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Quinebaug Valley Academic Senate – Year in Summary 2024-2025

For complete records of actions taken by the Academic Senate of Quinebaug Valley Campus of Connecticut State Community College from fall 2024 to spring 2025, refer to the included minutes at the end. This is a summary of key events from the year, along with concerns and opportunities going forward, prepared by Academic Senate President Jakob Spjut, with thanks to Vice President Shelley Buchbinder.

We supported many actions and resolutions throughout the course of the year, including helping to create a new Human Services Statewide Discipline Council (Oct 2024), trying to improve student access to accommodations resources (starting Oct 2024), supporting the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) in condemning the NCHEMS report (Dec 2024), endorsing the CT State Senate vote of no confidence in Chancellor Cheng (Feb 10 2025), urging CEO Gomez to take action to support Learning in Retirement (Feb 24 2025), and asking for continued management support for the Snack Basket Classroom Initiative (May 2025).

Some key actions from this past year require additional follow-up from QV Academic Senate and/or other QV leadership to be useful.

Key actions from this past year that require follow-up:

1. Willimantic support and strategy is important, but absent additional funding, the best course of action is not obvious. Following up on discussions that had begun in December of 2023, we passed a resolution in September 2024 to offer faculty release time to assist, which administration considered and attempted to use, but ultimately no agreement between any individual faculty members and Dean Griswold was reached. The administration attempted various things to shift some resources to Willimantic, and aimed for a front desk position for Willimantic in Spring 2025, but as of Summer 2025 that position has not been hired. **QV Academic Senate welcomes ideas and stands willing to support promising initiatives to improve support for Willimantic.**
2. The unanimously passed resolution from the January 2025 meeting about shared services with Eastern has had some progress, with CEO Gomez meeting with people from ECSU in the spring. However, nothing concrete is planned. **We need to follow up on this to at least get a pilot going with QV students access to some ECSU services in Fall 2025.**
3. The **Door Locking Policy should be reverted**. Prior to spring 2025, most classrooms were left unlocked. In spring 2025 normal classrooms were locked, and only unlocked as needed for classes. This made unnecessary work for the people locking and unlocking doors, and resulted in many people, especially adjunct professors, having trouble accessing spaces they needed. It also makes the campus generally less welcoming. No sufficient justification for changing the policy was ever given, so Academic Senate should follow up with the the administration on reverting it.
4. We succeeded in getting our minutes, reports, and leadership information hosted on CT State's website. However, as of summer 2025 it is no longer accessible (see [Campus Shared Governance - CT State](#)). **We should follow up with Richard Hubbard to get the QV Academic Senate website accessible again.**
5. Due to revisions in CT State governance, additional requirements for the structure of campus governance are coming. Depending on the specific requirements, **QV Academic Senate bylaw revisions may be necessary in fall 2025.**

QV Academic Senate also elected people to serve in various roles to represent our campus in CT State committees. It continues to be difficult to fill many positions with few faculty on a small campus.

The QV Academic Senate leadership going into the academic year of 2025-2026 consists of Matt Hall, President (serving the 1st year of his first 2-year term), Jane Knapp, Vice President (elected to her 1st 1-year term), and Brian Kaufman, Curriculum Coordinator (serving the 2nd year of his first 2-year term), with faculty representative to CT State Senate, Erin Pagano (serving the 1st year of her 1st 3-year term). As no QV faculty was elected to Curriculum Congress from their academic area, we were given the chance to elect a campus representative, and Brian Kaufman was elected to serve in that capacity for 1 year.

2024-09-16 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate
September 16, 2024

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S. Buchbinder (Vice-President); B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; J. Battye; L.C. Chu; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; B. Donahue-Lynch; B. Dubovsky-Porter; N. Germain; T. Greer; K. Griffiths; M. Hall; L. Kelly; J. Knapp; P. Lemieux; J. Lewis; M. Lowe; E. Michalski; E. Pagano; M. Phillion; C. Shirshac; T. Shizume; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma.

Agenda

1. Approval of June Minutes. The motion was made by S. Buchbinder and seconded by B. Clinton (passed with 21 votes and 2 abstentions).
 - a. Note: Going forward, we will use a consent agenda.
2. QV Academic Senate Year in Summary 2023-2024
 - a. Jakob created and shared an academic year summary, which included all the minutes and a summary of the major items addressed. There is no requirement for this, but it is good practice to increase transparency.
3. New Senate Leadership and membership
 - a. Jakob updated the membership. There are 38 members, and a quorum is 20 (half membership +1). It will take 13 votes to pass a motion with a quorum this year.
 - i. Note: One Academic Senate member left, and there are 2 new members. If people should be removed or added, let Jakob know.
 - b. Curriculum Coordinator: Brian Kaufman
 - i. In this new role, he will help with curriculum issues (e.g., finding the answer). He will reach out to everyone in state-level governance by email.
 - ii. There is a governance review meeting on Friday, October 11th at the Manchester campus. The Academic Senate heads have been contacted, and some SDC, SACC, and CC leadership may be invited. Look out.
 - iii. J. Andersen is on an advisory board to the Board of Regents. Contact him about BOR-related issues.
 - c. CT State Senator representing QV faculty: Jayne Battye
 - i. She checked with Provost Hynick on the Home Campus search issue and was informed it was fixed when students were logged in. Senate leadership checked, and it's not fixed.
 - ii. She will keep reporting to this body.
 - d. General Education Committee: Brian Donohue-Lynch.
 - i. He is on a subcommittee on assessment and is the QV contact. So far, the committee isn't focused but is engaging in shared governance and is working quickly.
4. CT State – Quinebaug Valley English and Communication Area Policy on Plagiarism and Artificial Intelligence with Optional Examples (Jon Andersen).

- a. J. Anderson & English and Communication faculty developed a policy for those disciplines. These are optional guidelines for non-English and Communications courses. Other courses can adopt it. This is part of larger conversations across disciplines and classes of what students can expect from class to class.
 - b. There are upcoming events, including a TLC Lunch and Learn in October with J. Andersen about the policy and events with T. Greer and P. Clifford.
- 5. Follow-up on Resolution on CT State Course Search by Home Campus (passed 18 March 2024)
 - a. Faculty shared there are continuing issues with Home Campus search, including classes that historically ran being canceled.
- 6. QV Academic Senate Website (Jakob Spjut)
 - a. He met with CT State website folks on 13 June 2024 (along with D. Hernandez, M. Hall, and P. Bennett) about various things, including ensuring that the QV Academic Senate keeps the ability to post information like minutes to a website.
 - b. After that meeting, our QV Academic Senate webpage disappeared, and we don't yet have a replacement on the [main shared governance page](#). Jakob just followed up on 14 Sep. 2024, so hopefully, we'll see action soon.
 - c. There will be a QV Governance Site (with Academic Senate information) on the CT State site
 - i. There is a CT State space – that needs to be updated (e.g., add minutes)
 - d. Note: The QVCC site will disappear at the end of this academic year, and things may be taken down with no notice, so start archiving important things on the CT State website.
- 7. Priorities for this year in Academic Senate
 - a. Concerns about how to address shared issues. Who to go to? How do I follow up?
 - i. There are simple policy issues. For example, there are issues with IT losing local permissions. We can display names to show our campus (which makes working harder and erases our identity).
 - ii. There are bigger issues like Willimantic and shared governance. How do we not get run around? (e.g., go talk to X, no go talk to Y).
 - b. Textbook issues with Follett: They are running out of books (not ordering enough). For example, they ran out of BIO 1210 at the start of this semester. They may be ordering books based on past semester orders. This is important since students use financial aid to purchase books through the bookstore. This will be looked into.
 - c. Willimantic concerns are a priority (and the next item).
- 8. Willimantic concerns
 - a. Jakob Spjut sent an email with concerns on August 22nd, receiving a quick reply from Dr. Gomez the same day.
 - b. Concerns were discussed again during a meeting with Academic and Staff Senate leadership on Sep 4th
 - i. Dr. Gomez affirmed that there wouldn't be equal amount of resources due to the size of the center. There is a lack of clarity on what is sufficient for access to an equal education.
 - c. The Willimantic campus was a focus on Sep 9th Academic Division Lead meeting
 - i. Dean Griswald shared heat maps for scheduling and staff coverage for Willimantic and Danielson.
 - 1. The recommendation from the meeting was for there to be a staff generalist hired to help with all types of student services. This is on the Staff Senate agenda.
 - a. There were requests in the Academic Senator for a Director or Coordinator level position.

