College of the Marshall Islands
Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges
P.O. Box 1258
Uliga Campus
Majuro, Marshall Islands, MH 96960
Tel: (692) 625-3394/3291/4931
Fax: (692) 625-7203
Email: itcommitee@cmi.edu

The College of the Marshall Islands Faculty Senate

Regular Meeting, October 01, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Present During the Meeting: 17
Not Present/Unexcused During the Meeting: 21
On Leave or Excused, Others: 2
Time Meeting Started: 11:10 AM

A. Overview

The Faculty Senate approved several policy documents, extended the summer-term survey, and addressed governance, registration, budget, and presidential-search matters.

I. Key Decisions

- Approved the minutes and closed comments or editing on three HRC documents: minimum qualifications, probationary period, and initial employee contract; all will be forwarded to HRC.
- Closed commenting and editing of the faculty representative engagement-tracking document with forwarding it to the E.C..
- Approved joint action and letter with the Staff Senate regarding delayed retirement-account payments.
- Extended the summer-term survey deadline to October 31 because participation was low.

II. Open Issues

- How should registration concerns, including the proposed add-drop fee, be researched and processed through governance?
- How should course cancellations, late registration, and enrollment spillover be addressed without disadvantaging students or faculty?
- How much additional time is needed to review the proposed academic calendar before feedback is submitted?

III. Other Matters

- The Senate reviewed presidential-search questions focused on funding, enrollment, and graduate quality.
- Faculty plant and facilities concerns were closed for comment and prepared for consolidation and presentation to Plant and Facilities.

IV. Action Items

- Engage with the staff senate on a joint action regarding delayed ASC retirement-account payments.
- Keep the summer-term survey open through October 31 to increase the number of respondents.
- Forward the proposed add-drop fee issue through the governance process to the EMC for discussion.
- Organize a document collecting faculty concerns and issues regarding registration, including the proposed add-drop fee.
- Conduct additional research and calculations on the add-drop fee and related registration issues before presenting the faculty position.
- Request an extension to review and discuss the proposed academic calendar before approval, rather than responding within the rushed one-week deadline.

B. Outline

I. Opening and Minutes

- The meeting was called to order, the mission was read, and the previously distributed minutes were approved without corrections.

II. HRC Documents

- The Senate closed comments on minimum qualifications and forwarded the document to HRC.
- The probationary-period policy and initial employee contract were approved for forwarding to HRC after editing was closed.
- Editing was closed on the faculty representative engagement-tracking document;

III. Retirement Accounts

- The Senate discussed delayed retirement-account payments and approved joint engagement with the Staff Senate.

IV. Summer-Term Survey

- Participation was considered too low to support strong conclusions.
- The survey deadline was extended to October 31.

V. Committee Reports and Registration

- The faculty workload policy was reported as approved and awaiting board approval, with minor revisions.

- The Senate discussed late add-drop activity, course cancellations, overloaded classes, and possible enrollment spillover.
- Registration concerns were broadened beyond add-drop fees for governance consideration.

VI. Presidential Search

- The Senate reviewed common questions for finalists on funding, enrollment, and graduate quality.
- Candidate campus visits and fairness of access were discussed.

VII. Budget and Calendar

- The budget was expected to include possible cuts, and the Senate discussed funding uncertainty.
- The Senate opposed a rushed academic-calendar feedback deadline and requested more review time.

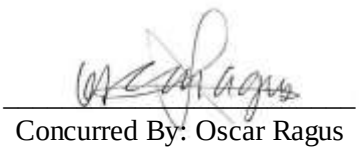
VII. Facilities

- Faculty facilities, maintenance, security, and IT concerns were closed for comment for consolidation.

C. Closing:

The Senate tabled the remaining agenda items due to members' class schedules. The meeting was then adjourned. FS President Ragus gave thanks to the Honorable Members of the Faculty Senate for their high participation and attendance and expressed words of encouragement for FS representatives.

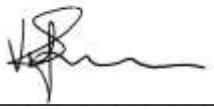
The October 01, 20226 Faculty Senate regular meeting was adjourned at <u>12:15 PM</u>



Concurred By: Oscar Ragus
Faculty Senate President AY 26-27



Submitted By: Curtis Vila
Faculty Senate Secretary
AY 25-27



Concurred By: Vasemaca Savu
Faculty Senate Vice President
AY 26-27

Senate Body Approval Date: