

Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda

11/26/23, 2:00–3:15 pm, Teams

Agenda

1. Call to order; Approval of Agenda (2 min) – Tirza Leader/Kathy Pinzon
<https://forms.office.com/r/RthxSuE73b>
2. Approval of minutes from October 2023 (2 min) – Tirza Leader/Kathy Pinzon
<https://forms.office.com/r/sN7FrqnUF8>
3. Executive Session (0 min)
4. President or Proxy (0 min)
5. Budget (5 min) – Atul Saxena
6. G&E Report (15 min) – Jessica Estep
 - a. Elections update
 - b. Office-hours “survey”
7. Professional Concerns Report (5 min) – Paul Grant
8. CoCo (0 min) – Kathy Pinzon
9. USG Metrics Dashboard Demonstration (10 min) – Tirza Leader
 - a. <https://www.usg.edu/academic-affairs-and-policy/academic-strategy-and-analytics/>
10. Discussion and vote of resolution on (25 min) – Michael Gunther
<https://forms.office.com/r/23PJJwpitN>
11. Other announcements (2 min)
12. Adjourn
<https://forms.office.com/r/LifqmcumZW>

Minutes

Present: Adrienne Cottrell-Yong, Ajay Malia, Amanda Wilsker, Amy Mungur, AmyH Erickson, Atul Saxena, Beth Cavalier, Candace Timpote, Carlos Ruiz, Heather Morton, Ian Krouse, Indhira de la Rosa, Jessica Estep, Jill Penn, Jim Nolan, Joshua Beall, Joye Cauthen, Kamal Kakish, Karen McCarron, Kat Deeley, Kathy Pinzon, Keith Kelly, Liang Sun, Lis Javazon, Lissa Pollacia, Maggie Schmidt, Marni Brown, Michael Gunther, Pam Anderson, Patrick Tiedemann, Paul Camp, Paul Grant, Rebecca Cooper, Rong Liu, Sherita Moses, Susan Quinn, Tirza Leader, Wei Liu, Whitney Holley

1. Call to order; Approval of Agenda (2 min) – Tirza Leader/Kathy Pinzon
Motion - Beth
Second – Jessica
Approved
2. Approval of minutes from October 2023 (2 min) – Tirza Leader/Kathy Pinzon
Motion – Candace

Second – Marni

Approved

3. Executive Session (0 min) – attending Top Claw award
4. President or Proxy (0 min)
5. Budget (5 min) – Atul Saxena
 - Set up regular monthly meetings with Frank Hardyman – Atul has met individually 3 times, met with budget committee only once – reluctant to put on calendar regularly monthly meetings
 - Has not heard anything back about requests we put in from the surveys
 - Summer compensation plans – waiting for all data – only thing provided was data for Summer 23 – not best to model with
 - o Tirza – met with provost yesterday and HR sent last 5 years of data and was supposed to be sent to budget committee yesterday
 - o Plans to hold focus groups
 - o Will be postponed until early spring semester
 - o Tirza – suggests we make a list of exact data we need and submit an open records request and will get the data in 3 days
 - COL data from compressed study – promised the consulting company will come back and answer questions including COL but that hasn't happened yet
6. G&E Report (15 min) – Jessica Estep
 - a. Elections update – elections are running – thank you to volunteers from each school who volunteered to lead elections
 - i. SLA – please encourage your faculty to run for senate – need more volunteers to have an election since there are many open seats
 - b. Office-hours feedback form – 150 faculty responses
 - Big takeaway is that our faculty are amazing and care about student needs and meeting with and supporting our students
 - TLDR – flexibility is needed for our students
 - Emphasize need for flexible modalities and
 - Want faculty available at non-traditional times
 - Most faculty have a system of meeting with and responding
 - Holding meetings at mutually desired times is a popular approach
 - Concerns about a mandate leading to increased faculty burnout
 - “what problem are we solving?”
 - Survey students on their thoughts on what office hours are
 - c. Next steps – survey students, develop a policy
 - Kamal – is there an issue we are trying to address?
 - Tirza – yes – there have not been student complaints, we are trying to be proactive since we know there are people in administration that are trying to push forward a policy, so we are trying to create a flexible policy that will work for faculty and put in manual instead of having something imposed upon us
 - Jessica – emphasis on flexibility was for students

Ajay – what percentage of 150 faculty mentioned that they want office hours
Jessica – not quantified – some people said if we are going to have office hours they should look like this

Ajay – should we ask faculty – do you need office hours?

