

1-21-2020

## **Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 21, 2020**

FHSU Faculty Senate

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**Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate**  
**January 21, 2020**  
**Location: Black & Gold Room, MU, 3:30pm - 5:00pm**

**Minutes**

Senators were to have read before the meeting the following documents:

- Academic Affairs Standing Committee Minutes December 2019
- FHSU Z-Course Proposal
- FS December 2019 Minutes
- International Partner Faculty Meeting Report
  - Access to documents can be found through the shared Faculty Senate Folder:  
[goo.gl/1Np8Fp](https://goo.gl/1Np8Fp)

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:31pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:**
  - Bill Stark moves to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Janet Stramel.
  - Approved.
3. **Approval of [December Minutes](#)**
  - Bill Stark moves to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Janet Stramel.
  - Approved.
4. **Announcements and Information Items**
  - a. **Guest announcements,**
    - i. **Provided by Provost Arensdorf,**
      - Provost Arensdorf thanks everyone for attending Winter Commencement. There was a great turn out of students and their families, and we hope to continue with Winter Commencement in the future.
      - President Mason shared updates about the Strategic Plan at Convocation. The Implementation Team will continue to meet to discuss Year One Goals. On Friday (1/17) Provost Arensdorf sent a form via email requesting ideas for Year Two Initiatives. Please encourage faculty to provide input. The form was setup to allow for multiple submissions by the same person to accommodate new ideas/input. All ideas will be sent to the Goal Team Co-Chairs to consider for Year Two.
      - An update also was provided regarding the Strategic Enrollment Process (SEP). SEP notes can be found in Cabinet minutes; an updated version of these minutes is forthcoming.
      - Provost Arensdorf presented to KBOR about Advising and Career Preparation.
      - Updates were provided on searches for two Deans. The Robbins College of Business and Entrepreneurship (RCOBE) will bring

five candidates to campus within the next month. More information forthcoming on when candidates will be on campus; note that each candidate's information will be shared 24 hours in advance. A Dean of Forsyth Library is needed and the search will begin soon.

- Two Coffees and Conversations with Jill will happen this spring (2/12; 4/14). Both will be held in morning to accommodate our faculty in China.
- A Promotion Panel will take place on 2/13 at 3:00pm in the Union (most likely Stouffer lounge). Details forthcoming.
- The Assessment Software Committee recommended using AEFIS. A functional start date is anticipated May of 2020.
- Provost Arensdorf congratulated the Fall Faculty Award Winners.

**b. Report from Faculty Senate President**

i. KBOR / COFSP's

1. Legislative Budget: [KBOR Governor's Budget Recommendations](#)
2. Better connection between Higher Ed and K-12 was encouraged by Regents.
3. Universities need to do things differently than they have before in order to be successful. We have to offer opportunities that are valued by students/parents and are done better than competitors. ([FHSU Strategic Plan: Forward Thinking Strategies](#))
4. The importance of shared governance. See Provost Arensdorf's update above requesting feedback for Year Two Strategic Plan Initiatives.
5. COFSP's: Online discussion - is it a "degree" or an "education"? Ex. Starbucks partnering with ASU online.

ii. SGA Student Rep's in Standing Committees

1. Student Affairs - Eiran Saucedo [eesaucedo@mail.fhsu.edu](mailto:eesaucedo@mail.fhsu.edu)
2. Academic Affairs - Crystal Rojas [c\\_rojas@mail.fhsu.edu](mailto:c_rojas@mail.fhsu.edu)
3. Partnerships and Technology - Isaiah Schindler [i\\_schindler@mail.fhsu.edu](mailto:i_schindler@mail.fhsu.edu)
4. University Affairs - Alexandria Kultgen [amkultgen.se@fhsu.edu](mailto:amkultgen.se@fhsu.edu)
5. Strategic Planning and Improvements - Brad DeMers (place holder) [bddemers.se@fhsu.edu](mailto:bddemers.se@fhsu.edu)

iii. [President's Cabinet - Jan 21, 10AM](#)

