

College of the Marshall Islands
Friday, October 14th, 2022: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM
Faculty Senate – Minutes of Discussion

Chair: Alvin Page – FS President

Deputy Chair: Rebecca Raab – FS Vice President

Minute Taker: Alexander Velasquez – FS Secretary and Treasurer

Quorum: 26 required, 29 in attendance

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:18 AM.
2. The College Mission Statement was read.
3. Review of the Minutes from September 23rd, 2022.
 - i. An error in the previous minutes was corrected:
 1. Section 6ii of the previous minutes were revised:
 - a. Original: Employee education benefits from CMI have changed from 14 credits to 16 credits.
 - b. Revision: Employee education benefits from CMI have changed from **12** credits to **18** credits.
 - ii. After the correction was made, the minutes were approved and seconded with no abstentions.
4. Special/Urgent Business
 - i. Election of New Faculty Senate Officers:
 1. **Institutional Effectiveness Committee**: Rosina Korean was renominated and seconded with no abstentions.
5. New Business
 - i. Need for a Subcommittee to Redo PMS Rubric:
 1. Per the recent Dean with Faculty Meeting, faculty can revise the rubric for PMS.
 - a. This is the only way the PMS rubric can change.
 2. This needs to start at a committee level with Faculty Senate, then the changes can come to Faculty Senate for a vote.
 - a. Mr. Edward Alfonso has volunteered to be on the committee.
 - b. Mr. Adedayo Ogunmokun has volunteered to be on the committee.
 - ii. Discussion of Recommendations from the Faculty Satisfaction Survey
 1. President Alvin sent the survey out on September 22nd for Faculty Senate make recommendations based on the Faculty Satisfaction Survey results, but no recommendations were made.
 - a. However, Faculty Senate expressed that, as a whole, they are satisfied with Darren and Alvin making the recommendations.
 - i. The recommendations will be listed on a formal document by November 1st for a vote in Faculty Senate.
 1. Should the vote pass Faculty Senate, the recommendations would then be sent to the Executive Council and to the Board.
 - iii. DTENs
 1. Faculty were asked what they wanted to do with the DTENs.
 - a. Specifically, the question was: Should faculty continue to use the DTENs as the primary method of learning, or should they go back to using the projectors and the whiteboard?
 - i. President Alvin said he would discuss this issue with Boni, the issue being:
 1. What are the plans for the DTENs moving forward?
 - iv. Discussion with Dean Angela
 1. Dean Angela reported to faculty that, a few weeks ago, CMI had an attempted suicide issue.

- a. The incident took place at 3:00 AM at MIR.
 - i. The student was found near the oceanfront, and the student was taken to the hospital and put on watch for 24 hours.
 1. The student has now had regular meetings with counselors both at the hospital and at school.
 - a. He has not said much, but he has said that it has been a combination of everything going on in his life.
2. As a result of this situation, Dean Angela is working on a protocol to address the following issues:
 - a. If something happens to a student, who is the one to call the family?
 - b. How are the students informed?
 - c. Who will cover the cost of transporting the body home should the student be from a different atoll or island or country?
3. Many students live at MIR and RRE, and CMI receives emails about student incidents at hotels.
 - a. MIR is a hard place for CMI to keep up with the students, and there is also easier access to alcohol.
 - b. Students are living on their own in a hotel and have more freedom than they ever had before.
4. Curritha, one of the counselors at CMI, did a workshop on suicide prevention.
 - a. She shared with the Faculty Senate many of the signs and symptoms of students who may have suicidal ideation including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Relationship breakup
 - ii. Family breakup
 - iii. Physical/sexual abuse
 - iv. Alcohol abuse
 - v. Schoolwork problems
 - vi. Unemployment
 - vii. Feeling like they don't belong anywhere
 - viii. Suicidal thoughts
 - ix. Giving away prized possessions
 - x. Obtaining and/or changing their will
 - xi. Avoiding activities they used to love
 - xii. Lack of happiness
 - xiii. Making their sadness public on social media
 - b. Curritha emphasized the LGE approach of suicide prevention:
 - i. **Listen** non-judgmentally: get to know their story.
 - ii. **Get** their assurance and information
 - iii. **Encourage** professional help, self-help, and a support strategy
 1. So, if any faculty suspect something, then address it: get the student(s) to talk about as much as possible.
5. The counselors at CMI notice that suicide tends to lead back to relationships as the main issue.
 - a. CMI needs to address the issue of how to separate from a significant other with respect and without ill will toward the other person.
6. Adjournment
 - i. Actionable items tabled for email.
 - ii. Meeting Adjourned at 12:05 PM.