

Faculty Senate Notes

February 8, 2022, 3:30pm

Via Zoom Webinar: <https://salisbury.zoom.us/j/96480768270>

FS website: <http://www.salisbury.edu/campusgov/facsenate/>

Quorum: 12 of 17

Anita Brown (President), Jeffrey Emmert, Dan Ervin, Jose Juncosa, James Fox, Mike Koval, Thomas Lamey, Deneen Long-White (Secretary), Jennifer Martin (Vice-President), Vitus Ozoke, Ellen Schaefer-Salins, Bart Talbert

Called to order (3:30 pm)

1. Remarks from President Wight

1. President Wight thanked everyone for attending the 2nd annual Anti-Racism Summit. Dr. David Stovall was the keynote speaker. The summit and resources is available on the Office of Diversity and Inclusion website. There will be a follow up in April. He noted how proud he is to be at an institution where we can have these types of conversations.
2. Two positions for Assistant Directors in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion have been posted. These positions are not new positions. They are existing vacant PIN lines in the Office of the President.
3. The President welcomed the new director for the Counseling Center, Laurie Scherer. The University continues to offer virtual health visits through Timely Care. 244 students used the services during January.
4. Posters on the Bay took place over the weekend. Presentations will be recorded. He thanked the faculty for teaching and inspiring the students.
5. The university health team met earlier today. Updates will be shared at tomorrow's video briefing. He shared that they have recommended a relaxing of the mask requirement for instructors and other presenters. Starting Thursday, February 10, instructors and presenters are no longer required to wear a face covering as long as they are 6 feet away from others in the room. Seating charts are no longer necessary.
6. Question (Q): For the change for masks that goes into effect Thursday, does that remain KN95 or KF94 for students?
7. Response (R): I do not have any feedback on that at the moment. However, I suspect that we will stay with the KN95 for this week. We will unravel our precautions in stages.
8. (R): That is correct. Students must still wear a KN95/N95/KF94 mask.
9. (R): We are providing masks for students.
10. (Q): Is this relaxed policy applicable for vaccinated and boosted people only, not people with exemptions?
11. (R): Masks are still recommended for those who are not vaccinated.
12. (Q): Do students get a notice when they are eligible for their booster?
13. (R): Yes, we inform students when they are eligible to get their booster and encourage them to do so. If they do not, they will have to get an exemption or they cannot come to campus.

2. Approval of Minutes from December 14, 2021. (now have a quorum)
 1. The minutes from December 14, 2021 were approved as amended.
3. Announcements from Provost Olmstead (see Attachment 1 for written announcements)
 1. Faculty Handbook
 - i. We do not have anything for fulltime non-tenure track faculty. Do you want that drafted?
 - ii. See additional information in Attachment 1.
 - iii. (R): Perhaps the Learning with Technology Committee can handle.
 - iv. (R): The officers could draft charges to have committees work on these.
 - v. (R): The information part could be better assessed by the Library Committee but the officers could draft a charge on how to handle it.
 2. May Commencement
 - i. See remarks in Attachment 1.
 3. Information provided to the FFOC
 - i. See Attachment 1.
4. Announcements from the Senate President
 1. Welcomed a new senator – Mike Kovall.
 2. Procedures for Faculty Senate (FS) Faculty Zoom Meetings: The FS President explained how FS meetings will work, i.e., taking questions, counting votes.
 - i. When we take a vote, unless it is a 2/3rds vote, the majority will be based on those present, whether they abstain or vote.
 - ii. There were 12 senators present. Therefore, a majority vote will require 7.
 3. Faculty Friday has been cancelled due to COVID restrictions.
 4. Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) surveys
 - i. The deadline for all three surveys (academic integrity, COVID, and cybersecurity) have been extended to 2/11/2022. A reminder email will be sent out.
 - ii. There will be a town hall on structural inequities on February 28th. President Wight is one of the speakers.
 5. Presidential Search Status
 - i. The FS submitted guidelines for the formation of the committee as well as a list of qualifications for the next president. There are 7 faculty members, 6 fulltime and 1 adjunct on the committee. The committee representatives have asked the FS President to call an all faculty meeting to get input from the faculty. We are looking at doing that, virtually, next Tuesday, February 15. Please keep in mind that the committee members cannot say much. They can listen to what the faculty say.
 6. General Education Transformation Status
 - i. We have sabbatical replacements running right now.
 - ii. The GEOC has been charged with delivering the documentation for how courses will be approved for general education credit for the 4/26 FS meeting. This means that the FS has to vote on this. FS may be asked to meet at additional times for General Education

transformation outside of our current meeting times. Potential dates may be 5/3, 5/17, 5/24 and 5/31. Hopefully not 6/7.

