Faculty Senate (FS) Minutes (approval pending)

Spring Semester, Meeting #6

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Virtual Meeting, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

ATTENDING

Laura Atchley	Steve Csaki	Kate Shannon
Stan Alluisi	William Fridley	Rob Shauger
Cody Bogard	Srimal Garusinghe	Matthew Sparacio
Kathy Boothe	Ashley Hampton	Doug Wood
Randy Clark	Andy Kramer	Mila Zhu
Meg Cotter-Lynch	Chaehyun Lee	

ABSENCES

Rolando Diaz

Amy Gantt

Jeri Walker

GUESTS

Karl Frinkle

Mike Davis

Sondra Petty

I. Call to Order – 3:02 PM

II. Minutes from April 13, 2022

    A. **Motion to Approve** the Minutes from April 13, 2022 – Senator Sparacio

        1. **Second –** Senator Csaki

        2. **Discussion –**

            a) Senator Sparacio notes that the screenshot for the Committee on Committees vote to update policy was not embedded in the Minutes; agreed to forward that image to Senator Fridley to update the minutes.

            b) Senator Fridley notes this was FS meeting #5, not #4.

        3. **Vote to Approve**: Yes – 11; No – 0; Abstain – 0; passes unanimously.
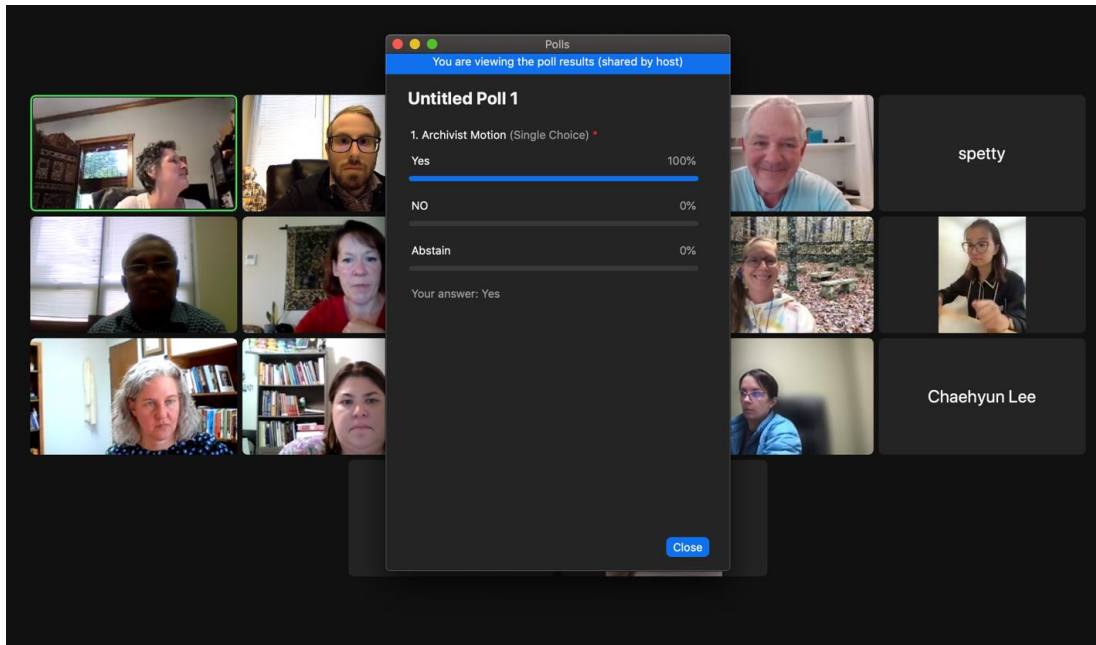
III. Faculty Senate Archivist

    A. The FS welcomes its new Archivist (effective 8.1.2022): Andy Kramer

B. **Motion to Approve** the following [recommendation by the FS Archivist](#) concerning the preservation of the Faculty Senate webpages on the SE website (to be added to the FS Constitution of the Faculty Senate (APPM 3.3.1), Article VII—Bylaws, Section C. By-laws and Procedures, number 7) – Senator Fridley

Whereas the documents posted on the Faculty Senate website have historical, procedural, and legal significance, any proposed removal or deletion of documents will be presented to the Faculty Senate with adequate time for review (at least two weeks). Material shall only be removed with a vote of approval by the Faculty Senate (April 27, 2022). This should also be added to the Preface of the APPM when updated with the Policy to Modify Policies.

