

Faculty Senate Minutes

Monday, February 19, 2024, 3:10 p.m., Zoom

Senate Roster for 2023-2024:

Austin Showen (MUSC), Haley Albright (CHEM), Robert Anthony (SCCJ), James Broomall (HIST), Court Campany (BIOL), Larry Daily (PSYC), Rhonda Donaldson (LIB), Tuncer Gocmen (ECON), Karen Green (SOWK), Max Guirguis (PSCI), Osman Guzide (CME), Melissa Hall (RSES), Brenda Johnston (NURS), Heidi Hanrahan (ENGL/LANG), Belinda Mitchell (EDUC), David Modler (ART), Sytil Murphy (DEPS), Robert Richardson (BADM), Cindy Vance (ACCT), Kevin Williams (COMM), Max Guirguis (ACF).

Officers: Heidi Hanrahan (President), Belinda Mitchell (Secretary), Larry Daily (Parliamentarian)

Meeting Schedule (2023-2024): 8/28/23, 9/18/23, 10/2/23, 10/16/23, 11/6/23, 12/4/23, 2/5/24, **2/19/24**, 3/4/24, 3/18/23, 4/1/24, 4/15/24

Called to order 3:10pm

Austin Showen	MUSC	Present
Haley Albright	CHEM	Present
Robert Anthony	SCCJ	Present
James Broomall	HIST	Present
Courtney Campany	BIOL	Present
Larry Daily	PSYC	Present
Rhonda Donaldson	LIB	Absent
Tuncer Gocmen	ECON	Present
Karen Green	SOWK	Present
Max Guirguis	PSCI	Present
Osman Guzide	CME	Present
Melissa Hall	RSES	Present
Brenda Johnston	NURS	Present
Heidi Hanrahan	ENGL/LANG	Present
Belinda Mitchell	EDUC	Present
David Modler	ART	Present
Sytil Murphy	DEPS	Present
Robert Richardson	BADM	Absent
Cindy Vance	ACCT	Present
Kevin Williams	COMM	Present

I Approval of February 5, 2024 Minutes /Approved M/S/U

II. Athletics Division Financial Prospectus Discussion (Dr. Scott Barton and Dr. Jason Best guests)

Dr. Scott Barton and Dr. Jason Best returned to the Senate to answer questions about the Athletics Division Financial Prospectus and a new document that BOG members requested. This document adds in tuition to calculate average “contribution” by student athletes. Senators questioned the appropriateness of counting tuition this way. Indeed, the NCAA does not count tuition towards a student athlete’s contribution.

The Senate went on to express our support for our student athletes and acknowledge what athletics brings to Shepherd. Nevertheless, given our current financial situation—and the fact that academic and general waivers are currently going through a full review (at the request of the BOG)—we believe that athletic waivers should undergo a similar review. Thus, the Senate adopted the following resolution:

“Given the current examination of general and academic waivers, the Faculty Senate resolves that Shepherd should examine athletics waivers with similar precision and complexity. Moreover, the Senate resolves that Shepherd should work to bring athletic waivers in line with the most recently available PSAC averages, making adjustments where necessary. Doing so would not only benefit the general economic health of the University, but commit us to greater equity, funding all sports at or close to the same average level from University funds, with prorations based on program size.”

III. Experiential Learning Survey: Dr. Amy DeWitt

The senate endorsed the Experiential Learning Survey that Dr. DeWitt brought forth. M/S/U

IV. Committee Reports

Assembly Committees and Representatives

- A. Admissions & Credits (Senator Johnston) **NR**
- B. Curriculum & Instruction (Senator Daily) **See Appendix**
- C. Core Curriculum (Tim Nixon) **NR**
- D. Advisory Council of Faculty (Senator Guirguis) **See Appendix**

Faculty Senate Committees and Representatives

- E. Library Liaison (Senator Donaldson) **NR**
- F. Professional Development, Faculty Salary, and Welfare (Senator Anthony) **NR**
- G. Scholarship & Awards (Senators Vance and Murphy) **See Appendix**
- H. Senate Bylaws (Senators Anthony, Guirguis, and Mitchell) **NR**
- I. Washington Gateway (Senator Modler) **NR**