1. Enrollments Spring 2020 down a little. Opportunity in 2nd 8-week courses to turn it around.

iv. FS leadership for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

- Paul Nienkamp, current FS Vice President, resigned from the position to pursue opportunities within the Department of History.
- To fill the vacant position, two options were presented to Faculty Senate by the Faculty Senate Presidents Nominating Committee (consisting of Tony Gabel, Denis Orth, Carl Miller, and Eric

Deyo). A motion to vote on this ballot as presented was made by Bill Stark and seconded by Jason Harper. **Approved.**

- See ballot **Appendix A**
  - **Discussion:** Jack Maseberg asked for information on historical rules about a current President serving a consecutive term. Fred Britten said that something like this has happened before for various reasons and that there is nothing in the bylaws that prevents someone from running for/serving a second consecutive term. Ginger Loggins asked for information about the responsibilities of the Vice President (VP). Kevin Splichal listed some of the responsibilities. Bill Stark mentioned talk of a two-year term for Faculty Senate President and asked how much time it takes for a VP to acclimate. Kevin discussed his experience; Tony mentioned that a two-year term might be helpful to allow for the VP to acclimate and shadow the President. Tony recommended that VP have opportunities to go to KBOR meetings. Helen Miles asked if there are any other institutions that have a President serve for more than one year. Kevin and Tony responded that to their knowledge other presidents serve one-year terms although it might be beneficial to have someone serving for more than one year to forge relationships and advocate on behalf of FS and our university.
  - Voting by paper ballot on the two options occurred. Results are as followed:
    - Option 1 received 4 votes
    - Option 2 received 32 votes
    - Some names were written-in for consideration of VP
- v. Reminder: Please email Standing Committee meeting minutes, once approved, to Kevin Splichal.
- vi. Gen Ed Committee: Call has gone out to deans for Faculty Advisory nominations which are appropriate to CORE Outcomes and academic colleges. A “Call for Course Proposals” email has gone out to chairs.
1. Course proposals will be submitted using the Lotus Notes “significant course change process.”
  2. Once in LN, Brad Will forwards the course proposal to the appropriate Faculty Advisory group.
  3. The Faculty Advisory group then reviews the course, makes suggestions, and forwards a letter of review back to Brad Will and the Gen Ed Committee.
  4. Once approved by the Gen Ed Committee, the course continues through the appropriate approvers in Lotus Notes.
  5. Courses need to include the CORE Outcomes Assignment Rubrics.

5. **Consent Agenda:** No consent agenda provided.

6. **Reports from Committees:**

- a. **Academic Affairs:** [December AA Minutes for your Review](#)
  - i. Report provided by Helen Miles. Regarding the classes below, Helen stated that substantial changes were requested and one new course was submitted. All were unanimously approved by Academic Affairs committee.
  - ii. Requiring Senate Approval: JUS/CRJ 395, CHEM 644, MATH 105, SLP 320/420
    - **Discussion:** Bill Stark asked for clarification about the term “hard sciences” used when describing an element of the Criminal Justice course. April Terry provided information on the JUS/CRJ 395 course.
    - Motion to approve the courses was made by Bill Stark and seconded by Lexey Bartlett. **Approved.**
- b. **University Affairs: No report provided.**
  - i. Faculty Morale and Merit Resolution timeline extended - work continues.
- c. **Strategic Planning and Improvements: No report provided.**
  - i. University Strategic Plan – see Provost’s comments above.
- d. **Partnerships and Technology:** Jason requests that senators read the China Faculty Meeting Report (link below).
  - i. Update on Partnerships. [China Faculty Meeting Report](#)
  - ii. Keeping all faculty informed.
- e. **Student Affairs: No report provided.**
  - i. Drop Policies Relating to Student Misconduct - work continues.

