

Chicago State University Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

[February 2024 - Zoom Link](#)

Present: William Jason Raynovich (President), Yashika Watkins (Vice President), Gabrielle Toth (Corresponding Secretary), Sarah Buck (Recording Secretary), Mohammad Islam, Amzie Moore, Anser Azim, Deborah Harper Brown, Gayle Porter, Eddie Gaytan, Jubilee Dickson, Leslie Baker-Kimmons, Leslie Roundtree, Olanipekun Laosebikan, Sarah Austin, Soo Kang, Valerie Goss, Nicole Lavalaism, Saleem Abuleil, Austin Harton, Karen Witherspoon, Nadeem Fazal, Asmamaw Yimer, Tatjana Petrova, Mohammad Newaz, Walid Al-Ghoul, Obayed Raihan, Gabriel Gomez

A. Call to order

B. Agenda

a. Approval of Agenda

b. Rules of the Day (**Appendix A**)

i. Watkins moved to approve agenda and rules of the day, Azim seconded > approved by unanimous consent

C. Approval of Minutes ([December 2023 link](#)) (Rec. Sec.)

a. Fazal moved to approve, Azim seconded > motion carried with one no

D. Senator Comments/Speeches

a. None

E. Provost Report (Provost)

a. Obtain new IDs for new door swipes to be implemented by the end of the semester. Provost is aware of doors that are not closing

b. ComEd undergraduate scholarship program funding students for 4.5 years across disciplines. Came to campus to acknowledge 4 students who earned a scholarship this year. New application open for next AY

c. WD/WA grades up for discussion> will be sent to Academic Affairs Committee

d. Placement tests: English and Math dept have reviewed criteria. Criteria will stay the same but moving to proctor-less testing for upcoming AY (students can do testing on their own)

- e. RFP out for new cafeteria vendor. Students can pass comments to Dean Cameron to connect with the Food Committee

F. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee (Pres. of Faculty Senate)- note that Action Items should be submitted at least one week prior to Senate meetings (earlier is preferred)
 - i. Bookstore training (**Appendix B**)
 - 1. Provost will follow up with bookstore
 - 2. BAA committee will run a survey to determine gaps in knowledge for faculty
 - ii. Faculty Senate Co-sponsorship of FRACA event submitted action (**Appendix C**)
 - 1. Executive Committee determined because FRACA is not a FS sub-committee, spending money on this event would be outside its purview
 - iii. Need to overhaul the room reservation system (Sent to B&G) (**Appendix D**)
 - 1. In process of overhauling Ad-Astra, which will enable easier room reservations
 - 2. Senators expressed various concerns with the current system, such as the requirement to indicate who will be in attendance and having accountability for the rooms being unlocked, a need to provide feedback about various services on campus in general
 - iv. Faculty Senate March 2024 date
 - 1. First Tues of March is spring break
 - 2. Gomez moved to make the March FS meeting to March 12, Dickson seconded> motion carried with 17 yes, 5 no, 2 abstention
- b. Rules and Operation Committee
 - i. Committee update
 - 1. 4 new members have been added

2. Committee voted to have Raynovich continue as Chair (does not vote)
- ii. Elections
 1. Regarding FS elections, elections to occur in spring for upcoming fall for executive committee. Departmental elections for Senators should be in March
 2. Raynovich reviewed which committees need to have elections this semester
 3. The merging of HS and Pharmacy needs to be addressed across various committees

G. New Business

- a. Teach-in session: Israel and Palestine: Conflict, Colonialism, Context (**Appendix E**)
 - i. Concern noted about difficulty reserving room
 - ii. Two experts have been invited who have had a teach-in in other locations previously. Intent is to provide a well-rounded event
 - iii. Event being hosted by Student Affairs and Counseling Center
 - iv. Report serves as motion and second > motion carried with 3 no and 3 abstentions
 - v. Raynovich will send email to Academic Affairs office noting FS support
- b. Other
 - i. Laosebikan pontificated on the tenure process at CSU and the need for and value of recognition
 1. Others indicate low bonus pay (e.g., promotion)
 2. Laosebikan suggested for Raynovich to task the FS Social Committee with developing a recognition event for personnel issues

