

**University Senate Meeting**  
**November 6, 2023**  
**Bousfield Psych Building Room A106 (hybrid via WebEx)**

Moderator **Bontly** called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and reviewed the logistics of the hybrid meeting structure.

**1. Approval of Minutes of October 2, 2023 meeting**

The minutes of the meeting were approved as distributed.

**2. Report of the President**

Presented by Provost Anne D'Alleva on behalf of President Radenka Maric

Provost **D'Alleva** remarks included:

- Gratitude to the University community with regards to the conflict in the Middle East in their support of affected students.
- Strategic Planning Initiative has been previewed within the community and there has been over 10,000 people who have engaged in this process so far.
- Over 8,500 undergraduate students participated in the student survey, and they are still working on analyzing the data. Results from this will be shared at the next meeting.

Moderator **Bontly** asked if there were any questions for Provost **D'Alleva**.

Senator **Park Bousch** asked about a central clearinghouse for the services for students impacted by the conflict. Provost **D'Alleva** stated that the Dean of Students Office is a good option for these resources, as well as students receiving e-mail messages directly from multiple offices with resources provided in the message.

Senator **Boraey** asked if the Provost was aware of the hateful/threatening e-mails and voicemail messages that were sent to undergraduate and graduate students in Storrs, Stamford and Hartford campuses. Provost **D'Alleva** was not aware of it and asked that the information be forwarded to provost@uconn.edu. The administration takes this very seriously and it will be addressed. Senator **Armstrong** was recognized by the Senate and shared that concerns regarding messages or behaviors can also be sent to Inform.uconn.edu and emergency situations should be shared with the UConn Police.

Senator **Heiden** was curious about when the student survey results be released to students. The Senate recognized Michelle Williams who stated that some portions of the report have been released to certain groups and will be posted on the Senate website or the President's Office.

Moderator **Bontly** thanked Provost **D'Alleva** for their report and for answering the questions from the Senators.

Moderator **Bontly** read the **Land Acknowledgement Statement**:

"We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the territory of the Mohegan, Mashantucket Pequot, Eastern Pequot, Schaghticoke, Golden Hill Paugussett, Nipmuc, and Lenape Peoples, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We thank them for their strength and resilience in protecting this land, and aspire to uphold our responsibilities according to their example."

### **3. Report of the Senate Executive Committee**

Attachment #1

Presented by SEC Chair Laura Burton

Welcome Michelle Everard as the new Senate Admin Program Coordinator for the Senate and thanks to the search committee.

### **4. Consent Agenda Items:**

Attachment #2

C&C Report

Nominating Committee Report

By voice vote, the consent agenda passed.

### **5. Report on Faculty & Staff Diversity Data**

Attachment #3

Presented by Provost Anne D'Alleva and Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Frank Tuitt

Moderator **Bontly** asked if there were any questions.

Senator **Lillo-Martin** asked if there would be additional gender options reported in the future. Provost **D'Alleva** said this was a very good question and will work with HR to achieve this in the future.

Senator **Siegle** asked about the category of "International" within the demographic and VP **Tuitt** said that this was anyone with an international passport, regardless of ethnicity.

Senator **Bresciano** asked if there are exit interviews done to those who leave and Frank said there are multiple options either at unit, HR or ODI.

Senator **Gorkimak** asked if the faculty size was shrinking, and Provost **D'Alleva** said that the faculty are not shrinking.

Senator **Grande** asked what categories were used in minoritized faculty & staff. Provost **D'Alleva** referenced the slide that showed the breakdown of non-white individuals, not including unknown or international.

Senator **Keilty** asked who can request an exit interview and Provost **D'Alleva** stated that schools and colleges typically conduct exit interviews, typically the Dean's Office, but it is not required. VP **Tuitt** stated that there is also data related to background research on why people left the institution, so that data is available as well.

Senator **Coulter** stated that her work with the task force indicated that there should be integration within the departments and schools to follow up with those who are disengaging with the University. VP **Tuitt** stated there are discussions with HR to create a standard exit interview for all those who are leaving the University.

