



Faculty Senate Meeting Notes
December 9, 2020

I. Call to order

Larry Smith called to order the regular meeting of the Snow College Faculty Senate at 3:30 p.m. on December 9, 2020. The Senate met via Zoom video conference.

II. Roll Call

The following persons were present: Erick Faatz, Karen Carter, Jay Olsen, Larry Smith, Jacob Thomas, Renee Faatz, Jed Rasmussen, Sandra Cox, Wes Jamison, Matt Gowans, Adam Burningham, Brady Curtis, Melanie Jenkins, Stacey McIlff, Josh Hales

III. Opening and Informational Items

A. Welcome from Larry.

B. This will be the last meeting of the semester. Larry felt that the semester went well for the Senate.

C. Matt Gowans was reelected to a second term as a representative for the Humanities Division. Wes will remind his division about electing a senator to replace Nick Marsing.

D. Sandra commented about the highlighted sections that have been changed in the Academic Integrity draft policy. Melanie will send it forward to Morris Haggerty for legal review.

E. Melanie reported that the Faculty Corrective Action policy is under review by Morris Haggerty.

F. Larry reported on the College Council Meeting held November 9, 2020. They discussed the Abusive Conduct, Title IX, and Administrative Leave Policies. These should be out, or go out, for 30-day review then to the Board of Trustees.

G. Larry attended a Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders (UCFSL) meeting November 19, 2020. They discussed models for A&T reviews with the possibility of an ombudsperson assisting applicants throughout the process. There are varied models at the various institutions. There is concern about a proposed legislative bill blocking obscene or pornographic material in online courses infringing on academic freedom.

H. Larry and Renee met with President Cook. Townhalls are good but not sufficient communication. They are one-way. It was recommended that Cook attend department and division meetings without an agenda. These were already

planned but Covid interrupted them. Melanie's advocacy for faculty as an in-house assistant provost has been appreciated. Covid tracking numbers don't seem accurate to some. Affordable housing is not available to new faculty members. The compensation committee doesn't seem to be functioning like it was. There needs to be ways to hire couples: some new faculty members leave when a partner cannot get a job.

I. December 11, 2020 there will be a Board of Trustees open discussion meeting. Larry and Renee have been invited to speak.

J. Wes reported on the Free Speech policy. They hope to have a draft by the beginning of Spring Semester 2021. Should academic freedom be included in the policy? There are different models at different institutions. The Board of Regents policy applies regarding academic freedom. Is there a need for a free speech area on campus?

IV. Committee Reports

A. A & T Committee: Matt indicated that the committee had worked through all applicants for Fall Semester 2020. Reviews are possibly less time intensive than in the past.

B. Curriculum Committee: Sandra reported that they are reviewing syllabi and the Academic Integrity Policy. An inclusion statement has been added with the pedagogy statement on master course syllabi.

C. Faculty Development Committee: Nate no report.

D. Professional Track Committee: Karen mentioned that the committee met November 17, 2020. Bob Gary and Chad Price left the committee and two others joined.

E. Global Engagement Committee: Wes reported that they had a discussion about a Global Learning Badge. The program with Michigan State and BYU is still on hold. Wes will speak in an upcoming inclusion meeting about privilege.

F. Honors Committee: Jacob mentioned that they had an accountability meeting. Some students with honors scholarships are not signing up for honors classes.

G. Library Committee: Jed said that they met two weeks ago. Each division has at least \$1,000.00 set aside for material purchases.

H. Service Learning Committee: Nick no report.

I. Teaching and Technology Committee: Jay reported that they met two weeks ago with the new Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) director Justin Thorpe. They are working on new bylaws and reorganization.

J. Faculty Association: Renee reported that there was frustration about Covid expressed in the Faculty Association meeting. Covid numbers don't seem accurate. There were a low number of accommodations for at-risk faculty members fall semester. Students seem to have carte blanche.

K. Adjunct Information: Adam indicated that adjuncts are concerned about gaps between faculty members and adjuncts regarding recent bonuses and lack of COLA increases. How can there be more recognition of gaps? A lack of a death benefit for adjuncts came up in a College Council meeting. Adam and Renee will schedule a meeting with Josh Hales to discuss this and other adjunct issues.

L. Student Information: Brady mentioned that Snow College won the "get out the vote" competition between institutions of higher education in Utah.

M. Ad Hoc/Other: No reports.

V. Senate Business

A. Renaming Dixie State University from Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders (UCFSL)

1. Most Faculty Senates from Utah's institutions of higher education have made statements in support of Dixie State University removing "Dixie" from its name.

2. The process for renaming will begin spring 2021.

3. Wes made a motion and Jacob seconded the motion that the Snow College Faculty Senate adopt similar language to the statement of support by Weber State University. Eight Senate members voted in favor of the motion and two abstained.

B. Student Course Evaluations Related to Spring and Fall Semesters 2020

1. Some faculty members are concerned about how student course evaluations might be used for A&T reviews. Some feel that the reviews might be abnormally negative due to Covid related issues.

2. It was recommended that the A&T Committee draft a letter addressing faculty concerns. (A letter from the A&T Committee was recently sent to faculty members regarding use of course evaluations in A&T reviews.)

C. Accelerated Online Learning (AOL)

1. Melanie and Stacey addressed the Senate using a chart that shows a distribution of teaching mediums for Snow College moving forward including current numbers of students and goals: face-to-face, concurrent enrollment, online, and AOL. (See addendum to these minutes.)
2. There is confusion about what Snow is trying to accomplish.
3. All student groups need opportunities to learn. It is difficult to reach some groups without online learning opportunities.
4. Some faculty members feel that there is a lack of control of AOL courses especially regarding quality. Melanie and Stacey are trying to join faculty and administration support to influence quality of courses.
5. Faculty members are being asked to sign off on and monitor AOL courses closely.

Adjournment

Larry adjourned the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Minutes submitted by Erick Faatz

Revised 1/11/2021

Final notes approved 1/13/2021

Addendum 1. Accelerated Online Learning Discussion

Snow College aspires to be a national leader in offering affordable, accessible, high quality education for rural and other underserved populations. Our competitive advantage will be the personalized, high touch experience we provide for all students.

Degree-Seeking and Technical Education Delivery Mediums *	Growth Goals	Affordable	Accessible to Audience	High Quality	Personalized	High Touch, Specific to Audience
Face-to-face <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional students (18-25) On-campus 	Current: 3500 Goal: 5500	✓	✓	✓	✓	Faculty (content, design, grading, support)
Concurrent Enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early college (16-18) IVC 	Current: 1500 Goal: 2000	✓	✓	✓	✓	Faculty (content, design, grading, support)
Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional (flexibility) Non-traditional International Place-bound 	Current: 300 Goal: 2000	✓	✓	✓	✓	Faculty (content, design, grading, support)
AOL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early college Non-traditional International 	Current: 400 Goal: 2000	✓	✓	✓	✓	Content: Faculty Design: Instructional designer Grading: Grader Support: Mentor

*includes all certificates, degrees, and instructional sites

