

Meeting: Faculty Senate  
 Date: Feb 2, 2021  
 Time: 2:00 p.m.  
 Location: Video Conference via Zoom  
 Adjournment: 3:59 p.m.

# Minutes

Members present: Hongmei Jia, Bob Williams, Stephen Starnes, Omar Elariss, Chester Robinson, Julia Ballenger, Vipa Bernhardt, John Smith, Jason Davis, Sandy Hayes, Yasemin Atinc, Thomas Boucher, Brock Johnson, Jennifer Ashcraft, Matt Wood, Robert Rodriguez, Benton Pierce, Gracie Brownell, Vivian Dorsett, Andrea Williams, Zachary Palmer, Johanna Delgado Acevedo, Mark Moreno, and Brandon Randolph-Seng

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary of Discussion</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Decision/Action</b></p>
<p>The December meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.</p> <p>Provost Humphreys attended the senate to talk about creating new research awards. He wants to match up the number of research awards we have to the number of teaching awards. He stated that we are a research university, and we have AACSB accreditation.</p> <p>Provost Humphreys described the university as a research university where teaching is significant. Currently, we have three teaching awards and one research award. Maybe we could have two of each.</p> <p>The senate president, Dr. Ballenger, stated that since we do not have a university policy/procedure for 'naming' awards, one needs to be developed.</p> <p>Senator Starnes agreed that a policy/procedure was needed. Senator Wood stated that the higher-level administrators should help establish awards procedure once the awards committee prepares the guidelines. Dr. Humphreys said that he would develop the university policy/procedure for awards that are named for university people.</p> <p><b>Athletic Director</b> Tim Murray joined the senate meeting and shared the "best in class" highlights. He presented the academic success stories of the student-athletes.</p>	

Administration evaluations will be administered in Spring 2021. Administrators in various colleges did not share the results of the previous administration survey with faculty.

Two new items were added to the survey items.

1. Did you provide feedback the last time you were evaluated?
2. Describe how you will be reporting this year's results back to the faculty?

Dr. Elizabeth Wachira from Health and Human Performance Department joined the senate meeting to inform senators about a new health and wellness initiative on campus. Every two months, faculty/staff who promote wellness on campus will be awarded.

**Reports from Committees:**

**Academic Life-** Senator Robinson reported that they are working on cultural competency issues, the faculty's well-being, and T&P process updates.

**Academic Practice-** Senator Starnes wants to continue the Curriculum and Instruction Department's conversation regarding the impact of the pandemic on academic caregivers.

**Admission and Retention of Students-**Senator Williams and the committee members reviewed the 11.04 Admissions Standards for 2022-2023, Policy. No changes were recommended.

**Budget-** Senator Delgada-Acevedo said there was nothing to report.

**Curriculum-** Senator Pierce reported that he received a request from institutional effectiveness for a fully online nursing program. He did not get any details about the request. However, Senator Ashcraft stated the request was for a fully online RN to BSN. This online program is for individuals who have already completed an Associate's Degree and are currently licensed as a Registered Nurse seeking to obtain a Bachelor's Degree.

The request for the fully online RN to BSN program was voted on and approved unanimously.

**Faculty Awards-** Senator Brownell stated that the faculty awards committee would discuss the changes in the teaching and research awards recommended by Provost Humphreys.

**Organization of the Senate-** Senator Moreno did not have a report

**University Facilities and Scheduling-** No chair

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.