Senator **Heiden** asked if the data is broken down between full-time and part-time and Provost **D'Alleva** stated that the data reflects all employees, full and part-time as indicated on the slide, excluding student workers.

Senator **Siegle** stated that there is a checklist when anyone leaves the University and indicated that the exit interview could be put into this process. Provost **D'Alleva** stated that this checklist could include exit interviews and should be done for staff members as well. The desire to schedule an exit interview for all faculty and staff departing the University is valuable. VP **Tuitt** stated that they realize that there are those who don't feel comfortable having this exit interview within their department, so they have made the option available for them to interview with others outside their unit.

Senator **White** mentioned that there are 400 night workers paid by meal plan dollars that are not going to show up on the State payroll records and he does not believe these employees are included in this data. VP **Tuitt** said this is a great suggestion.

Senator **Boudah** asked if there is data on where people are going when they leave the university. Provost **D'Alleva** stated that we don't have real systematic data on what people are doing next and that is what the University wants to understand for retention. VP **Tuitt** added that the separation with regards to minoritized faculty and women is a national issue.

Senator **Huey** asked if there are any initiatives being considered with regards to this data. VP **Tuitt** stated that there have been several town hall initiatives, there have been direct and group meetings with minority faculty to provide support, and recently they have put together a faculty hiring guide that is recommended to be used. HR is also working on resources from a hiring perspective that will be shared once they are completed.

Senator **Coundouriotis** asked if the exit interviews are kept as a record and what is done with this information. Provost **D'Alleva** stated that there is no central repository, so files on exit interviews are kept locally as of this point.

Senator **Walsh** asked if the hires and separations data included part-time and temporary hires of faculty. Provost **D'Alleva** stated the numbers were for full-time.

Senator **Gokirmak** stated that their experience of people departing was due to a crisis and asked if it would be more useful to find out in advance what people want and need before they leave. VP **Tuitt** stated that there is some data on faculty that shows how they are feeling at the institution in order to see what differences exist depending on the diversity group they belong to and are developing a diversity KPI index that would allow this type of disaggregated analysis and the hope is to have something by the end of the year to make informed decisions at the unit level.

Moderator **Bontly** thanked Provost **D'Alleva** and VP **Tuitt** for their presentation.

Moderator **Bontly** called for any new business.

## 6. Report of the Graduate School

Attachment #4

Presented by Kent Holsinger, Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School

Vice Provost **Holsinger** asked if there were any questions.

Senator **Roy** asked how the matching for the Mentor program works and VP **Holsinger** stated it is currently a manual process with the mentor and mentees completing a form and then a faculty associate match them based on the results. Senator **Roy** asked the average years for graduation for Ph.D. students and VP **Holsinger** said average is roughly between 5-6 years.

Senator **Park-Bousch** asked if the mentors receive training. VP **Holsinger** said currently there is no training, but they do provide written materials and advice and plan to have training in the future. Senator **Amalaradjou** added that one of the timely topics from the Graduate School is mentoring, particularly for new faculty starting out as graduate advisors.

Moderator **Bontly** thanked Vice Provost **Holsinger** for their presentation.

## **7. Architecture Report**

Attachment #5

Presented by Laura Cruickshank, Associate Vice President, Master Planner and Chief Architect, Stanley Nolan, Interim AVP, Facilities Operations, and Andy Kelly, Associate Director, Facilities Operations

Senator **Bontly** asked if there are any questions.

Senator **Keilty** asked about the stretch of road between Discovery Road and North Eagleville Road areas with regards to safety for students. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that they are waiting to see what is being done with the developments, as they are not UConn properties.

Senator **Keilty** South Campus Resident Halls construction timing start and has heard from residents that work has begun at 7 a.m. and asked what the plan is to allow students to be able to sleep and study. AVP **Cruickshank** said that there has been information in the contract with Residential Life to address this and they do take student input, but they also recognize that construction is noisy and needs to progress.

Senator **Greene** asked about the 3500 beds in the development and wants to know how much of this is for graduate and international student housing. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that these developments are private, public developments, so this is out of the control of the University, and they can't discriminate against who is in these apartments.

