

Faculty Assembly Minutes
Tuesday, February 27th, 2024 (12:40pm)

Present: Steve Abedon, Jamison Kantor, Dawn Kitchen, Phil Mazzocco, Kate Shannon, Amy Brunell, Joe Fahey, Molly Cavender, Heather Tanner, John Thrasher, Dennis Shaffer, Kelly Whitney, Mirel Caibar, Suma Robinson, Gabe Karns, Ozeas Costa, Eric Anderman, Del Lindsey, Tara Hines, Elizabeth Kolkovich, Carol Landry, Faith Wyzgoski, Agus Munoz-Garcia, Terri Winnick, Terri Bucci, Sergei Chmutov, Scopas Poggo, Amy Hiner, Donna Farland-Smith, Ashley Smith, Glen Hartz

1. Approval of 1/22/24 Faculty Assembly meeting minutes

A motion to approve the 1/22/2024 Faculty Assembly meeting minutes (after a correction suggested by Amy Brunell was included) was made by Heather Tanner and seconded by Del Lindsey. The minutes were approved with 20 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

2. Standing Committee Reports

Time was allotted for standing committee reports and/or questions from the Faculty Assembly. There were no reports or questions for Professional Development, Resource Stewardship or Student Support and Enrichment. Teaching and Learning is addressed below in section 4.

3. Senate Reports

Faculty Senate Report, Donna Farland-Smith:

No report was given.

Arts and Science Senate Report, Heather Tanner:

Heather reported that the A&S Senate has not yet met this semester, and so no report was given.

4. Teaching and Learning Committee

There are not at present any plans for hiring of regular faculty in the next academic year. One faculty member inquired whether this signaled a move towards replacing regular faculty with associated faculty. Both the Dean and the Associate Dean declared that they did not believe this to be the case. Both Deans said that they were in good position to pass along hiring recommendations to the new Dean. However, faculty were encouraged to base requests upon data including, but not limited to: past enrollment numbers, new GE requirements, projected future enrollment. Associate Dean Kitchen offered to help areas make these cases.

A faculty member encouraged the Faculty Assembly to be proactive in making a case for hiring to the new Dean. To this end, Jamison Kantor agreed to set up a Microsoft Teams discussion which would stay open until March 22nd. Faculty were encouraged to share hiring needs, evaluation criteria for evaluating such cases, and related concerns and issues. These discussions would then be summarized and passed along to the Teaching and Learning committee for further discussion and initial drafting of a hiring recommendations document to be shared with the incoming Dean.

The Teaching and Learning Committee also discussed a proposal to encourage and facilitate cross-curriculum (cross course) assignments in the future as a way of allowing students to form connections between various disciplines. Further discussion on practical issues relating to the discussion is needed.

5. Dean's Report

- Thanks to all who pitched in on the Feb 16th STEM Open House and Dedication event—especially Cindy Wood, Amber Rader, and Dawn Kitchen.
- The campus will be closed on April 8th due to the Solar Eclipse. Classes will be held virtually on that day.
- Columbus gave us a grant of 116K for lighting in between Buckeye Village and campus.

6. Call for Officers for 2024/2025 Academic Year

Faculty are encouraged to volunteer for Executive Committee positions for next year. Nominations, self and otherwise, can be sent to Faculty Vice President, Jamison Kantor.

7. Dean Search Update

The first interview of candidates will take place on Feb 29.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25pm
Minutes taken and prepared by Phil Mazzocco, Faculty Secretary.