1. **Second** – Senator Clark
2. **Discussion** –
   a) Senator Bogard asked for clarification regarding in the inclusion of "legal significance" in this context? There was a Federal lawsuit years ago and the U.S. Department of Justice requested roughly three-years of Faculty Senate documents from the Archivist and the chair of the Personnel Policies Committee. Archivist Fridley also mentioned the time much of the FS web pages disappeared. A senator asked the circumstances around these disappearing materials, and it was explained that this happened during the transition to the new FS website.

   b) Senator Csaki asked how this timeline scenario playout during the summer. Discussion noted that the last line should cover this potential situation – the FS must still approve the removal of materials before any action could be taken.

3. **Vote to Approve**: Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 0; passes unanimously.
   a) **SCREENSHOT OF VOTE BELOW**

C. Senator Fridley clarified the procedure moving forward with these motions: they are sent to the VPAA immediately. In regard to how we keep track of these updates, he suggests we should keep a tracking sheet for the submission and administrative response. He explained that he started a log, and it goes back to 2020 – he is still working through this but hopes to have this completed and passed on to Senator Kramer by next week.

IV. Committee Reports

    A. Budget Committee (BC)

        1. Nothing to report.

    B. Committee on Committees (CoC) ([Report on file](#))

        1. **Motion to Approve** the [2022-2023 academic year appointments](#) for University Committees and Councils compiled by the CoC – Senator Clark

            a) **Second** – Senator Kramer

            b) **Discussion** –

                (1) Senator Cotter-Lynch asked about the status of student members – because we don't know them yet, should we remove them? Clarifications regarding these student appointments (done in the fall) are in the notes on file.

(2) Senator Sparacio asked about the roster for the Teacher Education Council; CoC Chair Clark noted that the FS does not have any appointments on this Committee.
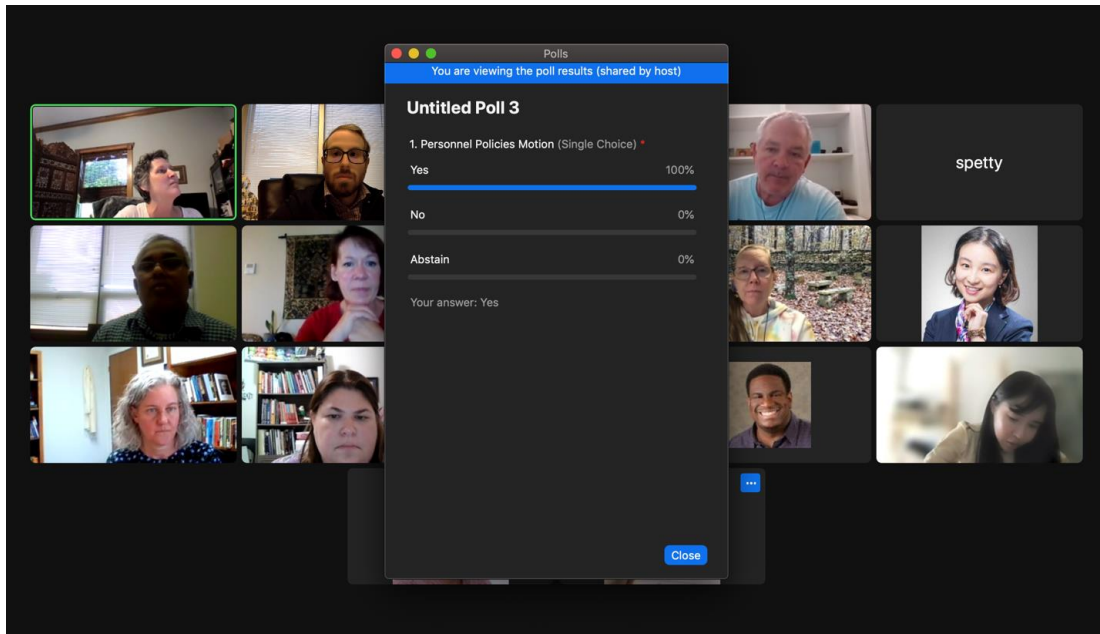
c) **Vote to Approve** – Yes – 13; No – 0; Abstain – 0; passes unanimously.