H. Adjournment

- a. Watkins moved to adjourn, Newaz seconded > approved by unanimous consent 1:50

Appendix A

Rules of the Day

1. All Senators and guests shall have their full name as their Zoom signature.
2. All Senators shall send a private direct message to the Corresponding Secretary, Prof. Gabrielle Toth for purposes of taking attendance and census for voting and quorum.
3. Only those who are recognized by the President of Faculty Senate shall speak.
 - a. All Senators shall mute when not recognized.
4. Senators may speak on any Action at most twice during any action, the first time for two minutes and the second time for thirty seconds
5. To speak, a Senator shall put the “hand” up in the Zoom feature reactions.
6. All Action Items shall be voted on via Zoom polls.
 - a. Only Senators shall vote in the Zoom polls.
 - b. The polls shall be anonymous.
 - c. The Parliamentarian and the President of Faculty Senate shall unanimously agree that the tally is the sense of the Senate.

Appendix B

Senate Committee: Executive Committee

Senate Meeting Date Passed: 12/5/2023

Sponsor: Sarah Buck

Co-Sponsor: Yashka Watkins

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale: Faculty bookstore submissions need to be at 100%. To provide maximum participation in Bookstore orders, the Executive Committee recommends the Faculty Senate support the following motion.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action: The Faculty Senate recommends the Administration provide an asynchronous training video/powerpoint presentation to all faculty at Chicago State University for the University's eFollet Bookstore for best practices in Academic Success by January 3, 2023 and keeps the presentation updated each semester.

Appendix C

Senate Committee: N/A

Senate Meeting Date for Consideration: 2/6/2023

Sponsor: Olanipekun Laosebikan

Co-Sponsor: Jubilee Dickson

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale: The Faculty Research and Creative Activities (FRACA) group is requesting sponsorship and support in the amount of \$200 from the Faculty senate for its April 19, 2024 meeting. FRACA works to bring faculty and staff together to network and collaborate around research and creative activities. We host monthly sessions where faculty and staff present their work to the campus community. We are requesting funds to support our April 19th, 2024 event. We are inviting an external speaker who will address the importance of faculty research and creative activities. It is important to note that FRACA is an initiative created by faculty members. It is not financially supported by any university units. Support from the Faculty Senate is important to foster initiatives like FRACA.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action: The Faculty Research and Creative Activities (FRACA) group is requesting sponsorship and support in the amount of \$200 from the Faculty senate for its April 19, 2024 meeting.

Appendix D

Senate Committee: N/A

Sponsor: Olanipekun Laosebikan

Co-Sponsor: Jubilee Dickson

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale: The current room reservation system is dysfunctional and it's preventing faculty and students from holding events on campus.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action: The current room reservation system is dysfunctional and it's preventing faculty and students from holding events on campus. Campus events are important and necessary for an active, vibrant campus. We have empty rooms all over campus that are sitting unused because of the various barriers to successfully reserving a room. We want the faculty senate to push the administration to overhaul the system. The current barriers are the need for a campus line of funding to even make the request, an outdated and ineffective form process, and the lack of access to ad astra software. CSU pays for the use of a scheduling software that currently only a limited number of people have access to. If all faculty and student orgs also had access to view which rooms are scheduled when, the process of planning for events and requesting room reservations would be smoother. And if the form was online, perhaps through Adobe sign or some other system, there would likely be fewer holdups.

Appendix E

Senate Committee: N/A

Senate Meeting Date for Consideration: 2/6/2023

Sponsor: Jubilee Dickson

Co-Sponsor: Sarah Austin(?)

Proposed Action

Context/Rationale: This event aims to provide Chicago State University students and faculty with an opportunity to learn about the historical background to the current conflict in the Middle East and gain an understanding of political theory as it relates to global conflicts. The event will illustrate connections between regional and international governments and political movements.

Exact Language of the Proposed Action: The Faculty Senate supports the Teach-in session: Israel and Palestine: Conflict, Colonialism, Context.