

Faculty Senate Notes

October 24, 2023

Holloway Hall 119

<https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/campus-governance/faculty-senate/>

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Call to order (3:30 pm)

1. Questions for President
 - a. President was not present, but several senators had questions they wanted to have brought to the President
 - b. Question: To whom to send questions for President?
 - i. Senate President says to send Faculty Senate officers those questions
 - c. Question: Why has there been no statement about Israel-Palestine conflict?
 - d. Question: It appears that administration is not using formula in Faculty Handbook for special session compensation. Why not?
2. Approval of minutes
 - a. Minutes from the October 10, 2023 regular business meeting approved as written
3. Announcements from the Senate President
 - a. Reminded everyone to let speaker finish; then put hand up to get recognized
4. Committee reports
 - a. MOTION to accept Consortium bylaws change
 - i. Faculty Senate President gave overview of change
 1. A proposal brought to Faculty Senate last spring, but changes recommended
 2. Major changes to bylaws are that all Consortium Committees except for the Cultural Diversity and Inclusion Committee would be eliminated to reduce service burden on faculty and staff
 3. Ad hoc committees could be formed as needed
 - ii. Question: Should some standing committees remain intact, such as Traffic, Safety, Building, and Grounds Committee?
 - iii. Question: Should Cultural Diversity and Inclusion Committee be an independent committee rather than the only Consortium Standing Committee?
 - iv. Question: How have other shared governance bodies voted on this?
 1. Answer: All other four have approved this, so it is approved, regardless of how the Faculty Senate votes
 - v. Question: Do the Consortium Standing Committees have the power to end themselves?

1. Answer: Not sure if they can end themselves, but the Consortium Coordinating Committee has the power to end them.
 - vi. Question: Why not retain the Consortium Standing Committees so they are staffed when needed?
 1. Answer: Committees are not all filled right now anyway.
 - vii. Question: Why was the Cultural Diversity and Inclusion Committee the only one left standing?
 1. Answer: They meet frequently and work on things
 2. Response: It could be an ad hoc committee until disbanded rather than a standing committee
 - viii. Question: Any plan to reopen any of these as ad hoc committees?
 1. Answer: Would need to ask Consortium Coordinating Committee
 - ix. Question: Why are we debating this if four other shared governance bodies already agreed to this?
 1. Answer: We cannot prevent it from passing, but we can bring faculty concerns and feedback back to Consortium Coordinating Committee.
 - x. Motion does not pass
- b. MOTION to accept GEOC's report on projecting impact of new general education model on faculty workload
- i. Dean of Henson's overview of the report
 1. GEOC was charged to figure out workload implications of new model
 2. Inputs to model for figuring out how many sections of different types of gen eds need offered: projected number of first-year and transfer students, what fraction of those need to complete gen eds here, how many students in these courses are taking courses for gen ed and how many for majors, how old gen ed categories map onto new categories
 3. Some gen ed categories combined based on what school will offer those courses: Humanity in Context, Human Expression, Social Configuration, and Social Issues combined into one category for this report, and Hands-on Science and Solutions through Science combined into another category
 - a. Projected that fewer of both of those categories will be needed
 - ii. Question: When was this model made?
 1. Answer: Before gen ed course proposals came in, so it is approximate
 - iii. Question: Will chairs know what courses have been approved for FA24 by the time they need to construct schedules?
 1. Answer: UCC is working hard to get as many of these approved as possible. They want all courses that have been submitted to eventually get approved on time for building schedules. But no one in this meeting can give an official answer
 - iv. Question: Course reductions in gen ed courses appear to be mostly compensated for by First Year Seminars. Many reductions in number of gen ed

courses from Henson and Fulton. Does it seem like FYS courses will replace those losses for those schools?

1. Answer: No. So far it appears that most FYS courses will be offered from Fulton, so it looks like Henson will have a net loss of courses. But not all courses have been accounted for yet. Also, it could be that each course could have multiple sections.

v. Motion passes without amendment

5. New business

a. Motion to extend deadline for FWC charge

i. Motion passes without amendment

b. Motion to extend deadline for APC charge

i. Amended to extend deadline to March 12 instead of first meeting in February

1. Amendment approved

ii. Motion passes

c. Motion on belonging

i. Question: Perhaps students' definition of 'safe' is not the same as our definition. Should we get rid of the 'safe?' Students may conflate 'safe' with 'comfortable.'

1. Answer: This is not a guarantee of safety. It's just about student perception of how they are feeling

ii. Question: Perhaps students will not feel valued if they get poor grades. How to ensure that this definition does not get misapplied? How can we make sure that the feeling of belonging to the community is not mixed up with belonging academically?

1. Answer: This is not a policy statement in any way, so any student grievance on these grounds would not be valid

iii. Question: Why should we not add this to the Faculty Handbook? What impact are we hoping for?

1. Answer: Not in Faculty Handbook to avoid issues that faculty brought up with previous version of motion on belonging about confusing what is expected for tenure and promotion

iv. Question: Is it in the purview of the Faculty Senate to make changes to the ODI website?

1. Answer: If this motion passes, it would not make the change to the website. It would be a recommendation to the Provost who would discuss with President and then ODI

v. Motion amended to change language to "feeling uniquely seen, heard, safe, and valued as an individual."

1. Amendment passes

vi. Motion amended to add this definition of 'belonging' to Salisbury University Faculty Senate's Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Faculty Handbook

1. This would not change any acronyms in the Faculty Handbook to DEIB, which avoids some faculty concerns from previous version of this motion
2. Amendment passes
- vii. Statement: Senator believes 'belonging' is part of 'inclusion,' not its own thing
- viii. Motion passes

6. Motion to adjourn approved

Adjourn (4:49 pm)