2. It was shared that there won't be any hiring unless the budget changes and/or enrollment increases.
 - ii. Dean Griswold sent feedback to Jakob before this meeting:
 1. Some issues were addressed (no IDs, scheduling, book sign-out process). There is scheduling for the Willimantic Center currently happening on a subcommittee.
 - a. S. Buchbinder noted that three weeks into the semester, there had been no new IDs for most students and no work-study students.
 - d. Current Willimantic situation
 - i. No additional state resources were given to QV after the renovation.
 1. Last year, the budget was cut the budget (lost interim director position)
 2. Won't put more resources in until there are more students (but the center needs more resources to attract and maintain students),
 - ii. Good issues for the upcoming Town Hall with a rescheduled date TBA.
 1. All Quinebaug Valley community members are invited to share questions ahead of time, and you may submit your questions anonymously. There are two ways that you can do this:
 - a. Submit your question using this link
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeK77n6ObMtvnR7kr9T2v-kLbHTF1ZL39ovYjmNwkCESIJ9xQ/viewform?usp=sf_link
 - b. Write your question on a piece of paper and deposit it in the locked box in Lois Kelley's office.
9. New Motion: The QV Academic Senate requests course releases or additional responsibilities for FT faculty members to serve student affairs generalists as a stop gap until a full-time person is hired. The motion was made by S. Buchbinder and seconded by K. Zvoma (Passed with 23 votes and 1 abstention)
- a. Discussion:
 - i. There's a concern that this tactic won't be effective since previous attempts have been ignored.
 - ii. We need to be clear that this is only a stop gap, and our goal is for a FT person to be hired.
 - iii. This motion is aimed at spring 2025 (fall 2024 is already negotiated, and loads have been made).
 1. For fall 2024, can people volunteer to move office hours to Willimantic to cover time?
 - iv. Volunteers for spring 2025: S. Buchbinder and B. Clinton. Anyone else interested should email J. Spjut.
 - b. J. Spjut will send this motion to Dean Griswold since he negotiates schedules and workload.
 - i. Note: The Academic Senate's summer inquiry about Willimantic went to CEO Gomez because many of the issues concerned him, including Willimantic Center Leadership.
10. Old QV Policies
- a. Many Academic Senate polices are not relevant or out of date. Options:
 - i. Update current policies. Email J. Spjut if you're interested.
 - ii. Use CT State policies

Agenda Items Tabled.

1. Display names for faculty emails could show campus affiliation [Note: This issue was resolved after the meeting].
2. CCS 1001 course assignments – are faculty concerned about a misallocation of resources (instructors teaching out of discipline)? Is it strategically wise to base so much of our load on a course that doesn't transfer many places?
3. Academic Engagement emails: a specific example of information overload causing miscommunication.
4. Academic Program Review (tabled from May 2024) – Brian Donohue-Lynch
5. NASA CT Space Grant Consortium – open for proposals (see <https://ctspacegrant.org/>)
6. Ensuring that CT State courses continue to transfer: any concerns or strategies?

Adjourned at 3:17 pm. The motion was made by P. Clifford and seconded by B. Kaufman.

2024-10-21 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2024

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S. Buchbinder (Vice-President); B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; J. Battye; L.C. Chu; B. Clinton; B. Dubovsky-Porter; D. Hernandez; M. Hall; L. Kelly; J. Knapp; J. Lewis; M. Lowe; J. Oliver; E. Pagano; D. Rimkus; C. Shirshac; T. Shizume; D. Walsh

- Approval of September Minutes. The motion was made by S. Buchbinder and seconded by J. Spjut. The motion passed.
- **Willimantic Support Follow-Up from J. Spjut:** In September, the Senate passed a resolution for faculty to fill in until there is full-time staff coverage. After that, three faculty came forward as willing to use AR or release time in spring 2025 (J. Oliver, B. Clinton, S. Buchbinder). While management has confirmed they received the resolution, faculty have not been consulted for spring scheduling.
 - a. CEO Gomez joined the Academic Senate with updates on Willimantic Support.
 - 1. Three work-study students have been identified.
 - 1. No start or staff supervision was identified.
 - 2. Budget remediation requests have been submitted, including the Willimantic Center Director.
 - 1. Feedback has been that the Willimantic Center Director is an administrative position, and preference is being given to the restoration of student-facing positions.
 - 2. Next steps are for the job description to be updated to highlight the student-facing parts of the job.
 - 1. No timeline was given for the hiring, but CEO Gomez hopes it will be before spring. There was concern from Senate leadership that this may not happen and we should risk overstaffing to avoid understaffing.
 - 3. Senate follow-up on faculty AR/release resolution.
 - 1. The Senate is concerned about understaffing, and one semester offer staffed is better than understaffing.
 - 1. Interested faculty have voiced they would be flexible (e.g., on what's needed, days/times to staff). Other faculty may be willing to serve.
 - 2. Timeline:
 - 1. Faculty have tried to work this out during spring scheduling (done by end of October). Why is management waiting to schedule this?
 - 3. CEO Gomez said management will likely respond by Thanksgiving
 - 1. The CEO expressed concern about our campus doing something new that other campuses might misunderstand or misuse
 - 1. Senate feedback that this was a formal senate request.
 - 2. Management needs a list of responsibilities.
 - 1. A list of potential responsibilities was sent to Dean Griswold in September:
- **State Senate Report** from faculty J. Battye (she shared the full report in a document).
 - a. Ellucian Update:

1. Mike Stefanowitz contacted Ellucian requesting a default home campus for student course search when logged in. Response from Ellucian:
 1. Banner would need customization (no date given), but it's on their radar.
 2. There is an upcoming Banner update, and home campus search may happen after that. There is no time frame for the Banner update.
- b. HSER SDC Request
 1. Human Service faculty want an SDC and have approached the Provost and Area Dean Searcy for help and were directed to the CT State Senate.
 2. The item is on the upcoming agenda, and there are no barriers to this request.
- c. Email concerns or reports for actions to J. Battye and she'll compile them.
 1. What can the Senate do? Read the CT State Senate charge to see appropriate governance issues and send them to J. Battye.
 2. Note: The CT State Senate is not in charge of the curriculum.
- d. Enrollment Management Committee: J. Battye is on this subcommittee that meets every 2 months with Provost Hynick and her staff.
 1. They will address ongoing issues, including minimum course enrollment, cancellation timelines and process, course caps, etc
 2. The first committee action is to see what's been acted on (and share updates)
 3. Questions
 1. Does this committee include scheduling and academic calendars?
 2. Does this committee include incompletes? There were concerns last semester about being student-initiated (without faculty consultation).
 3. How can this committee coordinate with the Faculty Advisory Committee (J. Andersen is the representative)?
- **QV Academic Senate Website**
 - a. J. Spjut previewed the QV Governance website on the CT State website ([draft website](#))
 - b. It includes the minutes, bylaws, and the year in review
 1. Linked under agenda item.
 - c. Update from Erin Pagano: Information about promotion and tenure and sabbatical (information coming out shortly).
- **Approved Campus Motion to Support the Creation of a Human Services SDC** (Motion made by S. Buchbinder and Seconded B. Kaufman). The motion passed with no objections.
 - a. The ten human service coordinators request the creation of the Human Services Statewide Discipline Council (SDC), similar to the Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Criminal Justice (CJ) SDCs. Like ECE and CJ Human Services, there is a program with advisory boards and field placements that require collaboration. The coordinators are currently meeting to revise the program outcomes and curriculum, and an SDC could aid in this process along with the upcoming program review.
- **Shared Governance Summit and Committee Report** – J. Spjut
 - a. College Council Shared Governance Taskforce with members from Curriculum Congress and CT State Senate).
 1. October 11th Summit: Goal to identify problems and proposals to make them better
 1. Many SDC and SACC members attended and identified priorities
 2. Upcoming survey of all college faculty
 2. Meeting: Steps forward (try to make changes this year).
 1. The Shared Governance Taskforce wants proposals in February and March (to be approved by CC and Senate) before the elections and fall course loads.
 3. J. Spjut will update this body:
 1. Preliminary ideas (not settled).
- **Professional Development Funds**
 - a. Not information about applying (e.g., OSHA authorized Outreach Trainers for the 10 and 30 hour cards, needed to teach a course)

- b. Professional Development Committee (chair) B. Dubovsky-Porter
 - 1. The committee is waiting to solicit or review applications until 4Cs sends the money.
- **Accommodation Discussion**
 - a. There was a faculty question about the level of student accommodations dropping
 - b. Discussion:
 - 1. There was mixed feedback on accommodation levels. Faculty in many first-semester courses (ENG 1010) shared a noticeable drop and others did not.
 - 2. There was a change in the system between spring and fall.
 - c. J. Spjut will ask Dean Griswold to look at the data (fall 2022, fall 2023, fall 2024)
- **Senate Leadership Compensation**
 - a. J. Spjut plans to request compensation for Senate officers: 1 credit for the Senate President and half a credit for the Vice President and Curriculum Coordinator.

A motion to adjourn was made to J. Anderson and seconded by J. Spjut. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

2024-11-18 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2024

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S. Buchbinder (Vice President); B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; J. Battye; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; B. Dubovsky-Porter, N. Germain; K. Griffiths; D. Hernandez; M. Hall; J. Knapp; Phill Lemieux, J. Lewis; B. D. Lynch; E. Michalski; E. Pagano; M. Philion; D. Rimkus; C. Shirshac; T. Shizume; S. Van Orden; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma

- Meeting convened at 2:04 pm.
- **Approval of October Minutes.** The motion was made by S. Buchbinder and seconded by J. Spjut. The motion passed unanimously by poll vote.
- **CT State Senate Report** – Jayne Battye shared her summary.
 - a. The Human services SDC motion QV proposed was approved.
 - b. Shared Services Update:
 1. The Senate has raised concerns about shared services, including when the surplus will be distributed, how policy and staffing is being decided, and Ellucian changes (e.g., Home Campus search is still pending).
 2. President Elle requested to meet with Chancellor Cheng about shared services with CSCU. The meeting is scheduled for November 26.
 - c. CT State Senate representatives will be in the CEO shared governance monthly meetings going forward.
 - d. See the [CT State Senate Report to QV Senate Nov.docx](#)
- **Curriculum Coordination** – Brian Kaufman
 - a. If you're bringing proposals, let the Senate know ahead of time we can offer support.
 - b. Updates:
 1. English for Speakers of Other Languages: An ESOL Certificate offered by QV was removed against QV's wishes. This vote happened and is final.
 2. Early Childhood: There are 2 current curriculum changes being considered:
 1. Proposed one Early Childhood associate degree and a Pathways to Teaching degree
 2. Termination of the transfer degree
 3. Human Services: Current SDC submission updates to AS (one degree with tracks) and termination of current 5 AS degrees.
 4. Medical Assisting: There is a modification to the pre-req course to a medical terminology class (missed in the APRC process).
 - c. Report on faculty union issues for upcoming contract (Sara Van Orden, Union Rep)

1. Discussions about workload (4/4 vs 5/5 for post 2017). There are calls to add Additional Responsibilities back into the contract.
 1. There is informal stated support from President and Provost.
 2. The union is asking people to request course release for labor (and contact the union if the release is rejected)
 2. Course caps
 3. DC/PC compensation is different depending on the program and campus and there are calls to standardize.
- **Faculty Advisory Committee Report** – Jon Andersen
 - a. FAC is a sub-committee of the BOR and meets with chair and vice chair. See FAC meeting recordings and minutes archived:
<https://www.ct.edu/regents/archives?yr=AllYears&committee=Faculty>
 - b. Current issues:
 1. NCHEM Report: NCHEM was hired by CT OPM for 250K (<https://nchems.org/>)
 1. There were recommendations to cut faculty
 2. See [NCHEMS Diagnostic Report 240830-2.docx](#)
 3. ACT (Accessibility, Completion, and Talent).
 1. The goal of ACT is to increase diversity and the worker pipeline to education. See the ACT minutes and meeting videos are posted:
<https://www.ct.edu/act#goals>
 2. There are 9 goals (3 for each area).
 1. There's a mandate to create KPIs by the BOR, not happened yet.
 2. Faculty feedback was that the narrow focus on degree plan classes can be helpful for finishing but can be limited (e.g., nursing students interested in psychiatric nursing can't take most mental health classes).
 - **General Education Committee Update** – Brian Donohue-Lynch
 - a. B. Lynch is on the subcommittee on assessment.
 - b. The committee has not set up bylaws or processes and the discussion will be tabled until the fall (e.g., term limits).
 1. Discussion: This committee will be important since there will likely be jockeying for inclusion of courses in gen-ed so increase enrollment in courses. The committees will determine a process for inclusion.
 - c. Motion from B. Lynch tabled for time. "I will then move to approve the action of the General Education Committee to postpone discussion of a voting timeline and term specifications until the beginning of the 2024-25 academic year."
 - **CT State DEI Committee** – QV Campus member request
 - a. Curriculum Congress Chair Jason Seabury requests a QV faculty member join the new DEI Committee (meets monthly with a 1 credit release).
 1. There were no volunteers at the meeting and J. Spjut asked Jason Seabury for more information about the committee and the compensation, since QV is a small campus and it's hard to fill state-wide committees.

