



Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2021 | 2:00 PM
Zoom Virtual Senate Chambers

Call to Order**Monika Bubacz**

Dr. Monika Bubacz called the meeting to order at 2:01PM

Approval of Minutes from 4-30-21 and 5-4-21**Monika Bubacz**

There was a motion to approve the minutes from April 30, 2021.

No discussion.

Senate voted:

0 nays

1 abstention

Passed, motion carried.

There was a motion to approve the minutes from May 4, 2021 (special meeting).

No discussion.

Senate voted:

0 nays

0 abstentions

Passed, motion carried.

Approval of 2021/22 Senate Meeting Times**Monika Bubacz**

Motion to approve times (see attached).

Meeting times were created together with the Provost's office and the academic schedule for the year. We have planned 10 meetings, 5 for each semester. As always, we start with the first one on Tuesday and then follow up on Friday.

We have reserved an auditorium to hold Senate meetings this semester, but for now, we will meet via Zoom. No location is reserved for spring semester. The last meeting in the Spring is during finals, so please keep 11-3 p.m. open on that date (April 29, 2022) for flexible scheduling.

Discussion:

- Is there any reason to not do them all via Zoom? – May/June will be in-person for planning purposes, goal is to meet in person at some point – Zoom is for safety first.
 - We will meet via Zoom for the time being (until more people are vaccinated) – we can plan now that September's meeting will be on Zoom. (Dr. Bubacz would like to wait for General Faculty meeting later today for guidelines before giving a timeline/end-date for in-person meetings versus Zoom).

Senate voted:

1 nay

0 abstentions

Passed, motion carried.

FTPC Memo 3-601 Proposed Revisions

Kyle Sinisi

Motion to approve revisions to FTPC Memorandum.

Presentation from Dr. Sinisi (see attached).

- Attempt to clarify based on perpetual questions and previous ambiguity in the document
- Many changes needed based on position of Senior Instructor
 - Senior Instructor was adopted by Faculty Senate in 2018, but not incorporated into Tenure and Promotion guidelines
- Dr. Sinisi went over revisions other than those for Senior Instructors.

Discussion

- What is the thought process for excluding emeritus faculty from Tenure and Promotion committees?
 - An emeritus faculty member is not an employee of the college and may not be as current in the field as we would like
- Why are we including department heads in this process?
 - They've always been involved, always chaired the committee (not changed) – committee chair does not file a ballot, they file a summary
- Concern/clarification requested regarding what defines peer reviews
 - Let the departments decide (who know better what constitutes peer review within that field), this can be clarified in department standards/policies

Senate voted:

0 nays

1 abstention

Passed, motion carried.

Scholarships Committee Charter Update

Deirdre Ragan

Motion to revise the charter for the Scholarships Committee (see attached), specifically regarding representation.

No discussion.

Senate voted:

0 nays

1 abstention

Passed, motion carried.

Anonymous Mask Mandate Survey Results

Bubacz / Mushal / Connor

The Executive Committee responded to faculty concerns with an anonymous survey asking for perceptions/comments regarding mask mandates (provided to Sally Selden before her meeting with General Walters on Sunday). The feedback from faculty included 12 pages of comments before the survey and about 16 pages of comments from the survey and survey results.

Results:

- 108 people responded to the survey
- 99% of respondents were faculty members
- 77.7% responded that they were very/extremely concerned about the potential risk to yourself and/or vulnerable family members from teaching unmasked students
- 84.3% answered yes to universal mask mandate while community transmission rates remain high.
- 89.8% voted yes to “If the school does not implement a universal mask mandate, should individual faculty be allowed to institute a similar requirement in their own classes?”

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey and submitted their feedback to present to the Provost regarding our concerns.

All faculty should be included in the Canvas course. If you are not already in the course, or know of anyone who would like to be added, please contact Elizabeth Connor so she can work with CEITL&DE to add you.

Make sure you are checking your Canvas announcements (spam filter, junk mail, etc.). This is the first time a poll like this was attempted through Canvas and we are trying to resolve any glitches. This is an important way of communicating with our colleagues.

Dr. Diana Cheshire: make sure to check your notification settings in Canvas and check your course list to make sure this course will appear on your dashboard.

Update from the Provost

Sally Selden

Thank you to the Senate leadership team for taking action and getting that information to me. As mentioned, I did have the opportunity Sunday afternoon to sit down with General Walters and the Commandant to talk through the information regarding the mask requirement. This afternoon, General Walters, in our general faculty meeting, is going to make an announcement that we will have a mask requirement and he will talk a little bit about the logic. There was the decision to delay this announcement intentionally because there was a shot clinic this morning (back to someone’s point about continuing to encourage and incentivize our cadets to get vaccines.) The last estimate I heard was somewhere between 62-64% of our cadets have been vaccinated. General Walters will probably have more up-to-date data at this afternoon’s General Faculty meeting.