2. CoC Chair Clark noted that committee memberships as explained in the APPM do not reflect the current committee makeups, and this has resulted in great confusion. He stresses that the APPM must be updated, or the issues the CoC faced will continue to cause great headaches.

3. The CoC reminds all FS Committees and University Committees and Councils to send Minutes and End-of-the-Year Reports to the FS Archivist by May 1.

C. Personnel Policies Committee (PPC) ([Report on file](#))

1. **Motion to Approve** the following addition to the APPM, 7.1.6 in regard to invited speakers on campus – Senator Cotter-Lynch

The process for announcements about political candidates formally speaking on campus will be as follows:

- *Political candidates should be invited to campus and sponsored by recognized and registered student organizations, with advance notification to the President's Office to assist in coordination of space requirements to avoid disruptions to classroom and academic activities as well as provide adequate security. Announcements about the speaking event will clearly identify the student organization that is organizing and supporting the event.*

- *Student organizations inviting candidates will be responsible for publicizing the event. At the request of student organizations, the President's office will communicate these events' occurrence, with specificity about the inviting party, and without repeating language provided by the campaign.*

- *Recognized and registered student organizations, their use of facilities and campus posting for such events, are subject to the policies in The Student Organization Handbook.*

- *These events, student organizations, and all members of the University Community are subject to the University's Free Expression Policy https://www.se.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Campus-Free-Expression-Policy-2.pdf*

a) **Second** – Senator Clark

b) **Discussion** –

    (1) Senator Bogard asked for clarification on the meaning of the word of "candidate" - do we need to reword it?

    (2) PPC Chair Cotter-Lynch noted that during the committee meeting, PPC members also wondered if this statement should be worded more expansively. Senate members debated whether "political candidates" should be changed to "politicians."

        (a) Regarding "candidate" and its usefulness as a term: one can be campaigning and still be an incumbent office holder. The question of where this term originated from was raised – was this included in President Newsom's initial email, or was this term the PPC's language? Upon review it was confirmed that Newsom originally used "candidates," which PPC revised to "political candidates."

    (3) The discussion returned to what was the real issue at hand that policy hoped to address: was it the presence of speakers on campus, or the fact that previous communications seemed to imply, even if unintentionally, the university officially endorsing a candidate for office. The latter is the main concern.

    (4) Senator Sparacio suggested revise the first point to have the student organizations be the subject, as opposed to the candidates themselves. It was noted that making policy for student organizations is outside the Faculty Senate's sphere of responsibility.

        (a) Dr. Petty suggested including a disclaimer on the invitation flyers that specifically states the university is not endorsing any candidate or political party.

    (5) Senator Fridley commended the transparent communications provided by Young Democrats when they invited speakers to campus.

c) **Vote to Approve** – Yes – 11; No – 0; Abstain – 0; passes unanimously with the following **Friendly Amendment** to include the following language – "*invitations for such events will include a disclaimer that the university is not endorsing any political candidate or party.*"

d) **SCREENSHOT OF VOTE BELOW**

2. **Motion to Approve** a formal request that a proposed policy for the use/pay of academic coaches in online classes and pay for instructors in lieu of using a coach, be submitted by Dean Blackwood and VPAA Golden to the Senate for review in August or September 2022 – Senator Cotter-Lynch

   a) **Second** – Senator Sparacio

   b) **Discussion –**

      (1) FS Chair Shannon asked for clarification on Dean Blackwood's remarks – was there no further information than they are working on this policy? PPC Chair Cotter-Lynch confirmed that it was still being finalized. The Senate noted the time frame between when President Newsom confirmed a new AP Agreement in late February and how this policy has not been finalized.