External Committee Representatives

- J. Calendar Committee (Senator Gocmen) **NR**
- K. Diversity & Equity Committee (Senator Hall) **See Appendix**
- L. Enrollment Management Committee (Senator Broomall) **NR**
- M. Graduate Council (Senator Williams) **NR**
- N. Student Success Committee (Senator Campany) **NR**
- O. Technology Oversight Committee (Senator Guzide) **NR**

Other Committees

- P. Budget Advisory Council (Senator Campany, Senator Williams, Senator Modler) **NR**
- Q. Internationalization Advisory Council (Senator Modler) **NR**
- R. Threat Assessment Task Force (Senator Albright and Senator Murphy) **NR**

V. Proposed Changes to Sabbatical Leave Policies (Senator Anthony)

The senate endorsed the changes to the Sabbatical Leave Policy. M/S/U

VI. Proposed Addition of Ex-Officio Member to A&C Committee

The senate endorsed the addition of a staff person from Finance as an Ex-Officio member to the A&C committee. M/S/U

VII. Tuition Waiver Policy for Dependents (Senator Hanrahan)

Senator Hanrahan is working on a resolution requesting that the administration consider revisions to Faculty/Staff Dependent Waiver policy. A small committee will be formed to work *with* the administration on these revisions. The immediate goal is to investigate offering some version of the

current waivers available to dependents are who are *part-time* students. (The current policy mandates that they be full-time.) This would address questions of equity since not every student is capable of full-time attendance. The second goal is to argue for *full* tuition remission for dependents. Senator Hanrahan is asking others to join her on the committee and urged senators to ask members of their schools/departments if they would like to join also.

VIII. Password Reset Policy

The senate discussed the password reset policy. It was concluded that an every 6 month reset was standard IT industry policy. The senate also noted that faculty, staff and students could reset their passwords at any time knowing that 6 months is the longest they can go without a password rest.

VIV. Calendar Endorsement

The senate endorsed the Summer calendars for Summers of 24, 25 and 26. M/S/U

X. Second-Quarter Saving Financial Statements Discussion

The Senate discussed the unwelcome and distressing news that there is a significant disparity between expected second-quarter savings and actual second-quarter savings in the aftermath of position eliminations and other cuts. The Senate stressed to Provost Tudor (who was in attendance) how dispiriting and frustrating this news is. The Provost answered the questions that we raised to the best of his ability, given we don't have all of the answers yet. The Senate is aware that President Hendrix has assembled a "Reconciliation Committee" that is tracking down answers. The Senate President will ask President Hendrix to provide a full accounting of what went wrong, where the money went, who is accountable, and what is being done to prevent this from happening again.

XI. Announcements

A. Board of Governors Meetings Schedule (Storer Ballroom of Student Center)

- 4/18/24 at 4:15
- 6/6/24 at 4:15

Adjournment: 5:14pm

Appendix 1: Committee Reports

Curriculum and Instruction:

At the February 12 meeting of C&I changes to the COMM 435 course and the Secondary Education concentration in Physical Education P-12 were approved. The committee also approved changes to the Social Work major (along with the associated course changes) and the addition of a certificate program in Child Advocacy Studies.

First readings were conducted on course and program changes from a large number of programs.

It was noted that there are two remaining C&I meetings, one on March 25 and one on April 8. Departments that need changes to go into the fall 2024 catalog will have to have a first reading of their changes at the March meeting. The deadline for submission to have proposals considered at that meeting is March 18. The C&I chair also noted that a number of proposals have come in on old versions of the C&I forms; departments should visit the C&I Web site for the updated forms.

The committee also considered the ex officio members of the committee. The following changes were approved: removal of the Honors Director, the Director of Academic Support, and the Director of Academic Advising and the addition of the Associate Dean of Academic Student Enrichment or designee.
Report Submitted by Dr. Larry Daily

Advisory Council of Faculty:

Senator Guirguis sent the Faculty Senate a copy of the new DEI Bill (SB 870), which was introduced on February 19, 2024. Senator Guirguis shared some highlights of the bill that directly affect higher education.

Scholarship & Awards:

Senator Vance shared that the committee is in the process of receiving McMurran nominations from departments/schools.

Diversity and Equity:

Senator Hall shared that at the most recent meeting of this committee the focus was on the recent introduction of the DEI Bill.