

College of the Marshall Islands
Friday October 27th: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM
Faculty Senate – Minutes of Discussion (Unofficial Meeting; No Quorum)

Chair: Adedayo Ogunmokun – FS President

Deputy Chair: Alvin Page – FS Vice President

Minute taker: Alexander Velasquez – FS Secretary and Treasurer

Quorum: 24 needed; not reached.

1. Quorum was not reached; unofficial meeting began at 11:20 AM.
 - i. Dr. Hazzard announced her birthday celebration for Saturday, December 5th. Ten years of work will be celebrated; **there will only be light refreshments there, so Dr. Hazzard encouraged everyone to eat early.**
 - ii. She also encouraged those with children to get someone to watch them, but if they must bring the children, then she would rather have that instead of not seeing you there.
2. **President Ogunmokun mentioned that we do our best, in our classes, to promote entrepreneurship, Marshallese language, and agriculture and marine resources. Maybe we could supplement our class texts and readings with material relating to these subjects.**
3. Review of Faculty Salary Scale: 2021 Initiative
 - i. Dr. Hazzard expressed to president Irene that she would like to work for an institution where she could receive a raise to reflect the current economic conditions. Pay has remained virtually the same over her past ten years here as a faculty member, even though the cost of living has gone up.
 - ii. **Thanks to Dr. Hazzard vocalizing her concern, president Irene expressed that she has made this an initiative for the 2020-2021 academic year; faculty senate should follow up on this when senate resumes next semester.**
4. Dr. Hazzard revisited the previous discussion on a potential change to the CMI college hour. **(Please see Dr. Hazzard's e-mail with the analysis for the full detail.)**
 - i. One of the reasons for the change was that students were not in class for enough total minutes, and that CMI was not in compliance with WASC requirements.
 1. However, other reputable schools approved by WASC, such as one university in Hawaii and many of the community colleges in Hawaii, still operate through the previous schedule format CMI had – the one that Dr. Hazzard proposed that we move back to for reasons of faculty professional development.
 2. This old schedule would also offer the students more classes per day.
 - ii. **As a faculty senate, we need to see where Dean Va stands on the issue and put this on the agenda for next year.**
5. Discussion of Independent Study
 - i. There is no compensation for independent study, so there is no incentive for faculty to do it. **There was a shared feeling among faculty that they should not take any more work if there is no compensation for it.**
 1. Independent study looks good for tenure, but there is not tenure system here. (It is illegal here in the RMI.)
 - ii. **So, faculty should get some sort of compensation for independent study, possibly in the form of an automatic five for PMS.**
 - iii. **This should be a business matter when we have quorum.**
6. Executive Council: The implementation strategy for online learning should be shared with the faculty senate secretary so that it could be shared with the rest of the faculty, as faculty should be spearheading the implementation strategy.
7. The Enrollment Management Committee will conduct the placement test for students from the 14th to the 18th of December.
 - i. There was a discussion as to who will grade the essays, and the DevEd department will be the ones to grade; the grading would take place during the CMI holiday break.
 1. **However, this prompted further discussion to the fact that since the grading happens during time off, there should be some sort of compensation instead of doing the grading for free – at the minimum compensation through PMS.**

- ii. Also, the official numbers for the Fall enrollment are: 49% full-time and 51% part-time.
 - 1. A survey is being developed for why half of the students are part-time.
 - 2. One possible reason is that, in many cases, the classes are cancelled and the administration does not give the students ample time to correct their schedules, nor do some students desire to go through the administrative process of correcting their schedules.
 - a. **So, students' needs, in many cases, may not be met by the administration.**
- 8. One Marshallese faculty member who is not from Majuro brought up the fact that they have to pay their own rent. Thus, they are advocating for a change in the HR policy regarding this.
 - i. President Ogunmokun advised the faculty member to write up a document so that faculty senate could push the issue to HR.
- 9. No communication has occurred with the Participatory Governance Committee.