

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

DAY: Wednesday, September 17, 2025

TIME: 2:00 PM - 2:40 PM CST **LOCATION:** Microsoft Teams

Attendees Dr. Halil Tas Dr. Ann Marie Smith Ms. Shweta Shroff Dr. Nadeem Daudpota Dr. Tomas Green Dr. LaTisha Metts Dr. Jason Villanueva Dr. Yaseen Bhutto Members Absent/ left the Senate Mr. Kenneth Fahndrick (Left the Senate) Mr. Kenneth Fahndrick (Left the Senate) Dr. Azamat Zhamanov Approved previous meeting minutes Meeting minutes Meeting minutes Dr. Tomas Green Dr. Tomas Green Dr. Tomas Green Dr. Yaseen Bhutto Dr. Riaz Mahmood Cheen Bhutto Dr. Riaz Mahmood Cheen Bhutto Dr. Riaz Mahmood Dr. Riaz Mahmood Dr. Riaz Mahmood Cheen Bhutto Dr. Riaz Mahmood Cheen Business Discussion and Explanation to the agenda presented. Dr. Tas updated the senate on the registration numbers for this semester. Dr. Tas also discussed possible future revisions of the At-Risk form and web site calendar.	FACILITATOR: Dr. Ann Marie Smith	
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2. Introduction of New Senate Members		
 Dr. Tomas Green (Education Department, Faculty Athletics Representative) 		

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- Dr. Yaseen Bhutto (Business Department, specialization in sustainable consumption)
- Dr. Riaz Mahmood was absent due to a class commitment.

2. Election/Reaffirmation of Senate Officers

- President: Dr. Ann Marie Smith volunteered to continue for one final term.
- Vice President: Ms. Shweta Shroff agreed to continue for her final year.
- Secretary: Dr. Nadeem Daudpota volunteered and was welcomed to the role.
- Parliamentarian: Jason Villanueva resigned due to GLSI involvement; Dr. Tomas Green will replace him.

Dr. Smith explained the responsibilities of each officer role, including minute preparation, website updates, and adherence to Robert's Rules of Order.

3. Policy Manual Updates

Dr. Smith reported on two policy updates reviewed over the summer:

- Summer Pay Policy: Revised to clarify that faculty may volunteer to teach and will be compensated (adjunct or half salary), replacing previous language implying unpaid work.
- Faculty Senate Policy: Updated to better reflect actual Senate duties. Some discrepancies between the website and the new policy were noted. Dr. Smith encouraged side-by-side comparison for future alignment.

Discussion included:

- Concerns about Senate responsibilities listed in the new policy (e.g., fiscal discussions).
- Clarification that Senate can recommend but has limited authority in administrative decisions.
- Suggestion to ensure policy updates are first approved by the Senate before being finalized.

4. Senate Representation at Department Meetings

- Dr. Smith proposed that Senate members request time during department meetings to report on Senate activities.
- Faculty agreed this would improve communication and visibility.

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Items not	 Dr. Smith will email department chairs (except General Ed) to request inclusion of Senate reports in meeting agendas. New Business Distribution of Meeting Minutes: Dr. Daudpota raised a point from the new policy stating minutes should be distributed within one week. Dr. Smith clarified that minutes are posted after approval, typically at the next meeting, making one-week distribution impractical. Newsletter Contribution: Ms. Shroff confirmed that Dr. Smith submitted a Senate report for the semester's newsletter. Visibility at All-Employee Meetings: Members suggested introducing Senate and its responsibilities during these meetings. Dr. Smith will request inclusion in future agendas via Dr. Tas.
approved Next Meeting	Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST
Recorded By	Dr. Nadeem Daudpota
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Adjourned	2:40 PM

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