- iii. (R): I encourage everyone to ask the GEOC questions as the documents go out unless you think it is something that should be discussed during the meetings.
7. DRC testing needs after 4:30pm
 - i. Requests have come from colleagues to give support after 4:30 pm. We will be asking people who teach after 4:30 pm to give information about their needs.
 - ii. (R): The office closes at 4:30 because they do not want high stakes exams to be administered by GAs or student workers when there is no professional staff around if an issue arises. We will try to figure out how this can be done.
 8. (R): Registration is open for the Teaching and Learning conference which will be held virtually on Friday, February 18. Information is in the ID&D Newsletter.
 9. (R): We no longer have a quorum so we cannot conduct any business.
 10. (Q): Can we discuss the first item of business but take no action?
 11. (R): No, we cannot.
 12. (C): February 15th is a possible meeting date to continue the FS meeting.
 13. (C): Motion by Senator Martin “that when this meeting adjourns it stands adjourned to meet at 3:30pm on February 15th.” Seconded by Senator Ervin. The motion passed.
 14. (Q): Does that mean we do not have to do announcements?
 15. (R): It is a separate meeting.
 16. (Q): Can we put a hold/pause button on this meeting?
 17. (R): If it is possible under parliamentary rules we will.
 18. Motion to adjourn by Senator Martin. Seconded by Senator Juncosa.
- Adjourned (4:12 p.m.)

ATTACHMENT 1
Provost's Announcements to the Faculty Senate
February 8, 2022

1. **Faculty Handbook:** The Faculty Handbook (FH) is available for review in Acalog by Faculty Senators or FS committee members. The target date for the FH to go 'live' is 2/14/22 as part of the University Catalog but we can make edits as necessary. Updates are provided in a summary page.

FS Action Requested:

1. Assignment of chapters for review by AFT, FWC, APC, Promotions, or other committees.
2. Determination of timeline for feedback to be received (recommend 3/22 for 3/29 FS meeting).
3. Recommendations regarding edits to/development of policies:
 - a. Chapter 2: Makes sense to develop FT-NTT faculty section. If so, should my office draft this and then take feedback from FWC or should this be assigned to a particular committee or working group?
 - b. Chapter 3: Added section on Fulbright and other Competitive Awards (see below). My thanks to Dean Pereboom for drafting this.
 - c. Chapter 3: Added this regarding sabbaticals: *Faculty planning on residencies at other institutions during their sabbatical leave are encourage to include a letter of support from the hosting institution or organization.*
 - d. Chapter 11: Technology Fluency needs an overhaul! Is there a standing FS committee that could tackle or this or should we establish an ad hoc committee?

Happy to take any feedback or questions.

2. **May Commencement:** We are planning to hold Grad Walks by school and college (Clarke Honors College graduates walking with the school/college of their major) at the Civic Center on May 20 and 21. My thanks to the Commencement Committee and faculty marshals for their input and how to make the event even more engaging. We will be conducting a survey of recent alumni to get their feedback on Grad Walks as we consider permanent changes to our commencement exercises going forward. FS Action Requested: None; happy to take any feedback or questions.
3. **Information provided to the FFOC:** My thanks to University, Analysis, Reporting and Assessment (UARA) and the Budget Office for their support in meeting the request of the FFOC. To date, we have been able to provide the following:
 - University's Budget Report – new in FY22.
 - Occupational data and new hire history with explanations of what falls under management positions.
 - Employees by VP Area which included the number of PIN and contractual positions within each VP area over the last 5 years.
 - Data reported to US News & World Report (as a result of discussion of class size impact on our rankings).
 - Instructional expenditures compared to our funding peers/other USM institutions.
 - FY18-FY22 budget allocations by division and school/college.
 - Historical enrollment and other data (similar to what was shared with FS).

FS Action Requested: None; happy to take any feedback or questions.

COVID Questions & Answers: Trending in the right direction. At the end of the week of 1/31/22, the weekly positivity rate was less than 1% (for the last month, just over 2%).

- The University Health Team will consider modifying the current mask policy as soon as it is safe to do so.
- During the week of 1/31/22, there were 11 faculty and Academic Affairs employees who were not medically cleared (out of ~1000 Academic Affairs employees).
- KN95 masks are available at the GSU information desk.

FS Action Requested: Happy to take any questions or feedback.