

03-12 Meeting: Faculty Senate Elections and Safety Drill Debrief

Meeting Information

Date: 2026-03-12 12:31:08

Location: [Insert Location]

Participants: [Speaker 1] [Speaker 2] [Speaker 3]

Meeting Notes

Approval of Previous Minutes and Treasurer's Report

- A motion to accept the previous minutes posted on Blackboard and the Faculty Senate website was made, seconded, and passed without opposition.
- The Treasurer reported no changes to the budget.

Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award

- The nomination period closed with no submissions.
- A suggestion was made to extend the nomination deadline.
- The committee chair was authorized to extend the deadline and issue a new announcement.
- The only constraint is ensuring the award can be presented at the April board meeting, which requires timely procurement of the plaque.

Safety and Security Drill Debrief

- The recent campus safety drill revealed problems with the new Safer Watch app, which failed to send alerts as planned.
- The drill intentionally used only Safer Watch to test its functionality; Iris alerts were not sent for this reason.
- The college will continue to use the Iris alert system as a backup while Safer Watch issues are addressed.
- Faculty and staff were encouraged to email Hannah with feedback about the drill (e.g., if announcements were inaudible or office phones did not ring).

Faculty Senate Scholarship

- One complete scholarship application has been received; the deadline is April 10.
- Members were encouraged to donate to the fund, with a suggested payroll deduction of \$10 per month.

Faculty Senate Elections

- Elections for new senators and officers will occur at the next (April) meeting.
- Nine one-year senator terms are ending; those senators must sit out for a year before they can be re-elected.
- Nominations are needed to fill the vacancies; all new terms will be two years.
- Nominations can be submitted via Blackboard for each division.
- Officer updates:
 - Kevin Frost will assume the President role.
 - Chantel was nominated and accepted the Vice President role, replacing Zach.
 - Julie agreed to serve again as Parliamentarian.

Proposal to Expand Senate Membership

- A proposal was submitted to the board to amend policy to allow part-time faculty and librarians to serve as senators.
- The proposed change updates eligibility from “full-time faculty members” to “full-time faculty members, part-time faculty members, and librarians.”
- If approved at the March board meeting, there may be time to nominate part-time faculty for the April vote, though the timeline is tight.
- A motion passed directing the Ways and Means Committee to update the Senate bylaws immediately upon Board of Trustees approval.

Committee Appointments

- Members were reminded to consider serving on committees for the upcoming term.
- Dr. Presley stepped down as chair of the professional development committee; a new chair is needed.
- Committee rosters will need to be reappointed and updated.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

- **Film Series:** The Rob Reiner film series is ongoing. Attendance is low; members are encouraged to promote it to students.
- **Suicide Awareness 5K:** The annual suicide awareness and prevention 5K run/walk, hosted by Cybade, will be held on campus on Saturday, April 4.

Next Arrangements

- [] Jennifer will send an announcement extending the Adjunct Faculty of the Year nomination period and set a revised deadline that still allows plaque procurement before the April board meeting.
- [] Submit nominations via Blackboard to fill the nine vacancies for two-year senator terms ahead of the April meeting.
- [] The Ways and Means Committee will update the bylaws to include part-time faculty and librarians immediately after Board of Trustees approval.
- [] Identify and appoint a new chair for the professional development committee.
- [] Reappoint and update committee membership lists for the new term.

AI Suggestions

AI Suggestions

AI has identified the following issues that were not concluded in the meeting or lack clear action items; please pay attention:

1. There is a risk of insufficient nominations for open Faculty Senate positions, particularly in the workforce division. It was suggested that rules might be “finagled” to allow current officers to move into senator roles if participation is low, but no concrete plan was established.
2. The professional development committee lacks a chair. No plan was discussed to identify and appoint one.
3. Low attendance and fundraising for the film series were noted, but no specific action items were created beyond general encouragement.
4. The timeline for approving bylaw changes to include adjuncts as senators is very tight. If board approval is delayed, it is unclear how the Senate will proceed with elections for the upcoming term.