voting rights on BOG. HECF academic affairs team will be offering a webinar on AI. Date to be announced. Question from Niichel about whether faculty voting rights issue would be addressed? It was made clear that there was zero chance of faculty/staff voting rights being returned. Some committee members were concerned with wasting time and effort on a resolution destined to fail. Selmeski adds that feedback is that raising the issue again would only irritate state leadership. Student voices, on the other hand, were not perceived that way.

c) BOG: Schwer: Not present.

d) SGA: Grant and McDonald: Not present.

e) Staff Council: Nuzum: Staff council did not meet since last meeting. Next meeting is tomorrow. Report due in January.

f) PPS: Reneau: Elizabeth Savage is leader of survey for spring. Survey to be conducted before April meeting and submitted to Senate for that month's meeting.

9. Miscellaneous:

a) Josh Smallridge/Kurt Meader, HLC Steering Committee Update. Effort to get working groups setup and report to be rolling out in Spring. Appreciation for chance to update senate each month on the work of the committee.

10. Open Forum:

No items. Adjourned at 4:36

Next Meeting Jan. 13