



Minutes

Faculty Senate Regular Meeting
Friday, September 8th, 2023
1:00-2:20 PM, Google Meet

- I. Establishment of Quorum: Dr. Billie Mathews, Linda Salazar, Gene Martinez, Rachael Lucero, Kevin Williams, Denise Fox
Guests: Nichole Collins, Betsy Sanchez, Larry Fields
- II. Call of Meeting to Order: 1:04 pm
- III. Approval of Agenda: Rachael motioned to approve the agenda; Kevin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from the April 28th meeting: Kevin motioned to approve the agenda; Rachael seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. Informational/Discussion Items:
 - A. Public Comment (3 minutes per person)

Nichole shared that the e-sports club is on hiatus as there is no funding for this year; by spring she hopes the budget will be set and the club can restart. A new requisition for purchase has been submitted. Nichole also stated that students are having trouble reaching staff to talk about being disenrolled. Nichole, along with other attendants, expressed concern about the high course fees.

Betsy expressed concern that her paycheck deductions have increased. She encouraged faculty to check their pay stubs. Betsy worries that there is no payroll person on campus and future payroll is being accomplished via CHESS.

Betsy applauded Rachael's help in developing the portals for faculty, staff, and students. Betsy also asked we help contact those students in danger of being disenrolled.

B. Senator/Committee Reports

1. Kevin Williams (Associates) – Kevin reports he will reach out to the adjunct faculty he represents and find out their concerns.
2. Billie Mathews (Humanities/Shared Governance) – Dr. Mathews has stepped down as lead faculty and Larry Fields has taken the position. Bernadette Maldonado has filled the position as full-time art faculty. Terrance Garcia (Media Arts) is working on building his program. Dr. Mathews shared news about a pilot program implementing virtual reality instruction through Oculus. Rachael and Betsy are involved as well. Dr. Mathews stated that she, along with Rachael, will sit on the Shared Governance Committee. It was suggested and agreed (by faculty senate via email vote) that the Faculty Senate Chairs (immediate past and present) will take on this function.
3. Rachael Lucero (STEM/Assessment) – Rachael, Dr. Mathews, and Betsy are creating a cohort, asynchronous class which will incorporate the Oculus virtual reality equipment.

The program will link humanities, general science, and math. Rachael has been preparing for the HLC visit and working on the Luna website for CLOAS. Assessment Committee will meet soon.

4. Denise Fox (Allied Health and Nursing) – Denise shared information about the new community health worker program starting at LCC on Sept. 18, 2023.
5. Gene Martinez (CTE)– Gene reports his enrollment has doubled due to recruiting efforts. He welcomed new auto collision instructor, Dominic Garcia. Gene is seeking ideas for the annual art project—taking apart a vehicle. Gene will be making a trip to Los Alamos for a LANL \$350,000 grant. He is working on getting all his equipment and working with Higher Ed to unify course numbers so that students get credit. Gene is exploring teaching didactic courses online and asked about the policies we have in place regarding this. Gene asked if the last year’s changes to the Faculty Handbook were made. It was stated that the document was sent in draft form to a private company (for HLC-related reasons) and that we can still work on the handbook. Gene stated his concern that some students don’t have book vouchers. Nichole suggested that faculty send a list of students without textbooks to Gail in financial aid. A database can be searched to help speed up the process.
6. _____ (Satellites/Business/ Early Childhood Education/ Adult Basic Education) – This position is vacant.
7. Linda Salazar – (Ex Officio/LRC) – Linda reports no current changes at the library. There is minimal foot traffic because most student work is being done online. The bookstore has not yet moved across the hall.

C. A list of things to work on:

1. Establish guidelines, policies, and procedures regarding working from home
2. Methods to retain faculty (3-year contracts?)
3. Restart the committee to welcome new faculty; perhaps form subcommittees in both faculty and staff senates; reach out to Shannon Ortiz, Staff Senate Chair
4. Course fee policies; should we set aside a portion for special equipment?
5. Linda suggested we plan mandatory orientation for future freshmen.
6. Develop policies for teaching online

VI. Open Bills

- A. It was mentioned that the ‘Open Bills’ category is not something faculty senate is doing anymore.

VII. Action Items

- A. Dr. Norma Guzman asks for a list of accolades/accomplishments she can present to the board of trustees.
- B. Plan future Coffee Connect meetings; bring ideas for dates and times; invite Dr. Martinez to speak about issues he feels are most important.

VIII. New or Follow-up Items for Next Meeting’s Agenda:

- A. none discussed

IX. Next Regular Meeting: September 22nd @ 1 PM in Google meet

- X. Adjournment: Gene motioned to adjourn; Kevin seconded. Motion carried followed by adjournment at 2:03 pm.