

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 17, 2025  
University Center 260 & Microsoft Teams  
11:15am - 1:00pm

Attendees (**senators denoted in bold**): **Stacey Reynolds**, **Kate Cotter-Reilly**, **Adam Kubik**, **Erin Nagel**, **Erica Gannon**, Celeste Walley-Jean, Cephas Archie, Reza Kheirandish, Eugene Ngezem?, Antoinette Miller, Nichelle Gause, Lindsay Chandler, Jill Drake, Georj Lewis, Bridgette McDonald, Adam Tate, Ade Thompson, Adel Novin, Akwai Agoons, Alexander Hall, Aloysius Amin, Amy Black, Andrea Jacques, Angela Hollis, Anita Whiting, Anna King, **Anthony Hannah**, Antoinette France-Harris, Antwan Aiken, Arianne Adams, Ashley Washington, Barbara Goodman, Barbara Hennie, Batavia Sumlin, Biron Ross, Brian Hunt, Brianna Vick, Brigitte Byrd, Brittany Hall, Byron Jeff, Caitlin Harris, Carol White, **Caroline Sheppard**, Carolyn Walcott, Cassandra Parker, Catherine Matos, Ceimone Henderson-Strickland, Charles Henderson, Charlie Harris, Chen-Miao Lin, Chizara Jones, Christie Burton, Christina Grange, Christopher Stotemyer, Christopher Ward, Chyrel Lynn Panlilio, Comfort Obi, Connor Wright, Corlis Cummings, CR Narayanaswamy, Craig Hill, **Crystal Marchant**, David Brown, David Gilbert, David Greenebaum, David Murray-Stoker, **David Pena**, **David Williams**, Deborah Davis, Deborah Deckner Davis, Danise Allen, Dennis Attick, **Dennis Miller**, Derek Mosley, Devon Ellis-Grant, Diane Day, Dmitriy Beznosko, Don Stansberry, Drew Case, Dwayne Hooks, Ebrahim Khosravi, Eckart Werther, Elicia Collins, Elizabeth Taylor, Elizabeth Tillman, Elliot Krop, Elnora Farmer, Emanuel Abston, Emily Surber, Eric Bridges, Erica Dotson, Erica Taylor, Evelyn Blanch-Payne, Everett Sullivan, Feechi Hall Francisca Maxwell, Frederick Bloom, George Nakos, Gwendolyn Harold, **Hae Ryong Chung**, Heidi Bendord, Irene Ngonga, Ismail Akbar, Jackson Schwartz, Jacob Chacko, Jada Mitchell, Jamal El-Amin, James Pete, Jason Guthrie, Jelinda Spotorno, Jennifer Harris, Jere Boudell, Jermaine Rolle, Jesse Zinn, Jillian Morgan, Joe Johnson, Joe Trachtenberg, Joey Helton, John Keener, John Meyers, John Phelps, Joie Hain, Jonathan Harris, Jordon Stelle, Jose Acosta, Joshua Clark, Joshua Meddaugh, Justin Spurley, Kamran Moghaddam, Kandice Fowlkes, Karen Young, Karrina Moen, Kathryn Pratt Russell, Keira Davis, Keith Driscoll, Keith Miller, Kelli Nipper, **Ken Nguyen**, **Kendolyn Smith**, Kenja McCray, Kenneith Andres, Kevin Chaney, Kevin Demmit, Kimberly **Campbell**, **Kimberly** Johnson, Kirill Sheynerman, Kitty Deering, Kristoffer Johnson, Kurt-Alexander Zeller, Kyle Bryant, LaKeish Levy, **Larry Menter**, LaSonia Espino, Latasha Adams, Latonia Alexander, LaTrika Staples, Leah Pieper, Leon Prieto, Lindsay Chandler, Lisa Eichelberger, Lisa Smiley, Louis Orchard, Louisa Catalano, Lucretia Portwine, Lyndon Jones, Marcia Laurer, Margaret McAlister, Margaret Thompson, Mario Norman, Mark Daddona, Mark Watson, Marko Maunula, Mary Lamb, Mary Miller, Matthew Carter, Matthew Hutcherson, Matthew Sansbury, Matthew Smith, Mattieu Clave, Md Rokonzaman, Melanie Poudenvigne, Meas Davis, Michael Lindsay, Michael Ryan, Michelle Furlong, Michelle Nelson, Monay Sanders, Montrese Fuller, Muhammad Rahman, Naquilla Thomas, Narem Reddy, Nayab Hakim, Nichelle Gause, Nick Henry, Pamela Gordon, Patrica Smith, Patrick Coleman, Paul Melvin, Penelope Cliff, Pinar Gurkas, Princess Ibekwe, Randall Gooden, Rebecca Morgan, Recha Reid, Reginald Porter, Richard Bell, Robert Swayzer, Robert Vaughan, Rosann O'Neill, Russell Wheeler, Samone Ighofose, **Samuel Maddox**, Sandra Pisen, Sanjay Lal, Sara Harwood, Scott Stegall, Sean Vogt, Shakil Akhtar, Shakyra Rivers, Channon Cochran, Shannon Montgomery, Sharrell Porter, Sharren Thomas, Sheryne Southard, Shontelle Thrash, Shuju Bai, Sonya Gaither, Spenser Emerson, Stacey Reynolds, Stephanie Bennett-Walker, Stephanie Vasquez, **Stephen Burnett**, Stephen Klusza, Steven Anderson, Tammy Wilson,