2. This is an important committee and it's important to have the right person.
- **QV Academic Senate Website** – the [draft website](#) now houses Staff Senate as well.
 - a. The website is still being drafted.
 - **Update on Feedback on Campus Shared Governance** (sent from Jakob Spjut and Logan Tashea).
 - a. They sent The CT State President Elle Van Dermark information about the QV Academic and Staff Senate structure and procedures.
 - **Open Meeting Law**
 - a. Provost Hynick says [Interim General Counsel](#) Vita Litvin asserts that Campus Governance (including Academic Senate) would likely fall under [Open Meeting Law](#) about public meetings:
 1. Public meetings (Senates, Curriculum Congress). Here is language from the law:
 - *WHAT MEETINGS OF A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY BODY CONSTITUTE PUBLIC MEETINGS? A meeting of a multimember college or university body (such as a board of trustees or faculty senate) is a public meeting if such meeting constitutes a “hearing or other proceeding” of that body, or is a “convening or assembly of a quorum of” that body, or consists of “communication by or to a quorum of” that body “to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public [institution] has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power.” (Emphasis added.)*
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 - b. Public meetings would require the following: (we are not in compliance):
 1. We need to record all how each person votes on non-unanimous votes (polls).
 2. We need to post minutes online within 7 days and voting record within 48 hours.
 3. We must post our agenda online 24 hours before the meeting and we would need 2/3 approval to add an item to the agenda in the meeting if it's not on the posted agenda.
 4. We must be open to the public for observation.
 5. We must file our yearly meeting schedule with the Secretary of State or Town Clerk by Jan 31
 6. No local governance is currently in compliance.
 - c. Question if we qualify as a public agency. We make recommendations and resolutions, but not policy. Higher education is different from other agencies who make laws and policy.
 1. This distinction was upheld in accessibility standards being different in higher education than other public agencies.
 2. This is onerous on the Senate leadership
 - Will this be compensated?
 - Would this extend to all committees on campus including cultural programming?
 3. What will the impact of this policy be if adopted? Will committees meet less often? Will there be a chilling effect on no confidence votes if management can attend and see minutes with votes by individual members?
 4. Does this guidance required that we follow this? It's not in writing.
 - d. **Motion: The QV-Academic Senate does not believe it meets the definition of a public agency and should not, therefore, be subject to the burdensome protocol of public meeting guidelines. We request that the CT State Senate advocate this position.**

1. The motion was made by J. Andersen and seconded by P. Lemieux. Passed with 17 votes and 2 abstentions.

- Chancellor Cheng - Housatonic Statement and discussion
 - a. Allegations of improper use of state funds (e.g., some allowed but poor leadership). J. Spjut shared the articles about the investigations and statements by Housatonic and Northwestern campuses.
 - b. Tabled for discussion next month.

A motion to adjourn was made to M Phillion and seconded by B. Alves. The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 pm.

2024-12-16 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2024

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S. Buchbinder (Vice President); B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; B. Dubovsky-Porter; E. Espitia-Loaiza; N. Germain; T. Greer; K. Griffiths; M. Hall; L. Kelley; J. Knapp; Phill Lemieux, J. Lewis; B. D. Lynch; E. Michalski; J. Oliver; M. Phillion; D. Rimkus; T. Shizume; S. Van Orden; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma

Guest: Mac Griswold

1. Meeting convened at 2:01 pm
2. Motion to approve November 18 meeting minutes (motion by S. Buchbinder and seconded by N. Germain). Motion passed unanimously
3. Willimantic Faculty Support Resolution follow-up: Dean Mac Griswold
 - a. In November, Dean Griswold advertised four faculty positions for AR or release time (6-9 hours per position) and requested interest for the positions: PTK advisor, Let's Get Ready, BCI Support, and Willimantic support.
 - i. 5 faculty submitted interest, and Mac met with the interested faculty. 3 positions were filled (all but Willimantic Support).
 - ii. Willimantic Support: The goal was coverage until 7 pm. There were discussions about AR/release time and the role (e.g., back or front of center).
 1. Concerns that 5 faculty expressed interest before this process.
 2. That position will not be filled in spring 2025.
 - b. Plan for the spring in Willimantic
 - i. Plan for the Generalist to be hired early in the spring.
 1. The position has not been posted at the time of the meeting.
 - ii. Student services positions will shift to the evening (vs Fridays) to match class times.
 - iii. Work Study students will be recruited: Mac will send a work-study job description to the Willimantic faculty.
 - iv. Concern was voiced that there will not be coverage leading up to the semester and at the start when students need help, which is why the resolution was passed. This problem has not been fully addressed.
4. Willimantic Welcome Tabling - Interested folks should email Nicole (nicole.marcouxbowen@ctstate.edu) with a day you'd like to help out. The goal is to answer student questions. People should bring laptops to help students in real time.

| Willimantic Welcome Table | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Day & Time | Volunteer 1 | Volunteer 2 |
| Friday, 1/24 10am to 12pm | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Monday, 1/27 3pm to 5pm | | |
| Monday, 1/27 5pm to 7pm | | |
| Tuesday, 1/28 5pm to 7pm | | |
| Wednesday, 1/29 4pm to 7pm | | |

5. DEI Committee – Shelley Buchbinder selected as QV Faculty Representative
 - a. The CT State DEI committee held its first meeting the first week in December. There are 18 representatives, and we will come up with a system for infusing DEI into the curriculum, which will likely include assessing courses for inclusion in a Diversity course list and supporting enhancing DEI content throughout the curriculum.
 - i. This process builds on previous iterations of the committee that have drafted rubrics (through reviewing course descriptions and learning objectives).
 - ii. Currently, only CCS 1001 meets Diversity requirements. A stated committee goal is to review CCS and add more courses to the Diversity list.
6. Curriculum Coordination – Brian Kaufman
 - a. The CT State Senate sent out a governance survey to help inform the governance changes being made in spring 2025. The deadline is December 20th. **Complete the governance survey if you haven't.**
7. CT State Senate: discussion on cell phone policy proposal
 - a. Housatonic has requested that CT State Senate consider a cell phone policy.
 - i. Here is an old policy from Housatonic: Cell Phones/Pagers
Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be used in class only for class related activities at the discretion of the instructor. Students who ignore this policy may be asked to leave class or face grade penalties. When there are extenuating circumstances that require students to be available by phone or pager, the students should inform the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement concerning the device.
 - b. Discussion
 - i. Concern about cell phones being distracting and there are reasons to use them (e.g., take notes) or for family/work issues.
 1. There are broader technology concerns (e.g., Smart watches)
 - ii. Some faculty have cell phone policy in a syllabus already, for example.
 1. “Cellphone: Cellphone usage in class is a distraction to the instructor and to your classmates, and thus should not occur. PLEASE DO NOT USE YOUR CELLPHONES AND YOUR HEADPHONES DURING THE CLASS. DO NOT USE YOUR COMPUTER/LAPTOP WITHOUT THE INSTRUCTOR’S CONSENT.”
 - iii. A faculty shared that they reduce the participation grade for the day for cellphone use.
 - c. **Send feedback to Jayne Battye.** Informally, she shared that she doesn’t support a policy because it’s a classroom management issue. However, she will vote based on the consensus of the Senate.
8. Faculty Advisory Committee Report and NCHEMS – Jon Andersen

- a. J. Andersen presented on the NCHEMS report.
 - i. Background: NCHEMS was contracted by Governor Lamot to review CSCU structure and make recommendations. NCHEMS is contracted to justify cuts to higher education, and it is incentivized to find issues. Their methodology has been challenged by other systems, including in Arizona.
 - ii. Their report is based on the premise CSCU is fragile due to declining revenue from declining enrollment from declining high school graduates.
 - 1. They proposed making cuts to faculty and staff as the biggest expenses in the system. The rationale is to cut redundancies and run leaner.
- b. FAC identified problems with the NCHEMS report including:
 - i. ECSU economist Brian Cunningham's analysis shows how the report misrepresents data. The graphics showing declines in population are close up, making them look larger. Additionally, Professor Cunningham showed how population forecasting is unreliable.
 - ii. The report claims that the system expanded during the Great Recession and never contracted with the drop in enrollment.
 - 1. However, the system has shrunk and QV has reduced administrative positions, including the Willimantic director.
 - iii. The report claims CT is too generous with higher education.
 - 1. From 2007- 2017, state funding has decreased 9.1%, while enrollment increased 8.6%.
 - iv. There are concerns about the expectation of higher education of public higher education as a business that makes money.
 - 1. Higher education is a public good, and public goods don't pay for themselves through fees (e.g., public transit).
 - 1. One of the goods is that community colleges exist to mitigate the harms of educational and economic inequality.
 - 2. Public goods need funding to provide quality services (e.g., avoid being a dead mall)
 - v. Discussion
 - 1. This release of this report is political (e.g., during contract negotiations) and will be used to push for cuts and as justification not to extend AR to post-2017 faculty.
 - 2. UConn is not included in the NCHEMS report, and their funding is much larger per student.
 - 1. The report included nothing about CSCU vs UConn funding inequality.
 - 3. The report talked about the ineptness of the CSCU system (management). Concern about condemning the entire report.
 - 1. J. Andersen stated that critiques of the merger have been shared by other bodies and are not unique to the report.
 - 4. The identity of the local college has been lost (e.g., specific to places)

1. We are losing community functions from reductions in nontraditional learners and Learners in retirement.
2. There is value in serving Willimantic as a community that has different needs from the Danielson community.

vi. Motion to support the FAC Resolution condemning the NCHEMS report (motion by S. Buchbinder and seconded by B. Kaufman). The motion carries 18 affirmed and 3 abstentions.

