



Minutes

Faculty Senate Regular Meeting

Friday, January 31, 2025

1:00-2:00 PM on Google Meet

Meeting link: meet.google.com/xdh-khru-xcz

- I. Establishment of Quorum: Kevin Williams, Mari Hill, Billie Matthews, Gene Martinez, Nicole Collins, Linda Salazar
- II. Call of Meeting to Order: 1:00 pm
- III. Approval of Agenda: Gene motioned; Mari seconded. Agenda approved.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on December 6, 2024: Gene motioned, Mari seconded. Minutes approved.
- V. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on January 10, 2025: Nicole motioned; Gene seconded. Minutes approved.
- VI. Welcome of Guests/Public Comment (3 minutes per person): No guests present. Kevin spoke to Rachael: FS eval policy has not been amended at this time. Policy should be ready by next FS meeting.
- VII. Information/Discussion Items:
 - A. Senator Reports
 1. Kevin Williams (Associates Senator, Senate Chair) – Nothing to report.
 2. Gene Martinez (CTE Senator, Vice Chair) – Bumpy start to semester. Several students are preparing for certifications within the next couple of weeks. Accounts have been cleared so CTE can start ordering materials and supplies. William Lindsey, the adjunct instructor for CTE, will be hired as a FT/PT Luna lab assistant. Currently working on phase 3 of LANL grant, Los Alamos wants LCC to train students with titanium 6 welding which is military grade titanium, however material is very expensive. Grant is requesting funds to purchase this material because regular titanium is ~\$10,000/sheet.
 3. Chantel Rivera (Allied Health/Nursing Senator, Secretary) – Absent
 4. Billie Mathews (Humanities Senator, Immediate Past Chair) – Email sent to Humanities faculty. No response. In person study session on Wednesday. 8 or 10 students were present and it was productive. Thinking on showing up to HS to reach HS students who did not show to show support. Concerned that HS students do not have the study skills needed to succeed in college. There are many gaps within HS dual credit students that she is trying to bridge. Another issue students are presented with is that they are not receiving the correct books for their courses when ordering from the bookstore.
 5. Nichole Collins (STEM/Assessment Senator) – STEM and Humanities is going to be having a department meeting on Monday at 3PM. STEM is doing well, Rachael is hoping to have her lab fixed to be ready by the Fall semester. She will be moving into a temporary wet lab across from Tech lab. Trying to get students their books. Students having issues with financial aid. Faculty may need to be more vocal about it to advocate for students. This is effecting the way courses are taught because students are falling behind without the necessary materials. HS students are also being disenrolled since they are not documented within the system properly. Faculty should be more vigilant of errors within the system to come up with solutions to advocate for our students. New art teacher in humanities has been hired. Currently there is no office administrator for STEM/Humanities since he is out on FMLA.

Assessment will be meeting soon. Gene agrees that Faculty needs to be more vocal on behalf of students. Communication between financial aid and business office with faculty needs to improve. Billie mentions that not having a physical financial aid on campus is hurting the campus and students. Students are being told they are not eligible for certain scholarships because they have the opportunity scholarship, which is untrue. Students are also not being told that they have the option to sign a waiver to pay the \$75 fee when they receive their financial aid. This is a problem because it negatively effects student enrollment.

6. Mari Hill (Adult Basic Ed., Business, Early Childhood Ed., Satellites Senator) – Since spring of 2023 enrollment has significantly improved. The early childhood program has been growing in a positive direction.
7. Linda Salazar (Ex Officio/LRC) – A Budget hearing was held this week. Library is paying for 2 databases and was told that they need to be justified. Both databases are being used, even though student enrollment is low. This is discouraging because it seems like prioritization of funds is not being allocated appropriately. Mari mentions that it may be beneficial if faculty can begin to use free resources from the digital library (if feasible) this could be helpful in terms of the textbook issue for a few classes that do not necessarily need a textbook. Nichole mentions that solutions using open resources is great but the problem still needs to be fixed at the source. If the LRC can have digital and physical books that the students can have access to it would be beneficial to students who are not able to access books. Linda mentions that if faculty can get her a copy she can definitely get those books available for students to use in the library.

B. Standing Committee Reports

1. Elections Committee – No report at this time. Meeting coming up in March.
2. Professional Development Committee – Larry would like to lead a coffee connect to discuss an informal professional development training for anthology and to discuss any issues that people may be having with blackboard. Nicole can invite him to the next FS senate meeting to ask him if he has a plan.
3. Curriculum Committee – No meeting has been held yet because there has not been a need for any changes at this time. An email will be sent by next week to all members to set up a meeting to discuss how to move forward and make the committee more productive. Kevin will be notified when a meeting will be held. Karen Torres sent an email regarding catalog committee and Nicole has volunteered curriculum committee to help with that. Nicole mentions that Luna is not the only school who does not have a current catalog.

C. Discussion Items

1. Institutional Definition of “Freedom of Academia”
2. Topics for Remaining Coffee Connects
 - a. Blackboard/anthology discussion with Larry Paiz
 - b. Change meeting time?
4. Final Reading of Faculty Evaluation Policy Proposal
 - a. Proposal will be ready by the next FS meeting.

VIII. Action Item: Approval of Faculty Evaluation Policy Proposal: Nicole motioned to table approval of faculty evaluation policy proposal until the February 14 FS meeting. Gene seconded. Motion carried.

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

1. Continue “Freedom of Academia” Policy Development

- X. Next Regular Meeting: February 14, 2025, at 1:00 PM in Google Meet
- XI. Adjournment: Gene motioned to adjourn; seconded by Nichole. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.