Taralyn Keese, Tashira Jones, Terence Mally, Terri Summers, Terry Appleberry, Thomas Cornwell, Thomas Garsombke, Thomas McLlwain, Todd Janke, Tomas Merchan Rodriguez, Toye Wheeler, Tuni Acosta, Ursula Gordon, Victoria Foster, **Vivian Padin-Irizarry**, William Carroll, Xiangdong AN, Xueyu Cheng

1. **Introduction of Senators**—in person then online
2. **Approval of Minutes**—2/10/2025; approved unanimously
3. **Remarks and Q&A, Dr. Georj Lewis, President**—Start with some good news on the front-end update from capital project the governor signed the amended FY25 budget including funds for Harry S. Downs project and FY26 was approved with additional \$4 million in there. Moving in the right direction for our campus project. Legislatively, you all know that we have been monitoring the federal executive orders like other institutions. We've identified some things on our website that need to be addressed and we are doing it so we are in compliance. We are working to ensure our funding for our students first and support our faculty and staff. We want to protect what we do so we can do it. Campus wide update April 17<sup>th</sup> on strategic plan update. Enrollment: on 3/22 we have our preview day, final enrollment 5,868 which is up 4% head count and 2%—ish credit hours. We want to make sure the students persist to graduation. 100+ for new wave; 48 new students. Summer is up 12% at the moment. There was a question about parking—fees for a temporary pass have been eliminated. Our parking fees are pretty modest. Currently 20–100 per faculty members. Don't know how long that will be sustainable. We have some work coming up, so in the future fees may go up. Cyber security training launched on 3/3 and ends 4/15.  
Thank you for addressing the parking issue so promptly.  
Has the institution been affected by federal policies? African American Male Initiative will be discontinued by the USG. Yes, we will be impacted in some way, but we will continue to support our students. There is nothing in any policy that says we can't support our students. Something has happened to other institutions; those things have not happened to us. We understand that there are people reviewing our website and everything that we do—and they're allowed to. We have to look at everything we're doing, how we're doing it, and that it is available to all students. USG sent a message out about the AAMI that the program will be discontinued system wide. We CSU are making sure that we're paying attention to everything and that we are in compliance with the laws.  
Grant opportunities—some come from federal agencies that have been shut down. What is the USG's position on the possibly loss of funding from those departments? Yes, we are looking at that. One example is the PBI grant is to be funded for another year into FY26. While we have those funds today, we understand that those funds are being challenged and we are currently looking at what is being purchased with the PBI grant. Then we have to determine which expenses are needed to continue offering our services. We continue to look for other ways to fund our program. We are encouraging everyone to look for other types of grants. This will impact scholarships for students as well, correct? Montrese Fullers is looking at all of the doner agreements and that the language in all of the scholarships is ok so that they can be awarded. We need to work together to identify all of the ways we can do this. Keep our students at the forefront and be creative.