## 7. New Business

- a. Thomas Dunn: Presented information about KMASST (Kansas Mathematics Alignment for Student Success Taskforce). Concerns were raised about College Algebra keeping students from graduating. Institutions were invited to participate in a task force (KMASST). Some institutions are discussing getting rid of College Algebra. The Mathematics Department has disused a new class called Contemporary Mathematics. College Algebra was removed as a pre-requisite for Elements of Statistics. Thomas would like to know if College Algebra is required for other classes within a specific major/program. If not, he suggested that students might prefer to take Contemporary Mathematics. However, if a major does require skills learned in College Algebra, then Contemporary Math might not be a good option.
  - **Discussion:** Bill Stark asked for clarification about differences between College Algebra and the new Contemporary Mathematics course. Thomas said that topics related to modern mathematics that do not require rigorous algebraic understanding will be taught in Contemporary Math. Ivalah Allen indicated that her understanding is that College Algebra is a requirement for Education and Statistics. She asked if College Algebra is a KBOR requirement. Thomas was unsure and mentioned that the task force does not have weight in making this decision to get rid of College Algebra for all programs. April Terry asked if Contemporary Math is like Liberal Arts Math. Thomas said these classes might be similar. Bill Stark added

that the Mathematics Department adding the five-year math plan for students seems like a better option and added concern that we are lowering the bar adding this new class. Thomas said that it would not be lowering the bar, it would just be a shift in the content/topic (“different but not diminished mathematics”). Cole Engel asked for additional clarification regarding Liberal Arts Math. He expressed some concern about changes for BBA students being able to bypass College Algebra. Thomas spoke to pre-requisite classes that are being discussed by the task force. Thomas Schafer added a recommendation that perception is important and to be mindful that we do not want to create the perception that Contemporary Math is not rigorous. Thomas agrees that the purpose of Contemporary Math is not to lower rigor. Janett Naylor-Tincknell spoke about the Psychology Department requiring College Algebra and requested clarification on why the Math Department removed the pre-requisite of College Algebra for Elements of Statistics. Thomas indicated that algebraic understanding is not necessarily needed for the stats class that is primarily a computer based class. Kevin Splichal noted that any further questions from departments should be submitted to Thomas. Jill added that math pathways are a priority for KBOR and will be something we discuss at FHSU in the future.

- b. OER Committee: [Z-course proposal](#), Jason Harper FS Representative on OER
  - i. Request to share information with departments about Z-courses. If faculty have questions, please contact Claire Nickerson.
- c. Tony Gabel added that he was asked to move one of his classes (Business Law) to a three-week course. His feeling was that this seemed more like a decision that had already been made and not a consultation with the content expert, although the class never went forward. This concerned him as he does not believe that this course can be taught in three-weeks. This relates to questions about who controls the curriculum and who decides how much information can be retained. Tony encourages senators to consider short-courses and if short-courses are a good idea for students.
  - **Discussion:** Kevin Splichal clarified that short-courses are supposed to be determined by the Department. Tony indicated that this request was made by individuals above the Department. Lexey asked if the request was meant to be regular load or overload. Tony indicated that it was presented not as a request but as an opportunity and encouraged others to be mindful of short-courses (if a class can be/should be converted to a short-course).

## 8. Adjournment

- a. Motion from Bill Stark, seconded by Rob Byer. **Approved.**
- b. Meeting adjourned at 4:32pm
- c. Next meeting February 3, 2020, Black and Gold Room

January 21, 2020  
Ballot

Senators:

The Faculty Senate Presidents Nominating Committee consisting of Tony Gabel, Denise Orth, Carl Miller, and Eric Deyo have proposed the following options for filling the vacancy of the Faculty Senate Vice President.

Please consider each option carefully and vote on your preference by marking beside either Option 1 or Option 2.

**Option 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

Hold an election at our February FS meeting to elect the Vice President. The winner becomes VP immediately, then takes over the office of the President of Faculty Senate in June 2020.

Two prospective candidates have agreed to be on this ballot. They are **Janet Stramel and Rob Byer**. If you would also like to be on the February ballot, please write your name here:

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

The committee asked the current President, Kevin Splichal, if he was willing to remain president for a second term. Kevin Splichal has agreed under the condition that Faculty Senators make this decision. By choosing option 2, Kevin Splichal will remain FS President for another term. The regular election in April, 2020 will be used to elect the 2020/2021 Vice President, who will then become FS President in June of 2021.

Four prospective candidates have agreed to be on this ballot. They are **Janet Stramel, Rob Byer, Elodie Jones, and Shane Schartz**. If you would also like to be on the April ballot, please write your name here:

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

