

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2024

Faculty Senate Chair: Jinger Doe	Faculty Senate Chair-elect: Joseph Sanpietro	Past Chair Rick Bullis
Executive Committee member, Academic Standards and Assessment Chair Martha Johnson-Olin	Executive Committee member, Curriculum Review Chair Stephanie Mead	Executive Committee member, Professional Standards Chair Karen Wikander
Executive Committee member, Salary, Benefits and Budget Chair Bradley Summerhill	Administrative Faculty Committee Chair Katie Paul	Learning Commons Committee Chair Fred Lokken
Part-Time Faculty Committee Chair Matt van den Berg	Recognition & Activities Committee Chair Olga Katkova	WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee Chair Frank Amankonah
Senators At-Large: Amber Burroughs Kyle Cassinelli Maggie Eirenschmalz Katie Paul	Senators for Allied Health: Stephanie Mead Rori Wilkis	Senators for Computer Technology Steve Bale
Senators for Biology: Laura Briggs Jon Lau	Senators for English: Martha Johnson-Olin Sabrina Ladd	Senators for History, Political Science & Law: Fred Lokken Dustin Moore
Senators for Humanities: Tom Cardoza Nancy Faires	Senators for Math: Frank Amankonah Lars Jensen	Senators for Physical Sciences: Olga Katkova Dan Loranz
Senators for Social Sciences: Marynia Giren-Navarro Joylin Namie	Senators for Technical Sciences: Deysi Montes-Castillo Kelly Oswald	Senators for Visual and Performing Arts: Fe Danger Ted Owens
Senators for Part-Time Faculty: David Pinkston Jennifer Salisbury	Classified Council Representative Jen Friend	Student Government Representative Lisha Allison

Absent: Steve Bale, Fe Danger, Nancy Faires (Proxy: Rick Bullis), Jon Lau (Proxy: Laura Briggs), Fred Lokken, Joylin Namie (Proxy: Marynia Giren-Navarro)

Guests: Jeffrey Alexander, Amber Anaya, Elyssia Fraga, Karin Hilgersom, John Hughes, Michael Leonard, Julie McMahon, Staci Miller, Natalie Russell, Lauren Sanew, Nicole Scollard, Kyle Smith, Kim Studebaker, Olivia Zeiter

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m.

Approval of the October 11, 2024 Minutes

Motion: To approve the Faculty Senate Minutes for October 11, 2024.

Movant: Senator Kelly Oswald

Second: Senator Frank Amankonah

Vote: Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the November 8, 2024 Faculty Senate Consent Agenda.

Movant: Senator Stephanie Mead

Second: Chair-Elect Joe Sanpietro

Vote: Motion passed.

Chair's Report – Jinger Doe

The Presidential Search Committee will be convening soon, five volunteer faculty members, nominated by Faculty Senate are needed. The Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee and the Professional Standards Committee will work together in a joint subcommittee to work on merit. The Board of Regents are proposing some policy changes. Jinger will send out the proposed changes on Monday. The Planning Council is proposing a policy for student identification in distance education courses. Jinger requested any feedback on the proposed NSHE Code changes and any further concerns about the proposed policy.

Chair Elect's Report – Joe Sanpietro

Chair Elect Joe Sanpietro noted the upcoming holidays of Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. He also provided an overview of events and good things at TMCC such as innovation grants, Library After Dark, Fall Dance Concert, an upcoming play, and donations for pets, and the Adopt a Family Event.

Past-Chair's Report – Rick Bullis

Past Chair Bullis did not have anything to report.

Administrative Report – Karin Hilgersom, TMCC President

Dr. Hilgersom reported on the First-Generation Student Panel, the Veteran's Resource Center opening, and the Rotary Peace Pole dedication. She also gave an overview of the Joint Executive Board (JEB) and its work to proactively resolve issues and concerns.

Cost estimates needed to build Phase 1 of Eastview are ready for BOR approval at an upcoming meeting. The facility will include a small theater, construction space, and three classrooms for a temporary home for the TMCC Architecture program. If and when funds are obtained for a shared facility with DRI and NSU, a permanent home for Architecture would be included in that new facility (TMCC is the only community college in the country to offer a Bachelor Degree in Architecture). The cost estimate came in at 15.8 million, and costs were lowered because some elements of the building are pre-fabricated. The building will be located near the wind turbines and will be debt free due to smart savings over several years, including interest earned on NSHE released investment pool dollars and a million dollars earmarked for EastView planning. Private donor fundraising will also happen to enhance the building.

Administrative Report – Jeffrey Alexander, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Alexander reported the first Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) student has come forward with their portfolio in Accounting. The system office has asked TMCC to update our NSHE Planning Report. Goals TMCC is adding to the report are to seek BAS in Elementary Education, a Certificate in Physical Therapy, and a degree program in the future.

Dr. Alexander met with faculty prior to today's meeting to discuss a solution to student online verification. A single Canvas shell was proposed where students would be placed as they enroll in online classes. A pilot will be developed for the Spring Semester.

Standing Committee Reports

Academic Standards and Assessment Committee – Martha Johnson-Olin

The committee has not met since the last Faculty Senate Meeting. The committee next meets November 15, 2024.

Administrative Faculty Committee – Katie Paul

The committee met on October 18 and chose to table merit until Fall 2025. They continue working on Administrative Reclassification. The committee also expressed a desire to have TMCC as a voting station. The committee next meets November 15, 2024.

Curriculum Review Committee – Stephanie Mead

The committee met November 1, 2024 and discussed workflow process along with their rigorous agenda for courses and programs. The committee next meets December 6, 2024.

Learning Commons Committee – Fred Lokken

No report was given.

Part-Time Faculty Committee – Matt van den Berg

The committee met this morning. They discussed verification for online students, the Part-Time 1 and 2 project, the part-time directory, and will be working on an emeritus-type of procedure for retiring long-time part-time faculty. The committee next meets December 13, 2024.

Professional Standards Committee – Karen Wikander

Karen brought two forms for approval: Observation of Counseling Effectiveness and Annual Performance Evaluation for Academic Faculty (Counselors). Karen gave an overview of the changes on each form with the Senate body and requested a vote to approve each form separately. These forms came to the Senate from the Professional Standards Committee.

Motion: To approve the Observation of Counseling Effectiveness form. The motion passed.

Motion: To approve the Annual Performance Evaluation for Academic Faculty (Counselors). The motion passed.

Karen reported another form for librarians will come to the Faculty Senate soon. The committee will review the merit bylaw, review online and in person observation forms, and student evaluations. The committee next meets January 31, 2025.

Recognition and Activities – Olga Katkova

The committee has not met since the last Faculty Senate Meeting. Olga introduced the bylaw change second read to include Career Champions in the committee's charges and asked for a vote.

Motion: To approve the bylaw change to the charges for the Recognition and Activities Committee: "5. For Career Champions Award: solicit nominations from students for a once-a-semester recognition, review candidates through human resources, arrange presentation of the award to the recipients, and email certificates and details of the nomination(s) to each recipient." The Faculty Senate approved the change.

Olga also asked to please also nominate academic faculty for the Professional of the Month. The committee next meets November 13, 2024.

Salary, Benefits and Budget Committee – Bradley Summerhill

Merit discussion is continuing and the committee may have something to present to Faculty Senate in December. The committee next meets November 15, 2024.

WebCollege Faculty Advisory Committee – Frank Amankonah

A subcommittee will be convening to align the new QM Rubric with online teaching standards. Frank brought a motion from the committee to be approved at Senate. Elyssia Fraga also gave a demonstration of the features listed in the motion.

Original Motion: To turn on Discussion Summary and Rubric Enhancement/Design features in Canvas now. The Senate proposed wording changes to the motion for clarity.

Amendment to the Motion: To turn on Discussion Summary and Rubric Enhancement/Design features in Canvas at this time; these features would be off by default and require individual faculty to turn them on in their course. The motion passed.

Classified Council – Jen Friend

The Classified Council is getting ready for the Holiday Party, the ham/turkey raffle, and the basket silent auction.

Student Government Association (SGA) – Lisha Allison

The SGA is hosting the Gobble Go Hunt event. The winners receive Thanksgiving Dinner. Friendsgiving will be hosted by at least one student club.

Old Business

None

New Business

The following items were brought forward as new business to be considered for the next Faculty Senate Agenda: Senator Jensen discussed his concerns with administration being able to roll back classes in the CIM process.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:59 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 13, 2024