Were AAMI staff terminated? The person for the system, the person in charge of it, that position will be ended. I don't know if they'll be shifted to another department. And yes, there are others who work for institutions on this, so yes, they will be eliminated for that program as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Are you aware of whether the Pell grant is going to be affected? It's not supposed to be. On Friday there was an executive order closing parts of the government including library stuff—how does this affect our library or our USG libraries? We don't have any insights on that yet.

Changes made to the website based on previous executive orders and a program impacted. At what point do we have to worry about our curriculum and our courses? That would be an overstep for sure. Had a presidents' meeting last week. So, there were several announcements from the system. Whenever there are areas broached that shouldn't be, we have advocates at that level who can push back for us.

From the faculty view we shouldn't comply in advance. We will hold out until we are told to do something. *<Internet went out; so lost Teams people, for a minute. Went to Stacey's phone to include them again.>*

4. **Remarks and Q&A, Dr. Jill Drake, Provost**—2 updates just received this morning from Department of Education from a Jim Bergeron to education stakeholders to those areas of DOE not affected by the cuts. <letter shared> “To assure continuity of student aid must continue. No members related to student aid were affected...[many different and diverse departments are not affected]” DOE revised organizational chart. If you were affected it's marked and those positions are now marked as “vacant.” Ed tech, performance improvement, San Francisco office... all vacant...Whose there and whose left is in there. It goes all the way down to the state level offices? Letter came from Costas.  
Friday, we had our ASPIRE meeting and met for about an hour. This round of meetings was different than the first round. Thinks they were different because we wanted to have a more proactive and collegial meeting about the programs. It went well. We discussed the programs that have been on the list for 2 cycles. We made defensible cases for them and so none will be ended at this point in time. Start scheduling the post-ASPIRE meetings and will discuss with the leaders of those programs. Overall good news, but we have work to do. Some programs are already improving. Planning a summer bootcamp thing. Believes in continuous improvement. Always open to conversations to do things better. Thank you to everyone to went over the item she sent out.  
FAFSA went down longer than normal because many people in IT were let go.  
A&S Dean search? She needs to schedule with Dean Hooks and start that.  
Celeste NISS update—we're in the next to last phase. They will have stakeholder's meetings starting soon. It's a 90-minute interview. Advising, academic support and data, outreach and support, etc. They meet every Friday and go over tons of data. Next step is to talk to more boots on the ground level folks.  
Explain the process of communications for faculty—specifically in psychology DEI is a main part of the curriculum. What's the process for us to be involved and to advocate? Regents Advisory Council can communicate with the system. They have influence on the system as a unified voice to communicate with the system. We have a RAC rep. Antoinette Miller is our RAC rep, and it didn't come up in their meeting. They meet regularly once a year. The chair