      (2) Senator Shauger asked how this policy would look – to what end do faculty have agency in making recommendations to the policy? Is there a way to impart change? PPC Chair Cotter-Lynch noted that this concern is at the heart of this request – they will send FS the proposed policy for us to review.

(3) Senator Fridley noted the significance of this policy, as the practice for using academic coaches has been implemented differently across campus and across time, and none of these practices or agreements has been formally publicized.

   (a) FS Chair Shannon noted that in the past, a specific enrollment number was necessary (47?) before an instructor could ask for an academic coach. Even so, Tim Boatmun argued in the Distance Education Council that flexibility is needed because smaller enrolled classes may, in some cases, need more coaches due to workload.

   (b) The issue around flexibility remains unknown until we see what the policy. The Senate recognizes that variation due to disciplines is important and should be acknowledged, however, the bigger issue should be tackling the bloated enrollments in online courses.

c) **Vote to Approve**: Yes – 14; No – 0; Abstain – 0; passes unanimously.

D. Planning Committee (PC)
   1. Did not meet.
   2. Faculty and Staff Appreciation Awards were distributed on April 18.
   3. The PC wants to recognize Senator Fridley for all of his hard work with the Faculty Senate and presented the following plaque and acknowledgement: "*In appreciation for 20 years of faculty service to the FS Senate, Archivist 2011-2022*" Thank you for all your work and contributions William!

E. University Affairs Committee (UAC) ([Report uploaded](#))
   1. Will upload the comments received from adjunct faculty comments to the SE Blackboard site.
      a) In summary, there were a couple of positives – namely recognition of good platforms and communication – but negative comments were more numerous and centered on issues of pay, lack of training and more specific concerns
      b) UAC Chair Wood observed that overall, the response rate from adjuncts was low.

F. Treasurer Report - Stan Alluisi
   1. Treasurer Alluisi reported he is currently fighting with Colleague to process invoices related to Faculty Awards but is confident they will be distributed soon.

G. Faculty Senate Survey Ad Hoc Committee (FFSC)

    1. Senator Sparacio gave the following update on the survey: it is drafted, needs to be proof-read, and ready to be sent out.

    2. FS Chair Shannon confirmed that the survey will be available from May 5-20, 2022.

H. Executive Committee (EC)

    1. Did not meet.

    2. FS Chair send a message to VPAA Golden relaying Senator Fridley's offer to assist in updating the APPM; no response given.

V. Old Business

A. APPM Section 3.5 Membership of Committees approved changes forwarded to VPAA Golden on April 26, 2022.

VI. New Business

A. A reminder that final Reports from FS Committees are due May 11, 2022.

B. Reactions to Shared Governance Forum (April 19): *Becoming a Student-Ready Campus*

    1. Senator Csaki noted that to solve any problem you need to identify it. We know that we have students that face challenges. He asked if there has been work to quantify what we need to do first to address "student-readiness."

        a) Senator Cotter-Lynch recalled Senator Clark's comments during the Shared Governance Forum: we need to know who is teaching gen ed classes and how those faculty are supported. Similarly, is there communication between faculty and student support services? This was left unaddressed. What are the outcomes and objectives that we expect students to have? How do we set them up not to fail?

        b) Discussion focused on how we begin that reverse engineering for "student-readiness". Senators acknowledge that there are some holes at the university that need to be filled. But we need to identify specifically what these holes are. They also acknowledged that we need university-wide learning goals that will help provide guidance. We also need to assess the safety nets available for students.

C. FS Chair Shannon reported that she has received no requests yet for recommendations for the Strategic Planning Committee.

VII. Announcements

A. Mutual Mentoring – Thursday (4/28) 1:00 – 2:30 pm CB 133

VIII.   Adjournment – 4:15 PM
   A. **Motion to Adjourn –** Senator Kramer
   B. **Second –** Senator Atchley