



## Portsmouth Faculty Senate (PFS) Minutes

**Date & Time: Friday April 3, 2020, 12:00 PM**

**Location: Meeting held virtually via Zoom**

**In Attendance:** Tom Siegmund, Katrina Dash, Catherine Merritt, Lorenz Drake, Tiffanye Sledge, Elizabeth Harris, Kimberly Lee, Craig Kuehn, Evelyn Coutee, Mary Glanzer, Leona McGowan, Geraldine Wright, Siabhon Harris, Pat

- I. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 12:03 PM
- II. Correction and Approval of January minutes
  - A. Minutes were emailed to Senators in February and the email vote approved the minutes with no edits
- III. Guest Speakers – none
- IV. Reports
  - A. CWFS – February 6, 2020 Meeting
    1. Most items discussed are not currently relevant
    2. Major discussion focused on acquiring a report from the enrollment task force but a formal motion was not put forth because no such report exists
    3. The ongoing discussion about communication is now very relevant based on current events
- V. Open Business
  - A. By-laws Update
    1. Tiffanye received Chesapeake bylaws to use as a model for revising ours
    2. Original plan was to restructure membership based on new Pathway organization. But there has been a recommendation from CWFS to keep discipline focus to ensure equitable campus representation. Is there any kind of hybrid language that we can use to accomplish both goals?
    3. By-laws will be sent out to all senators for review and comment
  - B. Website Update
    1. The campus faculty senate website is updated with membership and minutes are added as they are approved.
  - C. Discussion on Synchronous Distance Learning that was brought up at CWFS
    1. This agenda item was a holdover from a previous meeting, and is not as relevant now since it was a discussion about broadcasting classes from a classroom, which is no longer possible
    2. Faculty request that a room in B building and C building be optimized for synchronous distance learning so that we can use it when we can return to campus. This could allow sections to be offered at Portsmouth to get enrollment for our campus but be taught by instructors on other campuses.
    3. Tom will talk to John Morea about the possibility of setting up additional rooms on the Portsmouth campus

4. Other community colleges are preparing for an increase in enrollment because of a decline in the economy so TCC needs to do the same thing to keep up. Other colleges are providing internet hotspots and outfitting classrooms to accommodate remote learning in the future. This would also be helpful for offering science labs online. Other colleges are allowing faculty to come on campus to teach labs synchronously without students – is this a possibility at TCC?

**D.** Review of Communication Plan from CWFS

1. Poor communication of grading policy rollout.
2. CWFS chair has been discussing this directly with Dr. McCray and Dr. Conston. She is asking for better clarification and better communication.
3. Is there any purpose in preparing a formal rebuke of the rollout? Tom will bring this up at CWFS.
4. The communication plan needs to be reworked to include new examples of poor communication

**VI.** New Business

**A.** Roll-out of the grading policy changes – discussed under communication

**B.** Meeting with Dr. Michelle Woodhouse

1. Meeting occurred on 3/6/20 – many topics discussed are no longer relevant.
2. Discussed rooms being locked on campus – if it happens in the future faculty should be sure to document it and communicate it to Dr. Woodhouse. She was surprised to hear that this happened.
3. Discussed support and other issues for adjunct faculty to address inequities
4. Campus issues may not be relevant at the moment but will be readdressed when we get back to campus
5. There is now a need for an actual formal process for requesting access to our offices because email has not been an effective method of communication. The only current guidance is to get permission from Provost by email

**C.** Ending of VCCS support for Luman Waymaker Platform

1. This is now a definitive decision. Faculty using Lumen need to decide whether they will ask students to pay for Waymaker access or stop using the platform.
2. There is frustration that the Z-degree was suspended without a discussion from faculty because many faculty would have been willing to teach without the Lumen platform to keep the Z-degree going.

**D.** April Elections

1. CWFS will suspend elections – should we do the same?
2. Elections are normally held at the April meeting. Current meeting can count as our March meeting held a week late. We can have the formal April meeting later in the month
3. Questions to consider: Would it make more sense to have elections in the Fall when we have better information and a better idea of what the future looks like? Should we keep the membership and officers the same until we reach the point of normalcy? Would it would also be helpful to keep this consistent between campuses?
4. The decision reached is to extend elections to the Fall semester. It would only extend membership and elections by one semester before holding a vote
5. \*\*Post-meeting update – elections cannot be postponed and will be held in April as stated in the by-laws

- E.** Meeting over the summer
  - 1. CWFS is considering summer meetings, campus faculty senates can do the same
  - 2. Consensus is that continuing monthly summer meetings will be beneficial for all faculty

**VII.** Other items - None

**VIII.** Next PFS meeting

- A.** Next PFS meeting – Friday, April 24, 2020 from 12:00-1:30. Held virtually over Zoom.

**IX.** Adjournment – Meeting closed at 1:28 PM