Senator **MacDougald** asked to contextualize the single point connection to Eversource. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that most universities have multiple utility points for

connection, and we currently only have one location to connect for power and this is not a good set-up to avoid power outages.

Senator **Roy** asked about parking and A.D. **Kelly** stated that the Area 2 parking is the largest area parking. Senator **Roy** stated that the lot has been full and alternate parking areas don't have additional bus scheduling available. A.D. **Kelly** stated that the Area 2 lot that is being referenced is about 50% closed and alternative parking options for the Downtown Mansfield parking, but it does require a higher amount for parking. A.D. **Kelly** stated that graduate students have access to more than half of the parking across the campus, more than any other group, and lot F is the best location for Area 2 parking with the Silver Line buses arriving every 20 minutes during regular schedule.

Senator **Boudah** referenced the survey with regards to creating or improving campus housing in the Groton area and asked when this data could be shared with the public. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that she doesn't have the data, but the Provost stated that the survey is closed and they will process and share the data shortly.

Senator **Govoni** asked about the apartments with regards to safety to ask about transportation for students from these new housing locations. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that these locations are private, and it is the developer and Town's responsibility to put in the sidewalks and address transportation from those locations. A.D. **Kelly** stated that WRTD is aware of these, and they are speaking with the developers about these locations and what may be needed.

Senator **Valente** asked about plans for classroom space for the increased enrollment and higher need for classroom space. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that they are looking at utilization of classroom space across all the campuses and they have identified a space utilization problem. They are not looking to add any additional classrooms at this time.

Senator **Park-Bousch** asked about the Torrey Life Science Building and the planning process for it. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that they and the President are both on the same page to have this building demolished as soon as Gant Phase 3 is completed, which will then allow for enough space for the research labs, teaching labs and classrooms.

Senator **Gokirmak** asked about constructing a ride-share program at UConn that may help with the transportation and parking issues. A.D. **Kelly** stated that there isn't something from an institutional standing for this, but it could be investigated.

Senator **Roy** asked about the lots near buildings that are empty and asked for these lots to be changed into other Area parking temporarily until the construction is completed. A.D. **Kelly** mentioned that they would be happy to know where these empty lots are located and offered to meet offline.

Senator **Keilty** asked about the demolishing of North Campus. AVP **Cruickshank** stated that this is in the plan, but not by the previously projected date of 2028 due to the steep increases in construction costs.

Senator **Huey** stated that there is a challenge between the Town and the University and encourages working together for housing needs for individuals with limited income. AVP **Cruickshank** mentioned that this is an important item to be addressing, but up until now the Town has placed a moratorium on development application and up until now has allowed developers to pay to avoid affordable housing component in those developments.

Moderator **Bontly** thanked Associate Vice President **Cruickshank** and Associate Director **Kelly** for their presentation.

## **8. New Business**

No new business

## **9. Adjournment**

Senator **Morrell** made a motion to adjourn.

Senator **Keilty** seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christine S. North  
Secretary of the University Senate, 2021-2024

## **SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Laura Burton, Chair  
Maureen Armstrong  
Marisa Chrysochoou  
Jennifer Dineen

Pam Bedore  
Bob Day  
Kate Fuller

Jon Heiden  
Morty Ortega  
Del Siegle

Joe MacDougald  
Sandip Roy



**University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee**  
**Report to the Senate**  
**November 6, 2023**

**I. The Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommends ADDITION of the following 1000- or 2000-level courses:**

1. ENGR 1195 Special Topics in Engineering (#20046)  
*Proposed Catalog Copy*  
ENGR 1195. Special Topics in Engineering  
1.0-6.00 credits | May be repeated for up to 6 credits.  
Prerequisites: Prerequisites and recommended preparation vary.  
Grading Basis: Graded Classroom and/or laboratory course in special topics as announced in advance for each semester.
  