For those of you teaching in the graduate program and with transfer students: Dr. Brennan’s team will be going around to each of the classrooms and masks will be available for our graduate students and evening transfer students.

Masks have been issued to all Corps of Cadets members and they should be carrying their masks with them at all times; if they are not, please contact TACs/Commandant’s Office (part of the uniform requirement).

Availability of testing: there will be testing available on campus tomorrow (Wednesday); HR should have emailed this information already. There will be routine testing on Wednesdays and there may very well be opportunity for faculty and staff to get testing during those times, depending on how many slots are left after athletes and some cadets.

Kudos to our full time faculty, we are at 93% vaccinated. Overall, across all employees (FTE and temporary), we are about 77% vaccinated across the campus, and we will continue to stress the importance of vaccines.

Dr. Bass was the keynote speaker for Freshman Convocation today. Thank you, you did a fantastic job. It was a great beginning for our Freshman Cadets (693 welcomed last week). I know they are looking forward to classes tomorrow and getting into a routine.

Dr. Segle did confirm that 11 students have arrived for our very first semester-long experience in Washington, DC. We also have 3 cadets who left today for Rome.

Welcome to new faculty! Dr. Taylor brought a Fulbright Scholar to the Citadel (first ever), Dr. Mark Doucet with Political Science. If you get an opportunity, please stop by and make him feel welcome to The Citadel. He will teach this semester and collaborate with our colleagues in the Political Science Department. It is really exciting to be able to host a Fulbright Scholar on campus.

SACSCOC 10 Year Reaffirmation begins this year (see attached).

- Team of 5 going to orientation in December
- We are the SACSCOC Class of 2024
- Dr. Roof will lead the charge to draft a report
- Technical Year of Record AY 22/23
 - During that year of record, SACSCOC review teams can reach in and look at anything that we are doing. It is really important to know what a critical year next year will be.

We have already started the process for the Governor's budget (occurs in September and October). We will be bringing forth a proposal through that process. We are working on capital projects (including asking for Engineering School funding).

Turned over to Pam King – Citadel Experience Survey (see attached).

Back to Dr. Selden: I just want to thank everybody again for providing that feedback about masks. We are working to create incentives for all students to encourage vaccinations. Please feel free to email Dr. Selden with any questions or concerns.

Standing Committees

Elizabeth Connor

Charter Update and Annual Reports

- We have a continuously updated spreadsheet of committee assignments in SharePoint. It indicates who needs to call the first meeting. Committees need to meet this week or next week, elect a chair, indicate who the liaison is, review and revise their charters as needed, and if you have not submitted the 2020-2021 report from last year's committee work, please do so.

QEP Theme Development Taskforce Update

Karin Roof

(See attached).

No questions.

Will present again in September (short list of topics).

Future Business**Monika Bubacz**

1. Plans for 2021/22
 - a. *Ad hoc* senate review committee is working on improvements, assessing how we have been doing for the past 5-6 years, and suggesting any changes that are needed to charters, activities, and how we work.
 - b. Dr. Bubacz's biggest goal is to have a better organization of standing committees (how we do it, how work is distributed, how we allocate our service and our time).
2. Faculty Manual Changes
 - a. Faculty Governance Committee is working on this.
 - b. Will invite them to provide an update in September (possibly with documents to review).
3. Parliamentary Training Opportunity
 - a. Provost has approved funding for Parliamentary training. (see attached)
 - b. If you have input on which of the programs is better, please email Dr. Bubacz (what will have a bigger advantage for our institution).
4. Fall Meetings: Fridays, Sep. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, 2-3; and Dec. 10, 12-1.

No Questions/Comments

Senate Announcements**Senators**

- Dr. Jeff Davis would like to continue to serve as the Faculty Senate representative on The Citadel's Advisory Parking Committee.
 - Will submit a report for the next Faculty Senate meeting agenda.
 - Faculty Senate can revisit the election or appointment of the person to serve for another two-year term.
 - Dr. Bubacz: if you are interested in serving as the representative for this committee, please let us know.
- Dr. Kerry Taylor
 - Simultaneous to the efforts of the Senate, the Provost, and General Walters, a number of faculty have worked on the drafting of a faculty resolution calling for a mask mandate. The resolution is reflective of the survey results and the public health consensus and reinforces the administration's upcoming decision.
 - Wanted to make people aware that this resolution exists and to check in about next steps regarding presentation to Senate and acceptance (see attached).

Adjournment**Monika Bubacz**

Motion to adjourn, motion seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 3:23PM