



CU Denver Faculty Assembly -- Meeting Minutes September 5, 2023 In-Person and Zoom

Attendees*: Linda Fried, Vivian Shyu, Dennis DeBay, EJ Yoder, Colleen Donnelly, Sasha Breger Bush, Kelly See, Marta Maron, Mariana Prestigiacomio, Ilkyeun Ra, Eric Baker, Maryam Darbeheshti, Wendy Bolyard, Pam Laird, Thomas Beck, Shuyang Peng, Florian Pfender, Rachel Stein, Joanne Addison, Larry Cunningham, Bailey Wallace, Jeffrey Schrader, Eric Jewett, Anthony Villano, Bud Talbot, Fernando Mancilla-David, Philip Joseph Dan Maxey, Karen Sobel, Joan Bihun, Traci Sitzmann, Kristin Kilbourne, Lori Ryan

Chair's Update: Vivian Shyu and Dennis DeBay, Acting Chairs

- **Approve minutes** (May 2, 2023 & May 11, 2023)
- Motion was made to Approve, motion was seconded; Poll posted
 - Results for May 2 Minutes: approved by a majority
 - Results for May 11 Minutes: approved by a majority

Election of new FA Chair (Faculty Assembly went into Executive Session during this election.)

- Motion was made to Vote, motion was seconded; Poll posted
 - Nominees were provided 3-minutes each to address the Assembly, then were asked to step away. Assembly members discussed each nominee.
 - Results for Chair: Sasha Breger Bush received the majority vote

Provost Constancio Nakuma Report

- CAP 1007 (Promotion Compensation): Provost Nakuma acknowledges promotion inequities amongst faculty. Promotions are funded centrally but will also possibly go to the respective College/School to cover the promotion shortfalls.
 - Awaiting Census to determine how to proceed with funding priorities and Phase 2 Budget implementation
 - Provost Nakuma working with AVC Kayaoglu to implement promotion policy to address past promotion inequities
- College of Arts and Media Dean search ongoing; anticipating selection in December 2023
- Core Curriculum Initiative: Mechanism for assessing courses which CU Denver provides as core knowledge curriculum compared to other institutions and how it aligns with CU Denver's ethos.
- Provost Nakuma's 4 New Working Groups: Provost requests Faculty Assembly thoughtfully consider these new initiatives and provide FA reps to each Working Group.

FAR/DEI Summer Working Group

- Group met weekly over summer; draft document was created to implement changes with respect to designating DEI activity.
 - Working Group is seeking confirmation from administration that data presented will not be used in any way that is or could be perceived as detrimental to faculty
 - DEI reporting amongst faculty is voluntary
 - DEI is a shared governance effort

Provost's 4 New Working Groups

- Provost's Office is currently seeking membership to these Working Groups; they are seeking FA reps for 3 of the 4 groups. If FA members are interested in participating please let Sasha Breger Bush know.
- Working Group website will be live on 9/11/2023
- 4 Working Groups are below:
 - Reimagining the Core Curriculum
 - Academic Program Viability and Curricular Innovation (Joanne Addison, Co-Chair)
 - Academic Personnel Workload Parity and Class Size Variability (Maryam Darbeheshti, Co-Chair)
 - Time Use and Academic Calendar Review

Shared Governance Principles for Schools/Colleges/Library

- Guideline was put forward last year
- Request update for how shared governance is being implemented across Schools/Colleges

FCQ Issue

- FCQ Office used keywords/data mining without consulting faculty governance groups
- Office of Equity treating FCQ as an equity report and are denying faculty due process
- Student were told questionnaire was anonymous
- Faculty Assembly sent a statement to the administration rejecting the current practice and requests the following statement as a banner on future FCQs:

“The primary purpose of the FCQ is to strengthen teaching and learning on our campus. Therefore, constructive feedback is encouraged. Know that while your name is withheld from faculty, you may be identified in certain instances. For example, all FCQ's are scanned for specific keywords and phrases indicating attacks, slurs or other prohibited behavior. This behavior may result in “having your FCQ response removed, your comment being referred to the Office of Equity and possible disciplinary action” (FCQ Office Terms of Service). If you have concerns about possible equity violations, you should report them directly to the campus Office of Equity.”

- Faculty Assembly expressed concern that the FCQs are being scanned and reviewed by the FCQ Office in Boulder. UCCS conducts their reviews internally and CU Denver would possibly prefer to conduct their reviews internally, as well.
- Motion was made to create ad hoc committee to address FCQ issues with Faculty Assembly acting as Advisor, motion was seconded; vote show of hands: motion passed with a majority
- If anyone is interested in serving on this ad hoc committee please contact Sasha Breger Bush, Vivian Shyu, or Dennis DeBay

Before faculty from CAP were given the floor to present their requests to the Faculty Assembly, the meeting was called into Executive Session.

Committee Reports

- Requested Committee Chairs email membership rosters and goals for this year to FA Chair Sasha Breger Bush

Remaining Topics tabled due to lack of time:

- Shared Governance Principles
- Committee Reports

Meeting Adjourned