



## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Feb. 8, 2024 | 3:15 p.m. | **ACW 136**

Zoom Meeting ID: 911 863 9554 <https://lcsc.zoom.us/j/9118639554>

(FOR THOSE WORKING REMOTELY)

**Attendance:** Jenny Scott, Celeste Ellis, Peter Remien, Polly Knutson, Leif Hoffmann, Gina Lott, Lorinda Hughes, Jenna Chambers, Marti Reese, Jessica Savage, Katie Roberts, Thomas Hill, Jennifer Cromer, Eric Stoffregen, Rodney Farrington, Charles Bell, Mike Owen, Debra Lyber, Kim Tuschhoff, Seth Long, Billy Lemus, Christina Brando-Subis, Provost Chilson, Neto Garcia Rosales

**I. Call to Order:** 3:16pm

**II. Approval of Senate Meeting minutes from Nov. 9, 2023**

Minutes from Nov. 9 meeting were posted to our website for review.

*Motion to approve minutes by Jessica Savage, seconded by Jenna Chambers.*

*Motion passes with 3 abstentions.*

**III. Announcements/Updates**

- Provost Chilson
  - o Office Hours policy update
    - Policy wording is not ready for final faculty review.
    - *Goal is to tighten up the policy but allow for faculty flexibility. Another goal is to accommodate student needs. The Provost needs to notify NWCCU so we can move forward.*
  - o Floor G.P.A. for direct admissions
    - *Meeting for "Lumina" grant for direct admissions. Floor GPA requirements differences are discussed. Currently LC State has a 2.0. Boise State and U of I are 2.8, Idaho state is 2.25. This would impact the "direct admission" process.*
    - *The ACT and SAT standardized testing requirement was dropped back in 2020. There is discussion of using the ISAT for admissions process, specifically the math and English portion. U of I will use 2.8 OR a 3 in math and 3 in English, Idaho State would use their floor GPA OR score of 2 in math and 2 in English for example.*
    - *Question: If a student graduates from high school with a floor GPA of 2.0 then they receive a letter letting them know they have been admitted to any institution? Answer: Yes, but they do not see the differentiated floor GPAs of the colleges and universities.*

- *No change in our admissions process. If we bumped our floor GPA to a 2.25, would we miss a lot of students?*
- *Idaho State has requested we bump our floor GPA to 2.25 for consistency.*
- *Question—does a student know that our floor is GPA is 2.0 versus 2.25, etc.? Answer, no the student does not see this info on their end.*
- *Question—would this make a difference on the CTE side? Answer—Certain CTE programs need specific test scores for acceptance. This would not likely impact.*
- *Question—What is the timeline for this decision? Answer—relatively soon. We have a meeting the day before State Board which is the 27<sup>th</sup> of this month.*
- *We would like to take a look at the results from INRE and also have some discussion at the division level.*
- *Clarification: The sending of the letter is a new process, let's use this as a way to advertise our institution.*
- *Please send further comments to Provost Chilson.*
  
- Chair Scott
  - o *Add all campus events to 25Live calendar – access this through the Teams platform.*
  - o *Librarian shortage/impact on research appointments – Don't wait until the last minute to schedule. Please schedule as a group if possible. A new librarian was hired, will begin mid-March. Soonest available appointment is the last week of February.*
  - o *All faculty expected to attend both commencement ceremonies—There will be Liberal Arts & Sciences and CTE, then School of Professional Studies. There will be refreshments provided by the various divisions.*
    - *Question—Why are there two ceremonies? Answer: the reason we don't just do one ceremony is so that we don't have to limit the people in attendance.*

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Budget, Planning & Assessment (Jenny Scott)**

- Members of BPAC have observed the Functional Area Committee meetings for the various units around campus. Those individual observation reports are coming in and Jenny will create a final one to present to the Executive Cabinet on Feb. 21.

- On a related note, Jenny and Peter both serve on the Compensation Review Committee this year, along with PSO and CSO representatives. The final draft of that report is in the works and will be submitted to VPFA Crea by Feb. 14. As a whole, the common theme across employee constituent groups is focused on: Turnover (need to improve retention), competitive salaries, and expanded training programs. *This report will go to the President, who will then respond to our recommendations.*

##### **B. Curriculum (Polly Knutson)**

-*The curriculum committee deserve lots of recognition. We went through many proposals in the Fall semester. The most notable change was the change of deadline*

dates. Polly researched the process at other institutions. A document was created and was given to committee members to take to the divisions for discussion. The feedback ~~we~~ received was actually very receptive. The curriculum system is open now. What the committee requests is: If you have proposals that will have to go to the State Board:

1. Make sure you are on the 3-year plan.
2. Please submit prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

The reason for this deadline is because the State Board requires anywhere from three months and up to five months for the accreditation process. This is what happens at the other institutions. Other institutions split these deadlines so that these proposals that need more time can be processed over summer and can be ready in Fall. Otherwise, course changes can be submitted by October 1<sup>st</sup>. We were successful as a committee to move things through the semester to be ready for March advising, etc. We will be looking at the Policy & Procedure and potentially proposing some new language. We recognize that we need to give everyone some training.

I have a recommendation—the faculty member that is part of the curriculum committee is responsible for submitting the proposal into the system. This would improve efficiency. This faculty member is very familiar with this proposal so may answer questions that arise during the committee discussions. Further, if this proposal has to be returned to the division, the committee member is well versed in the details.

If you are unsure if your program changes need to be sent to State Board, reach out to the Provost Office and/or Polly for assistance.

