

University Senate Minutes
April 24, 2020, 2:00-3:15 through Webex

2:00-2:20

1. Approval of agenda-**Motioned, Seconded, Approved**
2. Introduction of visitors-Denise Brush, John Feaster
3. Approval of minutes from March Meeting-**Motioned, Approved**
4. President's report
 - a. COVID19 update

Gloucester County is said to be 2-3 weeks behind the peak. Online teaching is going well. Please reach out any of your students that disappear.

Comment-Please raise new flags in RSN for disengaged students. Early Intervention Team is calling each student flagged.

The Faculty Center is doing an Excellent job assisting us with the switch to online teaching.

- b. Move to remote teaching. "Zoom bombing," etc.
- c. Summer courses online; external summer camps canceled
- d. No decision yet on Fall classes

Provost has asked Deans to put together a plan together in case we need to move Fall to remote learning.

Faculty and Students and COVID-21 Positive tests with others self-isolating

- e. Issues with residential students (Alicia Monroe)

We have offered wellness checks, trauma informed Zoom sessions to assist students, a Group Me has been set up for students who have identified as critical needs. We have coordinated with The SHOP, Philabundance, and local food pantries. Trying to procure and distribute personal protection equipment for students remaining of campus. Connecting students to Campus Resources and Faculty.

There is a form for Emergency Summer Housing

- f. Electing department chairs

Any Chair whose term was supposed to end on June 30th can continue to serve until first staff meeting.

If Chairs do not want to continue, they should have the department committee to contact Bill Friend so an online Qualtrics vote can be made.

- g. Financial issues: freeze in state aid, student refunds (Chris Simons)

Projecting 33-million-dollar loss for this year. State has frozen 50 percent of appropriations. If we are remote learning in Fall, we will lose much more money due to housing revenue loss.

Joint Senate-AFT Meeting on Finances

Out of Public Universities in NJ, we are in much better financial shape than all of them.

Q-Is it expected that we will have a drop in enrollment?

A-We will not know until Sept. 1st. Incoming Freshmen down 7 percent, transfers up 2 percent. Rowan Global numbers up too. Lots of uncertainty.

Comment-discussions going around that some courses will be taught without compensation.

A-We know the administrators are being urged to do so.

Q-Has there been discussion about if any CARES act money will need to be returned?

A-This may be more about stimulus money. The 14 million that we received is still ours. 7 million of which will be passed on to our students.

h. T&R

May 30th to get the external reviewers to the department if you are going up to tenure.

Research concerns for pre-tenured faculty. The Provost, Senate, and AFT are looking to see if we can come up with an option to pause tenure clock. However, we seem to be constrained by the current collective bargaining agreement.

The Provost, AFT, and Senate are willing to write letters for people's packets acknowledging missing/slow research during this time.

Comment-We just want to maintain continuity of your research

Q-How much control does Rowan have over grant funded student positions?

A-Suggest talking to Beena Sukumaran. Beena is leaving and Jim Newell will be taking over her responsibilities in the interim

Comment-There are issues where HR was not in contact with the Office of Sponsored Contracts

Comment-There are emails going out with conflicting information. There has not been communication from the Research Office.

Please send these issues to Bill Freind, so he can compile these and take to the Provost.

Comment-In CSM, we have been able to use our external funds with any issues.

Q- We've had an issue in our department about an expectation that faculty come into the office to sign the T&R paperwork. Can the senate/leadership make sure T&R committees know that original signatures are not needed? Electronic works?

A-No, this is to be done digitally. We are under a Stay at Home Order.

Q-What if we need things from our offices for the Summer?

A-Contact Public Safety

Q-Has the Recontracting date for Professional Staff changed?

A-The Committee has emailed candidates

i. Promotion

There are questions about if promotions will be made in June. This will be discussed with the Advisory Committee and Administration. No decision has been made yet.

j. Adjusted load

No decision has been made yet. The Deans are reviewing this now.

Q-Any discussion about research versus service based adjusted load?

A-We have not heard anything about this affecting service based adjusted load.

Q-Who is making final decision on this? Deans?

A-Provost decision, implemented by the Deans.

Q-Could the adjusted load be reevaluated?

A-This is for adjusted load awarded for Fall 2020.

k. Sabbaticals

Anyone who was awarded a sabbatical for the fall will be deferred, not cancelled.

Q-What if you are on a calendar year 2020?

A-There will be an appeal process, but not sure.

l. Please complete Committee Selection forms

m. Please submit your Committee Reports

Please send these to Noranne Browne

2:20-2:50

5. Resolution to Create an Online Alternative to the Rowan Core Public Speaking Requirement (Nathan Bauer, page 8)-**Motioned, Seconded, Approved** (3-Opposed, 7- Abstains)

Motion to move this to skip second reading and to suspend the order-**Motioned, Seconded, Approved** (2-Opposed, 2-Abstains)

Q-How will this be handled if we go online in the Fall?

A-For the Summer and the Fall (if needed), we will notify the students and put them directly into online sections of Interpersonal Communication

Q-Would it be appropriate to submit course proposals that address the unique public speaking needs of our students in each department?

A-Maybe we could work with communications studies to develop courses that meet the needs of specialized programs.

Motion to move this to skip second reading and to suspend the order-**Motioned, Seconded, Approved**

6. Second reading: Rowan Core equivalencies (Nathan Bauer, page 2)-**Motioned, Approved**

Motion to suspend rules-Friendly Amendment-(Page 4-Should state "Coordinator Transfer Services" instead of Registrar's Office)

7. Second reading: Revised CUGS definition (page 5)-**Motioned, Approved**

Q-How does this potentially impact the student?

A-We do not think it really does

Q-She we expect this change at the graduate level?

A-This is purely CUGS at this point. We will revisit graduate study.

8. First and second reading: Resolution to Commend Rowan University's Student

Government Association (Jenn Savage, page 6)-**Motioned, Approved**

To recognize the stellar work, they have

Motioned to suspend the rules and skip to second reading-**Motioned, Approved** (1 abstain)

9. First reading: Proposal to Create a Chair of the Library (separate file)

Motion to have this count as a first reading-**Motioned, Approved**

Library faculty feel they need an elected chair for T&R Promotion, and other administrative issues.

Comment-The AFT supports this too

10. Curriculum report (Marci Carrasquillo) (separate file)

5350943-Motioned, Approved (1-opposed)

5351004- Motioned, Approved

5319289- Motioned, Approved

5325018- Motioned, Approved

5306935- Motioned, Approved

5306936- Motioned, Approved

5318883- Motioned, Approved

5279803- Motioned, Approved

5300941- Motioned, Approved

5233727- Motioned, Approved (1-abstain)

5252620- Motioned, Approved (1-abstain)

5339004- Motioned, Approved

5237448- Motioned, Approved

5236195- Motioned, Approved

5253448- Motioned, Approved

5243279- Motioned, Approved

5329248- Motioned, Approved (1-abstain)

2:50-3:15

5. New and old business

6. Adjournment 3:34