

College of the Marshall Islands
Friday February 12th: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM
Faculty Senate – Minutes of Discussion

Chair: Adedayo Ogunmokun – FS President

Deputy Chair: Alvin Page – FS Vice President

Minute taker: Alexander Velasquez – FS Secretary and Treasurer

Quorum: 24 required, 25 in attendance; quorum reached.

1. **Quorum was reached at 11:29 AM;**
 - i. The Academic Coaching position was announced by Jennifer Seru.
2. **Review of the Minutes** (from November 13th, 2020 and from January 22nd, 2021)
 - i. The move to accept the minutes from November 13th, 2020 was accepted and seconded with one abstention
 - ii. The move to accept the minutes from January 22nd, 2021 was accepted and seconded with one abstention
3. **Executive Council & Executive Officers' Report**
 - i. Faculty Senate is no longer expected to do anything with the online policy.
 - ii. Participatory Governance has met, and some issues have come up:
 1. Governance must look into how Faculty Senate quorum can be formed more often. The whole idea is to look at three models and to see which one will help us get a quorum more often so that faculty senate is more frequent and not skipped due to missing faculty so that policies in the interest of faculty are discussed:
 - a. There is the possibility that senators could form a congress.
 - b. The number for quorum could be reduced by one-third.
 - c. There could be quorum with 3-4 members.
 2. A discussion ensued about why Faculty Senate attendance has been so low.
 - a. Once concern brought up in the past was that Faculty Senate takes place on bank/paydays, but there were concerns about other potential reasons for why faculty has been absent.
 3. One reason for why a representation model, such as 1a above, may work better is because usually it's the same faculty members that come to the meeting.
 4. Either way, Participatory Governance has to look more closely into this to see if there are any recommendations; and this is important because if the college bypasses the faculty in making decisions, then faculty may not like the result.
 5. At the end of the day, not everyone will be made happy with changes in participatory governance, but the current model is not effective with so many absences; so a change must be made.
 6. However, there will be a resolution this year.
4. **Human Resources Committee**
 - i. The HRC rep was not available at the meeting due to other faculty-related obligations, but an email was sent to the faculty senate president, vice president, and secretary about the following:
 1. The HR committee will initiate their last meeting on Thursday June 24th, 2021.
 2. There is nothing new from HRC except for the information that was provided through email by HRC on January 22nd, 2021.
 - a. This email was concerning Student Disciplinary Procedures under Policy 349. HRC requested that faculty share their thoughts, comments, and suggestions to the attached policy in that email.
5. **Curriculum Committee RSA**
 - i. The committee is looking at the Agroforestry Program documents; they are still on the table, and they are the only document being looked at right now.
 - ii. Also, the course outlines will be coming to the Curriculum Committee for the rest of the semester.

- iii. As a Faculty Senate, we should look at what is submitted online through email and contribute to it.
6. Institutional Effectiveness Committee
- i. The Program Reviews were reviewed and analyzed, and the Cycle 1 Group Phase has been given two weeks to make changes and update. They'll then come back to IEC for approval. The programs not submitted on time will not qualify for the prioritization budgeting.
 - ii. The Accreditation Virtual Visit will be rescheduled for March 16th – 19th.
 - iii. There will be three options for the Program Review Training: Feb. 16th, 18th, and 19th.
7. Enrollment Management Committee
- i. The Student Discipline Policy: An email will be sent regarding whether it is too late for faculty to comment on the policy.
 - ii. Please encourage students to take credit-level math (students who both qualify and are in their first semester) upon enrollment. Not many students did so this semester. This way, students will be in the right pathway toward graduating and/or transferring on time.
8. Library Committee
- i. The LC announced that they are not an approved committee; EC must approve LC to be a standing committee.
 - ii. Until they are approved, they will be removed as a committee on the agenda for future Faculty Senate meetings.
9. Plant and Facilities Committee
- i. Update on keys to both classrooms and bathrooms
 - ii. Most of the keys to faculty for both classrooms and bathrooms have been cut; the remaining keys will be cut by Friday, February 12th.
10. Information Technology Committee
- i. There was no meeting because the migration and MICROIX system IT Director decided to cancel the meeting, but there will be an email sent about the next meeting.
 - ii. There was an informal discussion about laptops: there has been a purchase of new laptops last Christmas. These laptops are built-in with Zoom, come with a free stylus, and so on. Training will be had so that good use can be made of these laptops.
 - iii. Some faculty voiced their concerns for IT to ensure working remote controls for the projectors so that faculty don't have to stand on chairs or grab another faculty member if they need to projector to turn on.
11. Unfinished Businesses
- i. Revisiting the change to CMI's College Hour: This was Dr. Andrea's initiative, but since Dr. Andrea has left the institution, this job may be given to the Faculty Senate Vice President.
 - ii. There was one faculty member who voiced their concern that the initial hour change could be the reason people do not show up to the Faculty Senate meeting:
 - 1. According to this faculty member, there were more faculty in Faculty Senate meetings when the college hour lasted until 12:30 PM and not the current 12:10 PM. Faculty may not feel that the current time frame is not enough time for their break, to get their work done, to eat, or all of the above. Faculty may feel that having to spend their only free hour on Fridays in a meeting that they may not participate in is counter-productive.
 - a. All of this is to conclude that the change to CMI's College Hour is an important issue that should not go overlooked.
12. New Business
- i. The appreciation letter to be drafted and signed by officers to Dr. Hazzard to recognize her efforts as a faculty member at CMI is currently being worked on and will be shared with faculty.
13. Discussion
- i. The accommodation for non-Marshallese faculty coming from the outer islands is currently being worked on.
14. **Meeting Adjourned**