#### C. Faculty Affairs (Peter Remien)

-Next round of faculty development grants are due March 1<sup>st</sup>. We were really generous in funding sabbaticals. Please consider applying for sabbaticals, all divisions are encouraged to consider.

#### D. Student Affairs (Lorinda Hughes)

- Please check your SCE's. The question revisions that were completed last year in Student committee and Senate are still not being reflected on the current SCEs. Comment: it was discussed that we did not want a change of SCE questions/process within an academic year for those going up for promotion and tenure reasons. However, consider that the current SCEs are not being answered by students because of the length.

- Prison education did not have the opportunity to complete SCEs in Fall.

### V. Old Business

A. Honors program/designation for entire college – feedback from Division Senators (refer to 12/6/23 email from Senate Chair for talking points to share with colleagues)

- Which of you have been able to talk with colleagues about this initiative? What feedback have you received?

- Rocky Owens in Cd'A is a strong proponent of this and I can ask him to present to Senate at an upcoming meeting if there is interest to keep exploring this.

*-One response was negative from CTE. Teacher education and Mathematics reports that this isn't a bad idea but are concerned about a lack of resources. General consensus, we are doing well right now but this might add additional strain. If we go to a college-wide "honors college" would this impact becoming a university? Social Sciences discussion—how is this funded/supported? How does this impact enrollment? Who brought up the idea of the honors college? Was it coming from students or administration? If students wanted it then the response was positive versus if this came from administration. WSU has field trips established; would LC State be competitive? Another point—we already have a research symposium. Perhaps we use an existing structure and tweak it to satisfy the student that has these goals.*

*-Humanities division—concerns of mixing honors students and the traditional student within courses.*

*-CTE – Capstone courses are not funded in CTE.*

*-Do we have the numbers to support these honors students?*

*-U of I offer some set classes that are only for honors students.*

*-Student Affairs: Discussion of the original framework. High school graduates with higher GPAs and test scores do inquire about this sort of honors college.*

*-Provost Chilson reports we are willing to support any initiative you develop. This originally arose from a faculty member.*

*-Katie Roberts make a motion to table this discussion until the Fall.*

*-Discussion ensues—CTE students could also show that they were able to be a part of an Honors College and did not select CTE programs just because of their GPA.*

*-Tangible benefits outlined: Research Conference funding, travel expenses.*

*-Katie Roberts makes an amended motion to table this discussion until a later meeting next Fall when Nancy Johnston can be here who facilitates the senior symposium. Seconded by Rodney Farrington. Unanimous approval.*

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. (discussion) CTE/BTS Senate & Committee representation due to restructure**

*-Question- How much of a "voice" will be lost in reality? BUCS has had 3 BTS faculty members for the past few years who are active on division committees, etc. and certainly are eligible just like any other faculty member to serve on Senate.*

- If it is deemed that a "voice" will be lost or somewhat minimized at the least, here are a few initial options to consider:

1. Increase # of CTE/BTS positions on Senate/committees
2. Require all academic divisions that now have BTS faculty to designate 1 of the 2 Senate positions as a BTS faculty
3. CTE "white collar" programs have 2 "at large" positions
4. Create 1 "at large" Senate position for a BTS faculty member (and look at committees, too, where this would be appropriate)
5. Other ideas?

Discussion:

*-Background: this was an opportunity to revamp differing proposals. Adjust senate representation based on division size. Historically—this was not well received.*

*- There is a fundamental difference between BTS and Professional Studies. How are the numbers spread between faculty? If we hire faculty without rank, we cannot serve on various committees.*

*-I believe we need to look at this at the college level. We don't want the voices to be lost.*

*-Where would this be most relevant? Perhaps not in the standing committees.*

*-In curriculum committee, there is expertise needed from CTE.*

*-If you are going down this route, you can manipulate votes based on duplicating the representatives.*

*-It is of the opinion that as it exists right now 50% of CTE voice will be no more.*

*-Polly (BUCS) – I was one of the first to move over. I continued to attend the meetings because it was important to me. Now, with the second wave there are different pressure to attend/not attend the school meetings.*

*-Provost Chilson: It's interesting to me that they are not attending. I need to do some legwork on this.*

*-Five options listed above were reviewed by Chair with the Senate members. It was agreed that number two in the list would not be a valid option.*

Next steps:

*Encourage further conversations within divisions on options as more information becomes available.*

#### **VIII. Good of the Order**

- Officer nominations for AY24-25. Please prepare brief remarks to share at next Senate meeting:

- Secretary: Jenna Chambers / NHS
- Chair-Elect: Charles Bell / T&I
  
- Next Senate meeting: Feb. 22 (Zoom)
  
- Emeritus nominations due to Chairs by Friday, Feb. 23. This is a hard due date; no exceptions. Please remind nominators that presentations should be less than 5 minutes. These will be made at the March 7 Faculty Association meeting.
  
- Next Faculty Association meeting: March 7
  
- Book talk & reception: *Evolution Gone Wrong* by Alex Bezzarides, Thursday, March 14 at 6:00 p.m. – SAC 115 (RSVP by March 1)
- March 6<sup>th</sup>- Social Sciences, TEAM. Faculty and Student Panel on 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education
- April 27<sup>th</sup> Cars and Coffee
  
- Notification about changes to emails in Monday Message. We are migrating completely to Microsoft. Students will also be migrated to Microsoft.

## **IX. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Billy Lemus, seconded by Katie Roberts, unanimous approval. 4:59 pm