9. Response Re-Open Meetings

- a. J. Spjut sent out a resolution about the Senate not being in compliance with Open Meetings and not believing we need to be. We haven't received further guidance affirming that we actually do need to be in compliance from Provost Hynick.

10. General Education Committee Info – Brian Donohue-Lynch

- a. No updates this meeting.

11. Follow Up Re: Accommodations

- a. S. Buchbinder requested data from the Provost. The Provost shared that there are plans to provide more education for students in the accommodation process.
- b. Discussions
 - i. Should faculty be promoting accommodations beyond the note on the syllabus?
 1. Can there be more materials on how to complete the self-disclosure?
 - ii. The new process requires self-disclosure.
 1. This process is preferred in some of the literature since most disclosures are between 10 pm and 2 am.
 2. Students who need accommodations may have the most difficult time with self-disclosure (e.g., disposition, ability).
 1. Concern about seeing a trend against support services, including tutoring.
 - iii. This is a cross-campus issue. How do you help non-home campus students since they need to contact the office on their home campus?

12. Next meeting **TBA**

13. The meeting adjourned at 3:19 pm (motion by S. Buchbinder and seconded by B. Kaufman).

2025-01-27 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2025

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S. Buchbinder (Vice President); B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; J. Battye; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; D. Hernandez; E. Espitia-Loaiza; N. Germain; T. Greer; M. Hall; L. Kelley; J. Knapp; P. Lemieux, J. Lewis, E. Michalski; E. Pagano; D. Rimkus; T. Shizume; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma

1. Meeting is convened at 2:03 pm
2. Approval of December meeting minutes corrections.
 - a. Going forward, we won't vote to approve meeting minutes.
3. Professional Development & Sabbatical Committee Report and Feedback – Brian Clinton
 - a. The committee would like to move the applications online, there are issues with the paper forms. Does anyone know if there are issues moving the forms online (e.g., in bylaws, process)? Send feedback on proposed change to Brian C. or Beth D. P.
 - i. Jayne recommends asking the VP of HR Anna Krupitskiy (anna.krupitskiy@ctstate.edu) if there are any issues with this move.
 - ii. Shelley recommends asking the union if any campus uses online forms or if they see any issues.
4. Faculty Advisory Committee Report (if any) – Jon Andersen
 - a. Jon gave a report based on the January FAC meeting.
 - i. Higher Education Sustainability Report: [1.6 HEFSAB Presentation - CSCU_COSC_CTState.pdf](#) See CT State specifics on pp. 34-55.
 1. Highlights accomplishments early childhood and other programs in economic value (3 billion and 30,000 jobs) and Guided Pathways and PACT in raising retention and lessening achievement gap.
 2. Highlight in expenditure cuts
 - ii. Charter Oak Scaling Taskforce [Charter Oak Scaling Taskforce Report.pdf](#)
 1. Charter Oak awards bachelors degrees in education, social work, business and technology.
 2. There is a proposal to create a PACT+ with free education. Students could bypass CT State and CSCUs.
 1. Critiques of the Scaling Report: The taskforce members were from Charter Oak and private industry with vested interests. There were no other experts of CSCU representatives.
5. State Senate report – Jayne Battye
 - a. Report from Jayne 1/24 Meeting. Highlights include:
 - i. Enrollment is up 2% since Spring 2024.

- ii. Report to the Governor on CSCU: [OSC CSCU Audit24_v5.pdf](#)
 - iii. Service and excellent awards will be back Fall 2025.
 - iv. The QV NECHE visit will be April 7 and 8 including with campus leadership
 - v. Motion on CT State Academic Restructuring by the Provost (e.g., 2 VPS and 1 Dean positions). The motion carried but push back about not being consulted before the plan was formalized.
 - vi. Complete ACT survey, it will impact the strategic plan.
 - 1. [ACT Accessibility, Completion and Talent Survey](#)
 - vii. CT State bylaws updated
 - viii. Next CT State Senate Meeting is Feb 28th
6. Shared Governance Assessment Task Force Summary – Jakob Spjut
- a. Task Force has proposed structural changes.
 - i. There will be town halls to ask questions.
 - ii. There will be an electronic vote after the town halls.
 - b. Overview of governance change recommendations.
 - i. College Senate
 - 1. No substantive recommendations for change beyond the number of senators based on the reduction of schools from 6 to 4.
 - ii. Campus Governance: Academic and Staff Senate at QV, but each campus has a different structure.
 - 1. Option A: Leave campus governance to the campuses.
 - 2. Option B: Create an umbrella Campus Senate with faculty or staff leadership on each campus (with DEI reporting informationally to the Senate).
 - iii. Curriculum Process
 - 1. Curriculum Congress (CC): Membership is going to change
 - 1. Option A: 3 per school. This would reduce CC members from 18 to 12 (4 schools)
 - 2. Option B: 4 per school. This would reduce CC members from 18 to 16 faculty and could have set distribution (e.g., only 1 rep per area) to avoid dominance by one program or discipline area.
 - 2. SACCs
 - 1. Option A: Keep the SACCs
 - 2. 2 options to eliminate SACCs
 - 1. Option B: Replace the SACCs with campus-based review by reinstituting a campus curriculum committee of 12, including the CC member from the campus.
 - 1. The proposals wouldn't be presented by originator.
 - 2. The committee wouldn't review programs not on the campus (select "Did not Review").
 - 2. Option C. Curriculum Congress takes over more review functions and meets more frequently (2 times a month)

1. After the SDC, the proposal goes to the CC for feedback in a development meeting. This process can be fast tracked and approved during the development meeting.
2. This model reduces time from submission to approval (from 3 months to 2 months).

3. SDCs

1. Option A: Keep the current 27 councils.
2. Option B: Create more College Discipline Councils with a representative from each campus (50-100), based on concerns about disciplines and programs being grouped too largely. Additionally, create College Discipline Groups (CDG) with everyone from those disciplines or areas. For those larger groups, their function could be:
 1. B1: Solely for communication and coordination.
 2. B2: Vote on proposals before CDC.
3. These groups would be by program/discipline as available based on faculty and programs on campuses.
 1. Could do additional coordination (e.g., scheduling, program review).
 2. Could reduce costs since participation would be included in PC/DC or existing releases.

3. Feedback

1. Positive feedback on eliminating SACCs.
2. Concern about making things larger and more complex (worse).
3. Concern about the system being confusing (like with ACME)
4. People who teach disciplines in multiple area may be on multiple councils (work duplication). This is hard for small campuses.
5. This doesn't follow the structure of campuses.