of the department usually sits on the RAC. We can have off cycle communications. The chair needs to be vocal about it. Are there open lines of communications for us to connect as things happen—wouldn't know what the library needs based on the executive order signed on Friday on his own. So, there is an ad hoc committee that's been formed and been working with each division to address potential items that need to be looked at. For academic affairs go along the regular lines: chair, dean, etc. to find things out and to give voice to concerns. We have been asked to be involved in every update that is made. Responding to system changes based on executive orders so far. So, far we have been told what not to have, not what to have. Contacted deans and chairs when websites were flagged as needed updates. We can all decide for ourselves what we might want for ourselves. If something comes down that affects curriculum, she will immediately contact the deans and figure things out—it will likely again be what we need to not have as opposed to have. Exactly the language that was shared with her will be shared with deans and then shared with faculty as a whole. The power to modify is still in the faculty's hands. That's about all she can say. We all need to be prepared because the people who are challenging higher education don't know our rules. Since they are not aware of the policies or people's functions. We just need to be proactive. We just finished or are starting the registering for Spring 2026. Suggestion for scheduling for department chairs: Is it possible to do scheduling one semester at a time, but a year in advance? So, this summer we do the schedule for next summer, this fall we do the scheduling for next fall, this spring do the scheduling for next spring. Possible—what lead to the year out scheduling? What is the year out fixing? And if doing this would not derail the year out plan and what it helps, then I don't see why not. Doesn't see a reason to do 2 semesters at a time. Just a suggestion. Would you be able to see fill rates, etc. if you do next fall this fall? Would you have data to help inform the schedules? At face value it makes sense, and we will look into that. After no-show fill rates, etc. data can be pulled to then inform. It might also give us room for things that were added to the calendar and possibly be more accurate for scheduling. Will look into.

We added the year in advance scheduling because data from other institutions showed that having a year out calendar would help improve retention of students. If we do the fall now, then the schedules would be out earlier than they are coming out now.

Can you allow more than 10 minutes between the end and start of a course? 10 minutes is hard to navigate for both the faculty and the students. Can look at that. Modeling it logistically might mean more 8am classes and/or 5pm classes. We might be able to work on this collectively. Wouldn't want to work on this if there's not a big faculty buy in. Call for a meeting for calendar we could look at this then. Reza has some suggestions for the calendar committee. Part of strategic plan building academic career pathways. One group is looking at scheduling and those things. There is a larger strategic initiative looking at that.

Aligning course schedule with the new work week. Going later in the day Monday through Thursday? The university recently moved to a compressed work week. There's never been any discussion about the compressed week on the course schedule matrix. Definitely we need to talk about that. Friday at noon would be an activity period for meetings, and meetings are still happening, but the work week has ended. If we have this new schedule, we should have a different period during the week to have these meetings.

## 5. Subcommittee Reports

- a. University Curriculum Committee  
No report. Things to vote on. Will vote online later.
- b. Academic Policy Committee  
Nothing to report.
- c. Faculty Affairs Committee  
No report.
- d. Student Affairs Committee  
No report. Our meeting is next Monday. Will have report at next meeting.

## 6. Vote on approved UCC items—vote online later.

7. **Discussions:** Bridgette—please announce that the jobs fair is this Thursday. We are hearing from a lot of our alumni who have been laid off. We have employers who hire all majors. 12–3pm in the SAC—internships, full time hires, part time hires, graduate schools will be there—ours and others. They need to be professionally dressed, don't forget about the career services clothing closet. Students are frustrated from applying online. It helps when we've got our partners here who want to hire CSU graduates. The clothes in the closet are free. They buy items but also take donations. We need to get students there in person. Are Alumni informed by email of the availability of the Career Services services? Yes, they are contacted and notified that they have access to the office for a lifetime. Many of them are reaching out in LinkedIn as well, where they also contact alumni. *<Internet came back as she finished. So, went back to the computer.>*

Karrina Moen program manager for CAS. Somethings that they are doing for finals and midterm outreach. We all want our students to succeed. Midterm grades have been posted, they had break, and now they need to figure out how to finish the semester. Reaching out to students with not passing grades. Save my GPA event will happen tomorrow at Laker Hall and again in Magnolia Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Please push your students to make use of these services. Finals Study Jam April 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>. Will reach out to faculty and staff to participate and support. Have your office hours there. For student affairs they do the Laker Hall dorm visits as well. To connect with students who may feel apprehensive to approach their faculty members. CAS in Laker Hall and Edgewater Hall. Please tell your students about us and encourage them to get help. *<attachment with more CAS details>*

Adjourn—12:31pm