2. ENGR 2195 Special Topics in Engineering (#20047)  
*Proposed Catalog Copy*  
ENGR 2195. Special Topics in Engineering  
1.0-6.00 credits | May be repeated for up to 6 credits.  
Prerequisites: Prerequisites and recommended preparation vary.  
Grading Basis: Graded Classroom and/or laboratory course in special topics as announced in advance for each semester.

**II. Common Curriculum Course Transitions**

1. ENVE 1000E Environmental Sustainability (CA2, EL to TOI-4, TOI-5)

Respectfully Submitted by the 23-24 Senate Curricula and Courses Committee: Gustavo Nanclares (Chair), Dorothea Anagnostopoulos, Pam Bedore (Ex-officio), John Chandy, Sarah Croucher (Ex-Officio), Louis Hanzlik, Marc Hatfield, Matt McKenzie, Dan Mercier, David Ouimette, Tina Reardon, Sharyn Rusch, Josh Schulman (Student Rep), Steve Stifano, Suzanne Wilson, Terra Zuidema (Registrar alternate), and Karen McDermott (Program Assistant)

From the 10/17/23 meeting.

Senate Nominating Committee  
Report to the University Senate  
November 6, 2023

- The Nominating Committee has added Zach Claybaugh from the UConn Library and Laurie McCarty from CETL to the Senate C&C committee to replace members who had left.
- The Nominating Committee shared the slate for the 2024-2025 Faculty at-Large Constituency on Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup> and ballots were sent on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The slate includes the following nominees, and all votes are due by Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (*\*indicates nominee is a current Senate Member eligible for re-election*).
  - Ock K. Chun, Prof, CAHNR, Nutritional Sciences
  - John R. Cooley, APIR, CLAS, Ecology and Evolutionary Bio (Hartford)
  - \*Robin Coulter, Business, Marketing
  - Amanda Denes, Prof, CLAS, Communication
  - David G. Embrick, Assoc. Professor, CLAS, Sociology
  - Kenneth Fuchs, Prof., SFA, Music
  - David Giblin, APIR, Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
  - Beth Ginsberg, APIR, CLAS, Political Science (Stamford)
  - Phoebe Godfrey, Prof. in Residence, CLAS, Sociology
  - Oscar Guerra, Assoc. Professor, SFA, Digital Media & Design (Stamford)
  - \*Oskar Harmon, Assoc. Professor, CLAS, Economics (Stamford)
  - John (Andy) Jolly-Ballantine, CLAS, Geography
  - Brent Lucia, APIR, Business, Business
  - Laurent D. Michel, Prof, Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering
  - Sarira Motaref, Professor in Residence, Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering
  - Spencer Nyholm Prof., CLAS, Molecular & Cell Biology
  - \*Rachel O'Neill, Professor, Systems Genomics Institute
  - Alexander Russell, Prof., Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering
  - \*Del Siegle, Professor, Neag, Educational Psychology
  - Rebecca Thomas, Professor, Social Work, Social Work Instruction & Research
  - Stephen Trumbo, Professor, CLAS, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (Waterbury)
  - \*Sherry Zane, APIR, CLAS, WGSS
- The Staff at-Large nominees were also shared with their constituency on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> and nominees have the opportunity to withdraw their candidacy until Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The ballot for the Staff at-Large Constituency will be finalized and sent in the coming weeks. (*\*indicates nominee is a current Senate Member eligible for re-election*).
  - Rae Alexander, Asst Vice President, Global Affairs
  - Frank Bitetto, Associate Director, Office Operations, Office of Student Financial Aid Services
  - Stephen Bustamante, Access Services Coordinator, Waterbury Campus Library
  - Brian Goepfrich, Assistant Director of Community Standards, Community Standards
  - Kayla Hogrefe, Assistant Director for Education and Development, University Compliance
  - \*Leo Lachut, ISS
  - Winnie Lunt, Assistant Director, CAHNR Business Office
  - \*Carl Rivers, Assistant Registrar, Registrar's Office
  - James P Walker, Residence Hall Director, Residential Life
- The Faculty Review Board slate is being finalized and will be sent to voting members of the Senate in the coming weeks.