

# UConn Senate DEIJA Committee

February 2, 2026, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | MS Teams

## Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes: minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote
  - [Minutes of November 17 Meeting](#)
2. Dean of Students Report on Resources for Students, Maureen Armstrong: Micah Heumann introduced Maureen Armstrong to the meeting and Maureen shared a [presentation](#) summarizing some of the high-level work being done by the Dean of Students Office to support students always, but especially during these challenging times. Maureen Armstrong highlighted that their office provides highly personalized service to each student, understanding that each student's circumstances are unique. They shared data on student utilization of their services, showing a year over year increase of students visiting the Dean of Students Office for support, many of whom are repeat visitors. They highlighted many ways in which they support students and their needs – support for religious accommodations, outreach to the university's cultural centers, focusing on empowering students to navigate their challenges and take advantage of the university's support resources in full to do so. They ended their presentation by highlighting their office's hours and ways in which students and faculty/staff can get in touch. Micah Heumann thanked Maureen Armstrong for their presentation and opened the floor to questions. Questions were raised regarding the availability of Dean of Students services on the regional campuses and Maureen Armstrong shared that the services are available as general "Student Services" offices, though they do not report directly to the Dean of Students; they highlighted that they do partner with these offices and work in collaboration with them to support regional campus students. Maureen Armstrong also highlighted the outreach that their office does during student orientation to educate students on the functions of their office. Discussion also ensued regarding the data presented, and whether it can be broken down by campus and Maureen Armstrong answered that all data is available in Nexus and can be disaggregated. Data was requested for first generation students and for international students. It was asked how budget cuts have impacted the Dean of Students Office and Maureen Armstrong answered that most of their budget goes to staffing and luckily they have not had any recent turnover that might lead to positions not being filled; they added that staff are no longer traveling for professional development, but are focusing more on virtual or local opportunities. It was asked how the Dean of Students Office is supporting Iranian students at this time and Maureen Armstrong highlighted the different outreach that their office has done, as well as work with other offices such as ISSS to support these students.
3. Brainstorm of ideas for future meetings:
  - Presentation from One Stop Student Services

- Beth Ginsberg shared concerns regarding exams falling on a Saturday during the fall semester and challenges regarding the religious accommodations policy. Micah Heumann said that they will raise this question at the next SEC w/ Chairs meeting.
- Presentation from the Provost regarding faculty and staff morale
- Presentation from Jonelle Reynolds or Kelly Gilbert from the Advising Office to talk about how to support our students, our BIPOC students on academic notice.
- Presentation from CSD
- Budget cuts
- Accessibility of sidewalks on campus after the recent winter storm
- The need to pay for area 1 parking if they need to use disability parking – you should not have to pay for that fee if you’re pregnant, have surgery or are in a wheelchair. Beth Ginsberg added that this was discussed at a University Planning Committee meeting last year.
- Presentation from the Chief of Police regarding legality and protocols concerning potential ICE activity on or around UConn campuses.

## Attending:

- **Micah Heumann, Co-Chair, EP/Honors**
- **\*Marie Coppola, Co-Chair, CLAS**
- \*Mary Ann Amalaradjou, CAHNR
- \*Martha Cutter, CLAS, English
- \*Beth Ginsberg, CLAS (Stamford Campus)
- \*Eleanor Ouimet, CLAS (*absent*)
- \*Karen Skudlarek, ITS
- \*Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, CLAS
- \*Timothy Vadas, College of Engineering
- \*Yaowu Yuan, CLAS (*absent*)
- \*Cindy Zhang, CLAS
- Kimberly Curry, The Graduate School
- Vanessa Heigel, Graduate Student (*absent*)
- Greg Bouquot, Registrar’s Office (*absent*)
- Jeffrey Hines, OICR (ex-officio member) (*absent*)
- Angelo Montes Diaz, Undergraduate Student
- Jose Narcisse, Undergraduate Student
- Audrey Silva, Center for Students with Disabilities

\*Members are Senators, AY 2025-2026

## Potential Upcoming Topics:

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