7. Request for Use of Eastern Student Services by CT State Students & Expanded Eastern Shuttle – Shelley Buchbinder

- a. Shelley presented the rationale for requesting use of Eastern services for students and how this motion will go to the CT State Senate.
- b. **Motion:** *We respectfully request that CT State (CT State) Community College students use Eastern Connecticut State University's (Eastern) facilities and services, specifically the gym, shuttle bus, and library (including study rooms). In addition to CT State student access to Eastern's shuttle services, we ask to expand the shuttle to the Quinebaug Valley (QV) Willimantic site and potentially QV Danielson.*
- c. *The model for this is the Naugatuck Valley campus' negotiated use of Western Connecticut State University's gym, career services, and library. Overall, we request that all CT State students use those services at Eastern, Western, Southern, and Central State Universities.*

- d. Motion to approve by K. Zvoma; seconded by J. Battye. Motion passed with 20 and no opposition.**
- 8. Enrollment Cap questions – Shelley Buchbinder
 - a. Concerns about course LRON caps being raised from 24 to 30 without discussion.
 - b. Email Lois with requests for changes to course enrollment caps.
- 9. Next meeting **February 24, 2025**
- 10. The meeting adjourned at 3.10 pm (motion by Brian K. and seconded by Jakob. S.).

2025-02-10 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
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Special Meeting of Academic & Staff Senate

Meeting Minutes

Feb 10, 2025

Leadership Present:

Academic Senate: J. Spjut (President), S. Buchbinder (Vice President); B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator)

Staff Senate: Ryan King (Vice President)

- **Special Meeting Called in Response to the State Comptroller's Report on CSCU Finances**
 - Concern about Chancellors spending irregularly. Meeting to discuss and respond if needed, but the CT State Senate has already voted No Confidence on 2/6/25.
 - Alessandra's Note on the Comptrollers Report Re: P-Card Use
 - The report listed improper P-Card uses such as office supplies, flowers, decorations, and laundry that can be permitted.
 - The Comptroller is reviewing to see why the report listed these as restricted use.
 - For more detail, see 1/30 State Audit Report: https://wp.cga.ct.gov/apa/wp-content/cgacustom/reports/special/SPECIAL_Connecticut%20State%20Colleges%20and%20Universities%20Executive%20Leadership%20Spending_20250130.pdf
- **CT State Senate Special Meeting (Thursday 2/6) – 3 hours in Executive Session**
 - February 6th three hours spent in Executive Session
 - Endorsed a Resolution of No Confidence in Chancellor Cheng for CSCU.
 - The vote was 31-2 in favor of this action.
 - Request immediate transition and ethical leadership.
 - QV CT State Senator Context
 - The CT State Senate asked to be kept informed in the investigation process.
 - Resolution was passed after 3-hour Executive Session discussion including 2 student representatives.
 - Upset at the Chancellor's failures as the figurehead and chief fundraiser/ambassador.
 - Remaining questions: Were other executives involved? What is the BORs role in this?
 - Email from Chancellor Cheung (Friday 2/7)
 - He acknowledged wrongdoing and calls to do better (no plans to resign)

- Only Governor Lamont can fire him.
- Feedback
 - Concern about the potential long-term trickle down effect from the Reports and No Confidence Vote (e.g., legislature, public). Will there be more oversight? More austerity?
- **Motion: Endorse the No Confidence endorsed by the CT State Senate**
 - Academic Senate motion to endorse the resolution by Kudzai seconded by Shelley.
 - Vote will be held remotely over Teams in the next 48 hours.
 - The remote vote **passed** 21-0 in favor
 - Staff Senate will vote on the motion in their next meeting.
 - Discussion
 - We need more support for the resolution from the four years.
 - ECSU and Central have begun the process
 - ECSU had a vote of no confidence last year concerned their President search process.
- **Calls to Draft a Statement Beyond Endorsing the Resolution.**
 - How to ask administrators to be more accountable AND not make highly restricted/limited resources for faculty and staff more restricted.
 - Do executives need enforcement from external oversight OR do we need to replace higher leadership.
 - Shelley drafted during the meeting (edited by Jakob): “The QV Academic/ Staff Senates affirm that our campus uses responsible fiscal practices to focus our funds on students’ education and services. The concerns with the chancellors’ questionable fiscal practices are above the campus level and should not negatively impact campus operations or funds.”
 - Feedback: The campus no longer does its accounting so can’t attest to if we are fiscally responsible.
 - Could replace *fiscal responsibility* with: directly addressing the needs of students with already limited (austere) staffing and resources.

2025-02-24 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2025

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; J. Battye; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; D. Hernandez; T. Greer; M. Hall; L. Kelley; J. Knapp; P. Lemieux, J. Lewis; J. Oliver; E. Pagano; M. Phillion; T. Shizume; S. Van Orden; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma

1. Meeting convened at 2:04 p.m.
2. Previous minutes presented; no vote to approve.
3. Announcements:
 - a. *J. Battye noted that students and faculty were invited to a talk presented by students and SGA would be providing pizza for "What to do with your degree from QV" panel discussion on March 4, 12.30-1.45pm in W101.*
 - b. *J. Spjut discussed the NASA CT Space Grant Consortium – Funding Opportunities and noted students could apply starting 3 March 2025: <https://ctspacegrant.org/apply>*
 - c. *J. Spjut reminded senate member that a Black History Lunchtime Jams was to be held Thursday 27 Feb 2025: 12pm-1:30pm in the Fireside Lounge.*
3. Shared Governance Proposals: *J. Spjut reminded membership to vote via Microsoft Form: <https://forms.office.com/r/k7ic7ChWeb> for the proposals that would be voted on Friday 2/8 by QV reps Jayne Battye, Peter Bennett, and Nicole Marcoux-Bowen.*
4. Presidential Search. *J. Spjut noted that the various meetings were to be held:*
 - a. Quinebaug Valley campus's 90-minute focus meeting:
 - i. Thursday, March 6 @ 2 pm, Zoom link: <https://rhperry.zoom.us/j/91488770722>
 - b. All Campuses General meetings:
 - i. March 10, March 11, March 12 & March 13, 11 am -Zoom link: <https://rhperry.zoom.us/j/92861247528>
 - ii. March 10, March 11, March 12 & March 13, 2 pm – Zoom link: <https://rhperry.zoom.us/j/95902679323>
 - c. And reminder member to fill out the survey: <https://www.rhperry.com/machform/view.php?id=345179> by no later than March 13, 2025.
 - d. *J. Spjut put out a call for a Faculty Representative — an advisory position — which would be voted on by the Academic Senate; interest members should contact Jakob if interested.*
5. Update vote of NO confidence re CSCU Chancellor Cheng: *J. Battye noted that vote of no confidences at various schools had resonated and that state leaders were taking notice.*
6. Request for Use of Eastern Student Services by CT State Students & Expanded Eastern Shuttle – follow-up: *J. Spjut reported no progress as of 20 February 2025, and noted a joint leadership team of*

Faculty/Staff met with Dean Griswold and CEO Gomez, and at the meeting Griswold stated that there was no progress to report.

