

Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, January 23, 2025, 3:30 p.m.
Martinelli Boardroom

Dr. Lee Bidwell called the meeting to order at 3:31p.m. The following members were present:

Dr. Bill Abrams	Dr. Jennifer Hutchinson	Dr. Kris Paal
Dr. Lee Bidwell	Ms. Whitney Kallenbach	Mr. Cam Patterson
Dr. Chris Bjornsen	Dr. Lisa Kinzer	Dr. Jeannine Perry
Dr. Roger Byrne	Dr. Melissa Kravetz	Ms. Sarah Reynolds
Ms. Maddie Cason	Dr. Chris Kukuk	Dr. Larissa Smith
Dr. Darrell Carpenter	Claire LaRoche, J.D.	Dr. Shawn Smith
Dr. Ken Fortino	Dr. Jeff Ledford	Dr. Wendy Thompson
Dr. Jennifer Gerlach	Dr. Heather Lettner-Rust	Dr. Ben Topham
Dr. Scott Grether	Dr. Evan Long	Dr. Ronda Walker
Dr. Kari Hampton	Dr. Khawaja Mamun	
Mr. Carl Harvey	Dr. Angela McDonald	

Also present were – Dr. Audrey Church, Dr. Donovan Douglas, Ms. Susan Hines, Dr. Melissa Rhoten, Dr. Hannan Sadjady Naeeni, Dr. Shannon Salley, Dr. David Shoenthal, Dr. Pam Tracy

Dr. Lee Bidwell previewed next month’s meeting by announcing that Follett would be attending the meeting to present on the fall roll out and there would be a presentation by Admissions as well.

The minutes from the [November 21, 2024](#) Faculty Senate meeting were approved as submitted.

Dr. Melissa Rhoten reviewed the [EPC Report](#) – There were 4 action items to be voted on – all 4 items passed.

(Please log into Curriculog to view each link below)

1. [Business Administration, MBA](#) (addition of new track)
2. [Early Childhood Education, BS](#) (program deletion)
3. [MATH 175: Discrete Mathematics](#) (credit change)
4. [Graduate Policy: Undergraduate student asking graduate-level coursework](#) (policy update)
 - a. [Communication Sciences and Disorders, BS](#) (addition of accelerated track; program updates)
 - b. [Communication Sciences & Disorders, MS](#) (addition of accelerated track language; program updates)
 - c. [Counselor Education, MS](#) (addition of accelerated track language; program updates)

Discussion Item - [Final Exam Policy](#) (policy update) – Dr. Lee Bidwell opened the floor for discussion.

Concern was raised that the policy revision still requires students to approach one of their faculty members with the request to reschedule a final exam and faculty perceived as “nicer” will still have the most burden. It was suggested that perhaps the responsibility for making

accommodations for multiple exams be given to college deans. Dr. Rhoten said that EPC discussed that option and thought that would be overwhelming workload for deans at the end of the semester and would not give faculty control over the final exam schedule if deans made the decision.

Another concern about the proposed policy for graduate classes was vague. Dr. Rhoten clarified that the wording came from Graduate Council and was designed to be broad to accommodate the diversity of graduate class objectives, programs, and schedules.

Dr. Topham asked if the policy would run into conflict with required contact hours and was assured it did not.

The policy will be voted on at the next meeting.

Announcements –

Dr. Larissa Smith reminded everyone about the upcoming deadline for applications for the Special Projects Fund. The due date is January 25 with another round of applications accepted in March. These proposals are routed through the VP and Dr. Smith will include the department chair and dean as well.

Mr. Cam Patterson announced that tonight is the MLK Keynote at 5:00 p.m. in the Soza Ballroom. The keynote speaker is Dr. Walter Kimbrough, “Is The Beloved Community Possible?”

Dr. Heather Lettner-Rust reminded everyone about Symposium Day on Tuesday, February 25. Students in a CTZN 410 class will be excused from their other classes while involved in Symposium activities.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Long