

Faculty Caucus minutes March 21, 2023 230pm Teams

Present: M. Barlett, E. Bush, S. Crocker, S. Dar, A. Doughtie, C. Ehrlich, M. Faitell, A. Fried, A. Hazen, R. Huyck, J. Ireland, M. Kelly, G. Melendez, S. McCall, A. Miller, C. Miller, A. Radlowski, K. Raab, R. Santos, D. Sonne, C. VanName, R. Wittenberg

Call to Order: 2:30pm

Approval of Minutes:

16 approve, 0 oppose, 2 abstain.

Guests: VP L. Kahler, N. Chrisman, T. Mariotti, T. Marshall

Guest Speaker VP Kahler:

VP Kahler informed Faculty Caucus that there would be 6 Brightspace training modules presented in March, April, and May. They would be in person and virtual. Additionally, sessions would be recorded for later viewing. VP Kahler encouraged faculty members to sign up for training.

VP Kahler spoke about ChatGPT and its impact. What should/can we do? Is there a way to use ChatGPT to enhance learning? For now, we should monitor what is happening and decide what action needs to be taken.

VP Kahler then fielded questions/comments from Caucus members

DEI: T. Marshall spoke about equity in the classroom. He defined the differences between equity vs. equality. T Marshall invited us to look at our own preconceptions, biases, and backgrounds in order to challenge our own beliefs. Sometimes we will feel uncomfortable. Embracing adaptability is key.

Marshall invited us to create safe spaces, to look at our materials and books and ask, "What voices are there?"

Equity is an ongoing and steady process; it does not happen overnight. Our ultimate goal is social justice.

Chair Report: Chair met with VP Squires. The new phone system will be rolled out. Only those who need them will receive soft phones, headphones, and screens. Faculty are invited to share any issues or feedback.

Commented [SD1]: Not sure about this!

1st day complete has been adopted and will begin Fall semester 2023.

Topics discussed with VP Kahler were covered in his presentation at the beginning of the meeting.

S. Dar will be attending FCCC (Faculty Council of Community Colleges) Plenary as Caucus Chair.

S. Dar invited Caucus members to send her any agenda items for the next meeting.

Some caucus members had questions regarding book adoptions and continued the discussion over the 1st day complete.

Old Business: A Lewis presented updates from the Survey Committee. One option for the new surveys is the use of Survey Monkey as it is more convenient. It has also been discussed adding a purpose statement. The new format will contain fewer questions. The survey will be divided into 4 sections with 4 questions each. The possible responses will be Likert scale with an N/A option available. In addition, there will be 4 blank boxes for each section for written responses. Because of the nature of the classes, there will be a separate survey for PE classes. A. Lewis then asked for any suggestions for self-assessment questions.

S Dar shared the final updates/changes to the Faculty Caucus bylaws. After a question-and-answer period S. Dar called for a motion to approve the new bylaws. E Bush moved and M Kelly seconded. The final vote 18 approve, 0 reject, 0 abstain.

New Business: No new business.

Open Forum: There is some confusion as to when bookstore requests are due. The email that was sent out was not clear.

Some caucus members are still concerned and had questions about the 1st day complete.

FCCC will ask SUNY to reevaluate their position on COVID vaccine mandate. Thoughts from MV faculty?

Next meeting will take place April 18, 2023, at 230pm.

Motion to adjourn: D. Sonne-1st, S. McCall-2nd

Caucus adjourned at 437pm

Roman Santos