7. Dual Enrollment: local campus staffing concerns pending the fall 2025 policy implementation.
 - a. *J. Spjut reported that Dual Enrollment is a Provost Hynick priority but needs to have a 2025-2026 budget before we know if there is support. This could lead possibly to a grant-funded/state funded position and is on Dean Griswold's priority list.*
 - b. *J. Battye reports that Gomez says this will become a bigger issue and says this is a staff concern since it will affect advising and they do not have staff assigned to handle increased dual enrollment activity.*
8. Learning in Retirement: *Beth Alves reported that the people of LIR have been pushed out of the Danielson campus and voiced concerns that this would further erode community confidence in the college and would generate bad press. M. Phillion motioned that we send a proclamation to CEO Gomez to support LIR. Motion was not voted on. Instead, the following resolution was motioned for approval by E. Pagano and seconded by J. Battye:*

Learning in Retirement Quinebaug Valley (LiR QV) is a vital organization that meets the “wide range of interests for mature adults” in northeastern Connecticut. Connecticut State Community College - Quinebaug Valley (formerly Quinebaug Valley Community College) worked with LiR for thirty years on the Danielson Campus in the kind of mutually supportive community partnership upon which QVCC was founded and upon which the future of the college must rely. The Quinebaug Valley Academic Senate believes that three decades into the working relationship between LiR and the college there are no issues between the two parties that cannot be satisfactorily addressed; therefore, we urge the CT State Quinebaug Valley Cabinet; Quinebaug Valley Chief Executive Officer Dr. Manuel Gomez; Acting Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Workforce Innovations Karen Hynick; and CT State Community College President Dr. John Maduko to ensure a swift and sustainable return of LiR- QV programs to the Quinebaug Valley Danielson campus.

Motioned approved 18-0.

9. Classroom Door Locking Policy. *Discussion led by K. Zvoma in which membership voiced concerns over the new policies and its challenges. J. Spjut noted he would bring the security concerns up at the March 5 Academic Leadership meeting with CEO Gomez.*
10. Next meeting **March 24, 2025**
11. The meeting adjourned at 3.04 pm (motion by J. Spjut; seconded B Kaufman; no vote taken).

Minutes prepared by B. Kaufman

2025-03-24 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2025

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S Buchbinder (Vice President), B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; J. Battye; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; D. Hernandez; N. Germain; T. Greer; M. Hall; L. Kelley; J. Knapp; P. Lemieux, J. Lewis; C. Ling-Chaun; B. Lynch; E. Michalski; J. Oliver; E. Pagano; M. Phillion; T. Shizume; S. Van Orden; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma

4. Meeting convened at 2 pm.
5. February minutes approved with no corrections.
6. Vote for a new faculty representative to the CT State College Senate (starting Fall 2025)
 - a. Erin Pagano is willing to serve in this capacity and has state governance experience.
 - b. Vote to approve Erin Pagano (20 approve & 2 abstentions). Erin Pagano will be the CT State Senator for QV for a 3-year term starting Fall 2025.**
7. Vote for faculty to serve on the Campus Advisory Committee for the Presidential Search
 - a. Jess Porzuczek will willing to serve.
 - b. Vote to approve Jess Porzuczek (20 approve & 2 abstentions). Jess Porzuczek is on the Campus Advisory Committee for the Presidential Search**
8. CT State Senate Update – Jayne Battye
 - a. Review the Proposed CT State Partnership with Charter Oak. Highlights include that they want to find more students and create a stackable 2+2 degree (concurrent). They want to triple enrollment over 5 years.
 - b. Send feedback to Jayne.**
 1. Discussion:
 1. The CT State population that is ONLY online is small. Most take some in other formats. Our students balance formats. Is this growing together or in competition? (E.g., would they try to teach the online ENG 1010 classes for us)
 2. There is a tuition differential (much lower at CT State)
 3. Charter Oak classes are mostly PTLs. Would this be a way to reduce full-time faculty needs at CT State? NECHE has no full-time ratio requirements.
 4. Formalizing a seamless 4-year online degree option could be good, like TAP to 4 State Universities.
 5. What does the local campus and community have to say about online classes? Is faculty governance going to disappear?
9. Learning in Retirement update – Jayne Battye
 - a. Update from Jakob: There was a resolution and was taken to the administration and LiR. CEO has reached out to President Chris Burke. No response from LiR as of last week.

- b. Update from Jayne: Called Karen Hynick for history.
 - 1. Said they wanted them to stay (but in order of importance: classes, QMC, then LiR)
 - 2. Needed to be changed
 - 1. QV couldn't remain the fiduciary, LiR is now a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, but the financial transition was troubled.
 - 2. LiR couldn't be continuing education students anymore.
 - c. Current situation: LiR are meeting off campus this spring. Can QV get them back? QV administration is in charge of the communications.
10. Door Locking Policy Follow-up
- a. Update from Jakob: Dr. Gomez has no intention of removing the policy. He is prioritizing advice from Chief Chute to have the policy over our concerns. He hopes that hiring another security guard will improve execution of the current policy.
 - b. From Jayne (through the Dean): The symbol on the classroom board is unknown (not known to be threatening). The policy will remain for this semester and will be reassessed for the fall.
11. Generative AI Policy – feedback solicitation
- a. Policy to avoid infringing on intellectual property and to protect personal information.
 - 1. **Review Policy: [Generative AI Policy draft.docx](#). Send feedback to Jayne Battye and cc. Jon Andersen**
12. New Shared Governance – likely won't roll out all at once, but we will likely need to alter our campus-based shared governance somewhat.
- a. AY 2025-2026: Likely transition to the SDCs will still exist in the fall.
 - 1. Governance is being developed and feedback to the Curriculum Congress
 - b. Campus governance will realign to fit the new process (e.g., the College Council will be the Campus Senate).
 - 1. **Upcoming Bylaw Revisions: Contact Jakob if you're interested in working on bylaw revisions.**
13. Eligibility to sit on statewide committees such as SDCs or SACC (for their successors) – Philip Lemieux
- a. Request: Is there a role for non-faculty instructors (e.g., in advanced manufacturing) on SDC/SACC/CC
 - 1. Currently the faculty positions are contractually designated, but people can advocate now for a change as governance is being restructured. Contact Jason Seabury the Chair of the Curriculum Congress, to advocate.
14. Motion to Request at Least Half Non-ESOL Willimantic Courses are Late Start Fall 2025: In Spring 2025, over half the scheduled non-ESOL classes in Willimantic were canceled. To avoid these cancellations, we request at least half the fall 2025 non-ESOL classes in Willimantic be late start to avoid cancellations before the semester begins and to increase center enrollment (which might include Danielson students whose sections have been canceled).
- a. No vote was taken. Concern about telling faculty what to do.
 - b. **To do: Faculty, program coordinators, and department chairs look at fall Willimantic course schedules to see if some can be offered as late start in fall 2025 classes ASAP. Fall courses go live next week.**
15. CT State will transition to Blackboard Ultra from our current Blackboard Learn. The complete switchover to Ultra will begin in January 2027. Starting fall 2025 faculty will be able to request a sandbox or piloting of Ultra.

- c. Look out for communications and requests to pilot.
- 16. Next meeting **April 21, 2025**
- 17. The meeting adjourned at 3.13 pm.

