Faculty Senate

November 4, 2020
Meeting Minutes
www.coastal.edu/facultysenate

Note: The remarks of the senators and others are summarized and not verbatim. The recording of this meeting is available in the Faculty Senate Recorder’s office.


SUBSTITUTIONS: None

ABSENT: James Everett, Frederick Wood, David Duncan, Justin Lovich, Doug Van Hoewyk, Matthew Wilkinson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The October 7, 2020 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA: The November 4, 2020 consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

PRESIDENT, PROVOST AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:
President DeCenzo:
- President DeCenzo thanked faculty and staff for all of their hard work this semester. Students will be vacating campus before Thanksgiving and will finish this fall semester fully online.
- President DeCenzo introduced President-Elect Dr. Michael T. Benson to the faculty senate. Dr. Benson will take the helm on January 2, 2021.
President-Elect Benson:

- President-Elect Benson wished to thank everyone for their warm welcome when he was on campus a few weeks ago. He is excited to get to know the faculty more.
- Benson expressed his pride in regards to how the University dealt with the COVID pandemic.

Provost Ennis:

- Provost Ennis shared a fall 2021 early enrollment update. Overall applications for fall 2021 are down. As of this October 2020, there were 4,504 applications for this coming fall. In October 2019, there were 6,851 applications. The good news is that the numbers have been trending up in the last four weeks.
- The spring 2021 enrollment picture is somewhat the same in terms of news. Currently, there are 4,059 juniors and seniors that can register at this moment. Only 57% of these have already registered for spring. Last year, 63% registered at this time. Typically, 89% of eligible fall undergraduates enroll for the following spring. Provost Ennis requests that faculty be willing to participate more with varied recruitment activities and to remind students of important adviser meetings and registration deadlines.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Brian Bunton, Chair, reported the following:

- Approval of undergraduate administrative actions 4-6 and memoranda 1-3 from the October 7, 2020 meeting.
- Faculty Senate has appointed the following individuals to three standing committees: Justin Lovich to Graduate Council, Adam Chamberlain to Budget and Finance Committee and Steve Earnest to University Promotion and Tenure Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Faculty Senator Renee Smith gave a presentation of her qualifications for the position of Faculty Ombuds. You can view Senator Smith’s presentation here:

Smith Ombuds

1. Motion to recommend Renee Smith to the Provost as Faculty Ombuds. The motion passed (52 in favor, 2 not in favor).
B. Academic Affairs Committee

1. Motion to remove the course objectives requirement in syllabi. **The motion passed (53 in favor, 1 not in favor).**

2. Motion to amend the GPA requirements for Summa Cum Laude designation from 4.0 to 3.95. **The motion passed (46 in favor, 6 not in favor).**

C. Faculty Senate Executive Committee

1. Resolution to endorse the recommendations from the Access, Inclusion and Diversity Council. **The motion passed (50 in favor, 5 not in favor).**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Lydia Deeck, Faculty Senate Recorder

Approved by Brian Bunton, Faculty Senate Chair