

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting with
President Newsom and VPAA Golden Report
April 10, 2024

Attendees: S. Csaki, A. Kramer, K. Lincoln, K. Shannon

The Executive Committee provided the following discussion Items

1) Compensation Update

President Newsom shared that he does not anticipate any additional funds from the Legislature to support improved compensation for faculty staff. He stated that these are current priorities. He reminded us that we are still early in the budgeting process for FY25.

- President Newsom also shared an area of concern regarding the funding formula for Higher Education. SE is currently number 1 in growth and number 25 in investment by the state per graduate. The funding formula needs to be updated, but most of the universities in the state would not be helped by an adjustment. President Newsom feels this is an inequity that might not be addressed. He also shared specifics regarding the funding rate per graduate for other schools including RUSO schools who fair far better than we do.
- Chair Shannon asked that the summer compensation rates for faculty teaching be considered to improve faculty pay. President Newsom shared that he was aware off the former policy that faculty are paid 1/9 of their salary for each summer course taught with a cap of 2/9th (or two courses) at this compensation level. He said that he would speak with VPAA Golden and VPBA Westman about this possibility of improving summer compensation.

2) Civitas Training Concerns

- Concerns regarding the Civitas training that occurred in February/March and the upcoming training (synchronous session on 4/19) were offered including
 - Communications
 - All Faculty were notified that they would receive credentials and should complete On-Demand trainings and attend a synchronous meeting in February. Several faculty did not received credentials and were unaware that they were not expected to attend.
 - Faculty who reached out for support to access credentials or access the platform once kicked out did not receive returned communications.
 - Training Expectations
 - Faculty who were expected to attend trainings were locked out of the On-Demand modules and were unable to log back into the platform. (This remains an issue)
 - Concerns regarding the March training - It lacked relevance as the presentations were vague, high-level, and not supported by access to a “sandbox” which would allow faculty to operationalize what they have learned.
 - Training timelines have not been communicated in a proactive way.

- 3) Shared Governance Forum (April 23rd) – the topic will focus on Academic Integrity. Liz McCraw (VPSA) will lead the forum. Details have been requested. Dr. Golden will provide details soon (VPSA McCraw is travelling with the Cheer Leaders currently).

PRESIDENT NEWSOM'S UPDATE

The First Annual Day of Giving was a success, over 200 people contributed. Realized donations total approximately \$135,000. The President discussed the possibility of making a one-time scholarship to Legacy students from these funds.

Over 700 graduating students have RSVP'd with their intention to participate in graduation.