

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes

QV Academic Senate – Monday, 2 March 2:00 pm via Teams

Attendance: Matt Hall, Elkin Espitia-Loaiza, Beth Dubofsky-Porter, Rosalie Witt, Christine Stockwell, Lisa Adase, Brian Clinton, Denise Walsh, Phil Lemieux, Tamara Greer, Beth Alves, Pauline Clifford, Erin Pagano, Jon Andersen, Kudzai Zvoma, Jakob Spjut, Jayne Battye, Lingchuan Chu, John Lewis, Erica Michalski, Sara Van Orden, Logan Tashea (guest)

Matt Hall called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm

Strategic Planning Steering Committee

Logan, QV's ambassador of engagement to the CT State Strategic Steering Planning Committee, gave an update on the progress of the Committee and announced two upcoming campus forums on March 20 and March 26. Faculty and staff must attend one of the meetings.

Approval of February 2, 2026 Minutes

Elkin motioned to approve; seconded by Phil L. Approved unanimously with John L and Jon A abstaining.

Election for new VP

No volunteers. Jakob noted that some colleges give credit releases to serve in elected roles. Perhaps this is something that the Shared Governance Taskforce could address going forward.

Curriculum Congress Updates

Brian Kaufman, Curriculum Coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written statement. Elkin has requested QV Senate support for the language courses he proposed that are now under review as part of the CIFAR process.

John L made a motion that the QV Academic Senate recommend that our representative promote and support the proposal to add foreign language classes as electives in the LAS and GS programs. Matt H seconded. Passed unanimously.

College Senate Updates

Erin provided a written report. In addition, she noted that the Faculty Advising Summit was postponed until March 13; much of the College Senate's meeting time recently has been devoted to internal issues, such as By-laws; and that there will be a call for faculty participation on various Senate subcommittees that were formed as a response to H.R. 1 (the "Big Beautiful Bill).

College Senate – Request for Input, Academic Integrity (per 2/18 email)

An email regarding a situation at CT State Asnuntuck was circulated prior to the meeting asking for support and/or input. Two main points: Should faculty be able to retroactively change a grade if cheating is discovered later? And, does the use of AI, when used without permission, constitute cheating or plagiarism?

Tamara is on a system-wide AI Taskforce, headed by the Provost, which has begun discussing this issue. They are working on a policy. Please send ideas to Tamara.

After discussion, the Academic Senate endorsed the College Senate's position that: (1) Faculty should have the authority to retroactively change a grade if cheating is discovered; and (2) The Provost issue clear guidance on unauthorized AI use and have those guidelines shared with relevant councils.

No formal vote was taken.

4Cs Elections

Phil reported that the spring chapter meeting is being rescheduled due to the recent weather closing. Ideally, it would be held before Spring Break. All three chapter chair positions are empty, as well as several delegate positions.

As of now, all SEBAC bargaining units, except for higher education, have a wage agreement in place. Obstacles include determining the source of funding for the increases, as well as establishing a clear path to full-time employment for part-time employees.

Jakob placed the petition, sponsored by SEIU/4Cs, to fund higher education in the chat: [DEFEND AFFORDABLE, HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC HIGHER ED IN CONNECTICUT](#)

Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)

Jon A reported that elections have been delayed, but that faculty should be receiving ballots soon for the election of the small campus representative. While each campus has a representative on FAC, the small campuses (QV, Asnuntuck, Middlesex, and Northwestern) share one rotating voting member.

PACT funding has been reduced by 3 million dollars, which has caused budget strain. Central CT State University President Toro announced that he wants to change the school's name and mission to focus on STEM.

Workgroups are being formed to look at ACME and funding formulas.

More information about the Faculty Advisory Committee can be found here: [CSCU - Board of Regents - Committees](#)

Option for Attending Danielson Meetings via Teams when in Willimantic

Elkin raised a concern that staff with office space and hours in Willimantic do not have a Teams option to attend Danielson campus meetings. Sometimes the drive from Willimantic and back takes longer than the actual meeting.

The Union has been consulted, and they advised that there isn't clear contract language regarding driving back and forth between two locations on the same campus. It was also noted that with the new President overseeing two campuses, and the increasing frequency of meetings asking for attendance at one campus or the other, that this issue will only grow more prominent.

Matt will follow up.

Entrance scanning

Matt raised the issue that the Danielson campus will soon require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to scan an ID badge for entrance and exit. Faculty, in general, were opposed to this process.

There were a variety of concerns, including: How will it be implemented? Does this involve QMC? Are they only allowing entrance through certain doors? How would a person scan out if they were forced to flee? What if someone forgets an ID? What about resource allocation/expense? How do we handle the public at events?

Matt will request that Chief of Police Chute hold a forum with concerned campus community members.

Open Discussion

Jakob asked everyone to notify students of the NASA internship opportunity: [Internships | Connecticut Space Grant Consortium](#)

Jakob announced the next Lunch & Learn would be held on March 10 with the topic: "AI Agents: Years of Work achieved in Weeks"

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23rd

Erin made the motion to adjourn at 3:32 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Hall