

Faculty Senate Minutes for January 26, 2023

1. Approval of the Minutes

Evan called the meeting to order at 3:30 and recommended a correction to the November 17, 2022 minutes to reflect that the DEI committee had no report. Benjamin Meador's motion to accept the November 17, 2022 minutes as corrected passed.

2. University Updates

President Weaver gave an extensive university update. Fall 2022 enrollment was slightly less than the prior Fall, down 100 in graduate students, but still up over the five years ago. Spring 2023 enrollment looks positive. The Governor's budget proposal to include a \$2,000 COLA increase for all state employees is projected to cost GSW approximately \$125,000 to provide a raise to employees not covered under the plan. The Governor's budget provides for full funding for the Carter Library.

Anh-Hue requested that someone inspect the mold in the walls in the basement of the Roney building.

3. Part-Time Faculty Representation on Faculty Senate

At the December 2022 general faculty meeting, Brian Smith asked the senate to consider the possibility of representing part-time instructors in the senate. Evan reported that the additional time involved would be problematic since it would add to their work load for HR and payroll purposes. For this and other reasons, the Senate decided that we would not include part-time faculty at this time.

4. Creation of Standing Faculty Committees

Evan presented the results of a survey of committee chairs regarding their committee's tasks and duties. It was noted that this is the last year of the Jimmy Carter Leadership Committee. The members discussed the possibility of creating two additional standing committees on the Future of Liberal Arts in Higher Education and on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Michelle reported that some institutions handle DEI within their various committees rather than a separate standing committee. Suzanne Smith commented that covering DEI issues in each committee emphasizes the importance of DEI and encourages consideration of these issues from various angles. Benjamin's motion to create a task force to examine the creation of an Arts and Sciences standing university committee passed.

5. Next Meetings

The next Senate meetings are scheduled for February 23, 2023, March 30, 2023, and April 27, 2023 at 3:30 pm. The general faculty meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2023 at 9:30 am.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35.

Attendance:

Carol Bishop

Michelle Dykes

Tzvetelin Iordanov

Evan Kutzler

John Lejeune

Benjamin Meador

Thelma Sexton

Anh-Hue Tu

Jeffrey Waldrop

John Wilson

Suzanne Smith (ex-officio)

Neal Weaver (ex-officio)