

**College of the Marshall Islands**  
**Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Faculty Senate: Minutes of Discussion**

**Chair:** Alvin Page – FS President

**Deputy Chair:** Viviana Uriona – FS Vice President

**Minute Taker:** Alexander Velasquez – FS Secretary and Treasurer

**Quorum:** 26 required, 29 in attendance.

1. Quorum was reached, and the meeting was made official at 11:23 AM.
2. Review of the Minutes from February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - i. The minutes were approved and seconded with no abstentions.
3. New Business
  - i. Implementation of Parking Fees
    1. The Faculty Senate executive officers have met with the Staff Senate and the SGA to discuss the implementation of parking fees at CMI.
      - a. These three bodies had unanimous disagreement on the implementation of parking fees because they were made without the necessary communication with, and inclusion of, the participatory governance bodies. The decisions also had a concerning lack of transparency.
      - b. A letter was drafted after the meeting in response to the implementation of parking fees:
        - i. The letter proposes that the implementation of parking fees be put on hold until there is more common ground with the participatory governing bodies to arrive at a legally binding parking policy.
        - ii. The wording of the letter was also voted on:
          1. The first option was to word it to express that the college outright halt the parking fee policy without negotiation and request that the policy in question be cancelled altogether.
          2. The second option was to word it to express that faculty reject the implementation of the policy and request a pause on the implementation so as to have adequate time to discuss the policy with the other governing bodies.
            - a. The second option was unanimously voted on by all faculty present.
        - iii. Once the letter is done, a link will be sent to all faculty so that all can see the updated letter and comment on the document.
      - c. The Staff Senate is also having their meeting on Monday and will bring up this issue, and the Faculty Senate remains in communication with the Staff Senate and SGA regarding this issue.
    2. This new parking fee policy also got one faculty member in particular to share their thoughts with the faculty on the importance of shared governance and the importance of incorporating all bodies into the decision-making process going forward into the future:
      - a. This would avoid the problem of having decisions being made from the executives at the top and not informing other members of the college of the policies that will have a direct impact on them.
      - b. They also made the point that an interim president should not have the power to enact new policies without the consent of the other governing bodies of the college.

3. The justification for the implementation of parking fees, according to EC, is because this policy is considered an 'operational policy,' hence, it is not up to the decision of the Faculty Senate, nor of the other governing bodies, to decide the policies that fall under this headline.
  - a. But one faculty member objected to this through the following example:
    - i. If CMI has to enact a policy where, in the case that the roof collapses, CMI has to decide on how they would handle such an issue, then it falls under the headline of 'operational policy.'
      1. Essentially, there is no reason to discuss the implementation of such a policy with the other governing bodies.
    - ii. But in the case that CMI makes a policy where the roof collapses *and* CMI employees have to pay for the repairs, then this should *not* be considered an 'operational policy,'
      1. In this case, the decision to implement such a policy *should* involve the faculty because now the faculty are involved in what is essentially payment without consent.

#### 4. Reports/Actionable Items:

##### i. Executive Council & Executive Officers' Report

##### 1. Children in the Workplace Policy and Parking Policy

- a. If children are to be in the workplace, then supervisors must be informed beforehand.
- b. Also, you are responsible for your child on campus; that is, you are not to ask students or others to supervise your child because they are your responsibility.
  - i. The Staff Senate did not vote on this policy, and some of the comments on the policy have not been resolved.
    1. However, EC asked for the implementation of the policy.
      - a. If there are issues with the policy going forward, then the policy can be revisited or altered at a later time.
        - i. The same is true of the parking policy; that is, any issues with the policy in the future means that the policy can be revisited or altered at a later time.

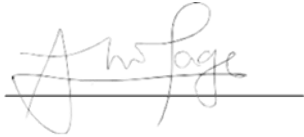
##### 2. Housing Policy

- a. If you have a contract with CMI, then you are allocated \$850 for housing.
- b. If you have two contracts with CMI (e.g. a married couple), then you are allocated \$1100 for housing.
- c. If you have a contract with CMI, but your spouse also gets money for housing at a separate school or institution, then CMI will do the following:
  - i. CMI will allocate \$1100 for housing minus the housing allocation that your spouse receives at their institution.
    1. Example: If your spouse receives \$375 for housing from their school, then you will receive  $\$1100 - \$375 = \$725$ .
  - ii. The final amount for housing you will receive will be **no less than \$600**.
- d. If you have any issues regarding your housing payments, please go to HR directly.

#### 5. Human Resources Committee

- i. Please make comments and suggestions on the job description document sent by Mylast and Gade because it will be brought up to HRC for discussion next week.

6. Curriculum Committee
  - i. CC is in the stage of reading and reviewing course outlines.
7. Enrollment Management Committee
  - i. There is a scheduled SGA Carnival & Night Market on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
    1. Please attend and show your support.
  - ii. For all advisers, the graduation application period is open.
    1. The deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>.
    2. There is a fee to apply for graduation.
      - a. Payment is due May 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - iii. Dean Va and Kelly are working on the schedule to make it friendlier for all parties on campus as we move from an eight-week to a 7.5-week term, as well as from a sixteen to a fifteen-week term.
8. Announcements
  - i. SLO Reminder: Assessment plans are due on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
    1. Chairs, please send Rosalie an email if you would like her to come by and help your department with crafting their assessment plans.
9. Meeting Adjourned at 12:08 PM.



Alvin Page  
Faculty Senate President



Alexander Velasquez  
Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer