

University Senate Minutes

November 20, 2020, 2:00-3:15, Zoom

2:00-2:30

1. Approval of agenda-Motioned, Seconded, Approved
2. Introduction of visitors -Jennifer, Nicholson, Ira Fine, Joel Rudin, Emily Holiday, Chris Taylor, Jessica Porch, Lara LeBeau, Stephen Royek
3. Approval of minutes from October meeting-Motioned
4. President's report
 - a. COVID updates:
 - Testing and reporting
 - Spring 2020 schedule and teaching
 - Remote teaching
 - All "Physical Presence Optional" courses will meet virtually following Thanksgiving (Monday, November 30 – Wednesday, December 9) and will offer final exams in a virtual format.
 - Spring teaching requests

If you feel someone is being forced to teach F2F, let Bill Friend know.

- b. Center for Academic Innovation (files attached)
This is already a similar process to what we have now. Limits Rowan Global power.
- c. Incorrect information from HR about parental leave
NJ gives 12 weeks of Parental Leave, but HR was sending out letters that stated 6 weeks
- d. Promotion for Lecturers
This MOA is awaiting signatures
Comment: Please loop in the Chair of Senate Promotion Committee, Julie Haynes as soon as this happens
- e. Promotion for Professional Staff
No criteria currently exist. Rejections should come from the President or President's Designee and this is not happening
Some other schools do have criteria-
<http://cnjscl.org/Prof%20Staff%20Local-Policies.htm>
- f. Pass/No credit option for Fall 2020 semester
This came up so late because the SGA recently approached the Provost Office
The Provost said he would consider this for next semester

Comment-Generally, I think P/NC is great, for graduate students as well

Q-Do you know how Pass/No Credit impacts Financial Aid?

A- The impact of P/NC grades on Satisfactory Academic Progress is unchanged. P/NC grades do not affect GPA; however, all grades, including the original grade(s) from repeated coursework, are calculated into cumulative GPA. Courses with the NC grade do not count as completed coursework and therefore will affect the PACE element of your Satisfactory Academic Progress. Please see the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy or email financialaid@rowan.edu. That is posted at <https://sites.rowan.edu/registrar/services-resources/pnc-faqs11.html>

Comment-We should look at not having automatic Academic Dismissal in Spring 2020

- g. Stephen Royek-Chair of University Senate Awards Committee Committee is currently accepting nominations for 3 awards-Bole Humanitarian Award, Lynch Courage in Adversity Award, Robinson Leadership Award.
Posted on Senate Awards Committee page or you can email Royek@rowan.edu
- h. One Dean sent out an email stating that faculty needed to have synchronous peer observations. However, no dean can determine what type of evaluation you need.

People are saying they feel anxious about Fall 2020 peer observations and student evaluations. However, for T & R, it is all about the narrative. If you have issues, explain it in the narrative.

2:30-3:10

5. Update on Budget (Chris Simons)

\$4 million deficit expected. Some recent concerns about Spring housing numbers and the impact of lower numbers. Undergraduate application numbers are down significantly

Q- Are there any plans to rent out Nexus housing to the General public to save loss of rentals?

A-Have not heard of any plans like this. There was a discussion about students from other Universities living on Rowan Blvd, but was rejected for liability reasons

6. Update on Program Revitalization Subcommittee of the Academics of the Future Committee (Beth Christensen)

Every Academic Unit is represented on the committee. Gathering the data that will the President a status report of the University. The intention of this committee is not to cut programs. The committee will look at Rowan's capacity and look at all programs. Rubrics will be created and used to answer holistic questions. The University is working with EAB, a consulting firm that uses metrics to analyze programs

Q- To what degree does data mean both qualitative and quantitative "metrics."? The foundational metric sheet seems focused only on quantitative data?

A-EAB is tasked with taking the data and working with it. The committee is examining who to look at qualitative data

Comment-There have been concerns about the timeline to completion with this, causing anxiety and rumors. Can you communicate to your superiors to take it slow and steady?

A-We were asked to start this a month ago and asked to give a report to the President January 15, 2021. We do not have to have this totally completed, but we do have some data to present

Q-Is there going to be a systematic way of faculty reviewing the metrics? (e.g., common framework, templates)

A-Uncertain. We have only been working on this for one month. We have been focused on having a breadth of data.

Comment-One of the metrics we need is net profit by student, by program. This would be extremely helpful

Q- Do we know how much we are paying EAB for these services? Why did we hire an outside firm to gather data?

A-Bill will ask

Q- Will the committee be looking at a macro level assessment, in terms of equity of resources and expectations (and more) across campus? Or is the focus really on the programs as individual units?

A-This is the kind of feedback we are seeking

7. Curriculum report (Marci Carrasquillo, file attached)

5462307-Motioned, Approved

5463851-Motioned, Approved

5463831-Motioned, Approved

5463285-Motioned, Approved

5462013-Motioned, Approved

5461611- Motioned, Approved

5456924- Motioned, Approved

5456287- Motioned, Approved

5456146- Motioned, Approved

5467622- Motioned, Approved

5471562- Motioned, Approved

5251057- Motioned, Approved

5476823- Motioned, Approved

5468903- Motioned, Approved

8. Second reading on Resolution on WI and LIT courses (Nathan Bauer, file attached)

Motioned, Approved

Q-Is there an opportunity for a short term Writing Intensive course?

A-We were envisioning it going through the Curriculum process. Officially it cannot have the WI attribute unless it goes through the curriculum process

Q-Can you remind us of the timeline for this?

A-The new guidelines would kick in for Fall 2021. We will not enforce this immediately and will reach out to help departments with this process

Q-How will this affect student caps on WI courses?

A-We want to keep it encoered at the current 22 students

Comment- 22 students are a lot for a writing intensive course

Q-Is it time to push for a lower cap?

A-The policy says that 22 should be enforced, but recommend that WI course have lower caps

Q-Can we look at class size with the assessment?

A-That is a terrific idea. We can gather data to see the impact of class size

Q- Why not suggest a cap at 20?

A-I think the suggestion that we use assessment data to attempt to lower the cap later

9. Second reading on Resolution on Curricular and Assessment Review (Nathan Bauer, file attached) -**Motioned, Approved**

3:10-3:15

9. New business

10. Adjournment-3:04pm