Tirza – may not be a new rule – just could be putting something in your syllabus about how will be available – trying to avoid being forced to have X office hours per week in person

Beth – office hours may make us less accessible to our students – if I am forced to come to office hours then I am not as accessible outside those hours

7. Professional Concerns Report (5 min) – Paul Grant

Professional Development – Sheryl submitted a report – We had a meeting with the CTE fellows (Susan Bussey and Karen Perell-Gerson) on Oct 20. It was a very helpful meeting to discuss about how the senate can help and collaborate with CTE on policies for online courses at GGC and faculty professional development opportunities for teaching online courses. The committee decided to review the UGS momentum online training course as well as review policies on online teaching at other institutions and schools.

Ombudsman – may want to look at how many questions are coming in and are there any trends amongst the questions – noteworthy answers faculty may be interested in – Indhira submitted a report – 63 concerns came in, able to answer 83% of questions – parking and space management continue to be a concern – opinions about the no-confidence vote

Survey – will gear up in spring

Tirza – has another meeting with facilities been scheduled? – Paul – not yet

8. CoCo (0 min) – Kathy Pinzon

9. USG Metrics Dashboard Demonstration (10 min) – Tirza Leader

- a. <https://www.usg.edu/academic-affairs-and-policy/academic-strategy-and-analytics/>

currently in a beta version – if you want access send a request to the provost data is pulled from USG system and not from banner or ARGOS – can be discrepancies from our in-house data and here

Can't make comparisons between programs

Can look at attempted hours, GPA, FT/PT, different levels of student make-up, DFW rates, variances, course size

Juliet – can senate ask for open access for all faculty? Tirza – with beta No but when it is finished we should be able to since it is a useful and easy tool

10. Discussion and vote of resolution on (25 min) – Michael Gunther

One small edit of not putting the onus on department chairs to run elections

Tirza – bylaw change – we make and send to Provost for cabinet review

Jessica – moving responsibility back to G&E – now in charge of running school elections and also department elections – could be awkward if have to run an election as a senator especially if you are in it – department chair might be more clearly defined way to do it

Michael – not that big of an issue for chair to do it or not

Beth – given situation with faculty not wanting to run – what happens if no one wants to run in a department – if not filled does that run as a vacancy or go to at-large? What happens if people leave midterm?

Kathy – can G&E solicit nominations to not have pressure coming from department chairs?

Tirza – SLA doesn't have representatives vs psychology doesn't - can create different reactions – there are people that can do the job

Lis – just sending out emails will be ignored – coming from a person in a meeting is different

Motion - Indihra

Second – Lis Javason

Approved

11. Other announcements (2 min)

Tirza - Quarterly meeting with cabinet tomorrow – will post agenda – lots from provost meeting

Vote of no-confidence summary table outlining what we said and what was/was not accomplished will be discussed tomorrow at the cabinet meeting

Karen – what are we doing about the reconsideration of advising? – impression is that having advisors for a school is not being considered – Tirza – last conversation had was they were in favor of moving forward with this in general – Karen - proposal that SBA admin sent to former provost and SBA impression is not being looked at it anymore – Tirza – does new provost know about it? Karen – asked if they brought it up – Tirza – if you have a proposal share with the senate and we can use that data to push that forward - Karen – will send it to Tirza

Whitney – senate rep on campus wide mentoring committee – while direction isn't super clear – provost has been inspired by situation at GSU and turn around in their mentoring – seems as though there is a push to restructure our mentoring in that direction – what that looks like and funding looks like is still in question

Rong – what does the vote of no confidence mean?

Tirza – we as a senate did not have a cut-off we are just presenting the numbers as they are – it doesn't pass or not pass – what you see are the results of the vote – we present the information and say this is how faculty feel and what are you going to do about it next? – we don't have power to make a next step happen

Ian – somewhat alarmed that the wording represented the opposite of what had been discussed

Kamal – for cabinet meeting – could you ask the question of what do these results mean to them and what if any plans do they have to address the fact that many faculty have

no confidence – Tirza – President sent a response by email after receiving the data – when article being written about the vote the reporter contacted Tirza because information she was sent by administrative office was that this vote represents a minority position

Paul Camp – was it presented to BOR? Tirza – was sent by president

12. Adjourn

Motion - Marni

Second – Pam

Approve