Minutes prepared by S. Buchbinder

2025-04-21 QV Academic Senate Minutes



742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2025

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S Buchbinder (Vice President), B. Kaufman (Curriculum Coordinator); B. Alves; J. Andersen; B. Clinton; D. Hernandez; N. Germain; K. Griffiths T. Greer; M. Hall; L. Kelley; J. Knapp; P. Lemieux, C. Ling-Chaun; B. Lynch; E. Michalski; J. Oliver; M. Pillion; T. Shizume; S. Van Orden; D. Walsh

1. Meeting convened at 2:12 pm and review of previous minutes.
 - a. Correction: Change next meeting date to April 21 (from 28).
 - b. Send additional revisions to Jakob.
1. Academic Program Review and General Education Assessment info – Brian Donohue-Lynch
 - a. Two different cycles of assessment and review will be starting up in the fall—pending further evaluation in discussion with the Provost in the next few days (April 22-23).
 - i. **The General Education Committee** has established a cycle of review for courses that are listed as meeting certain general education outcomes requirements, and one part of the cycle will begin in the fall. The first round involves courses that meet the general education Oral Communication, and Historical Knowledge and Understanding requirements. For the first year, people teaching these courses will not be expected to assess for these outcomes, but to be part of the preparation for assessing them in the following year.
 - ii. **The Assessment Council** is likewise establishing a cycle of program review and assessment for a specific set of programs, to begin in the fall. These programs **will be assessed** starting in the fall, with the assistance of coordinators chosen and aligned with each program area. The programs involved in this first round of reviews will be discussed with program coordinators in a meeting during the first week of May.
 - iii. The Assessment Council will be discussing these two cycles with Karen Hynick on Tuesday to address some concerns about having them running concurrently. Once these questions are clarified with the Provost, more details will follow to the campuses.
 - iv. Will be a presentation to Program Chairs in the first week in May.
 1. Still in process. It's unclear how this will look like in AR/RT time commitment.
2. Online Course Assessment question – Brian Donohue-Lynch
 - a. There was an online training for certification of teaching online (BPOP). It's been two years since information has been shared about the certification process.
 - b. Need for training and assessment

- a. There is a varying quality of online courses (e.g., some courses all As & Bs and little work) and there isn't good online course assessment.
 - b. Proposed two-part process to improve online teaching.
 - i. People previously trained grandfathered in and train new people (BPOP)
 - ii. If poor evaluation, retrained.
 - c. How to evaluate online courses
 - i. Current evaluation misses parts of the online environment including facilitation and engagement.
 - ii. Educational technologists have a proposed evaluation but need to be vetted considering faculty contracts.
 - c. Blackboard Ultra will be available this fall to trained faculty.
 - a. Ultra use will not be required until 2027. Faculty will need 4--5 Ultra training courses.
 - i. Course shells made need to be remade/partially copied because the architecture is different (e.g. only 2 folders deep)
 - b. To make new online courses, you can request AR or release time. This is beyond making a new shell. Check the faculty contract.
- 3. Presidential Search update, from faculty rep Jess Porzuczek:
 - a. "We are reviewing candidates now. Advisory committee semifinalist interviews will happen on April 23rd and 24th." She also includes a quote from CT State on the process:
 - b. "Finalists for CT State Quinebaug Valley and Three Rivers Campus President will visit campus and participate in forums with faculty/staff, students, managers, and foundation and community leaders. Following these forums, the candidates will interview with President Maduko who ultimately will select the preferred candidate after considering input from campus feedback forms and reference checks. It is anticipated that the selected campus presidents will begin in their roles on July 1, 2025."
- 5. Academic Senate election Announcement – should have run in March (according to bylaws) but was postponed due to possible shared governance revision. This serves as the official announcement:
 - a. Positions Up for Election
 - 1. **President:** Pres. Jakob Spjut is completing his 2-year term (1st term of 2 consecutive allowed). Anybody may run for President. Jakob solicited people to run for president and expressed an interest to step down, but will serve if there isn't another candidate.
 - 2. **Vice President:** Vice Pres. Shelley Buchbinder is completing her 1-year term (2nd term of 3 consecutive allowed). Anybody but Jakob Spjut may run for Vice President.
 - 3. **Email Jakob Spjut to run or ask questions.** Members can campaign for positions.
 - b. Positions Not Up for Election
 - 1. **Curriculum Coordinator** Brian Kaufman is finishing the 1st year of his 2-year term (1st term of 2 consecutive allowed). He will continue in that role in 2025-2026.

c. **Online Election will be held before 5/19 Meeting** (run by Brian Kaufman):

1. Everyone eligible must be on the ballot (except Jakob for VP due to bylaws) and anyone explicitly running will be bolded or starred.
2. Proposed that the Curriculum Coordinator and President will alternate running the elections the years they aren't running for office.

6. Campus Safety Discussion

- a. There have been multiple additional security officers hired on campus (e.g., doodling on boards, locked doors) vs unmet needs (e.g., no IT staff on campus after 3 pm).
- b. Anyone interested in this issue should contact Jakob Spjut.**

7. Next meeting **May 19th 2025**

8. The meeting adjourned at 2:43 pm.

Minutes prepared by S. Buchbinder

2025-05-19 QV Academic Senate Minutes

CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

QUINEBAUG VALLEY

742 UPPER MAPLE STREET
DANIELSON, CT 06239
CTSTATE.EDU

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2025

Members Present: J. Spjut (President), S Buchbinder (Vice President), J. Andersen; Army, William; J. Baytte; L. C. Chu; P. Clifford; B. Clinton; B. Dubovsky-Porter; D. Hernandez; N. Germain; T. Greer; K. Griffiths; M. Hall; L. Kelley; J. Knapp; P. Lemieux; E. Michalski; J. Oliver; E. Pagano; J. Prozuzek; T. Shizume; S. Van Orden; D. Walsh; K. Zvoma

1. Meeting convened at 2:32 pm and review of previous minutes.
2. QV Academic Senate election results
 - a. **Matt Hall** elected president (17 of 28 votes) for a 2-year term, Fall 2025 – Spring 2027
 - b. **Jane Knapp** elected Vice President (22 of 28 votes) for a 1-year term, Fall 2025 – Spring 2026.
3. Snack Basket Resolution (motion by Jayne and second by Shelley, passed)
 - a. Denise, Lois and Jayne filling baskets this semester.
 - b. They wanted a resolution to show the basket is important.
 - c. **Academic Senate Resolution asking for ongoing Management support for the Snack Basket Classroom Initiative**
 - i. **Whereas** research and classroom experience demonstrate that access to snacks supports student alertness, participation, and academic performance; and
 - ii. **Whereas**, food insecurity continues to affect a significant portion of our student population, and even brief hunger during class can be a barrier to learning and engagement; and
 - iii. **Whereas**, the Snack Basket Classroom Initiative has been embraced by faculty as a low to no-cost, high-impact way to foster a supportive and equitable learning environment; and
 - iv. **Whereas** the provision of snacks in the classroom has been informally linked to improvements in student retention, morale, and a sense of community; and
 - v. **Whereas** institutional support is necessary to ensure the sustainability and equity of this initiative across departments and instructors, especially considering having no food services on campus; and
 - vi. **Whereas** the arrival of new management in the upcoming academic year presents an opportunity to reaffirm and expand institutional support for initiatives that directly contribute to student success.
 - vii. **Be it resolved that**, the Faculty Senate encourages both current and incoming campus leadership to formally recognize and support the Snack Basket Classroom Initiative as an effective measure for enhancing student learning and retention.
 - viii. **Be it further resolved that**; the Faculty Senate urges campus leadership to support logistics for the initiative.

- ix. **Be it further resolved that**, the Faculty Senate stands ready to collaborate with administration to ensure the success of this initiative in alignment with the institution's mission of student-centered learning and inclusive excellence.
- 4. Presidential Search Questions
 - a. Staff Senate holding a post-search discussion. Jakob asked to join and will send out information
 - b. Search feedback form: <https://ctstate.edu/campus-presidents-search?view=article&id=674&catid=8>
 - c. Questions asked
 - i. Jakob: Alienated foundation what to do?
 - ii. Jakob: The President said this isn't a merger, AND it may make sense to merge.
- 5. Change of Meeting Time
 - a. Discussion about a CT State common meeting hour.
 - i. Keeping Mondays 2-4 at QV. Can change the Common Hour
 - b. If interested, contact CT State Senate about interests to Common Hour
- 6. Next meeting **Fall 2025**
- 7. The meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm.

Minutes prepared by S. Buchbinder