

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Red Rocks Community College
April 7th, 2020

Senators Present: Robert Vroman, Meredith Hibit, Janet Tarase, Sally Stablein, Chelsea Campbell, Heather Duncan, Jeffrey Kaplan, Erika Iverson, Helena Martellaro, Brandon English, Benjamin Rogers, Kyle Whitecotton, John Padgett,

Senators Absent:

Non-Senators Present: Carol Martin

Senate Elections – There was a suggestion that senate elections and the office swap move forward as normal. Robert stated that he will probably submit his name for Senate President election to Faculty. If senators terms are coming to an end they should communicate to their constituents to determine if they will serve another term or find a replacement. Vice President and Secretary will be elected from within Senate as normal.

Office Swap – The Office swap normally starts in April, Robert is working with Cathy to make an updated list of available offices to make sure that there are no spaces that will become compromised through construction. He will send the faculty this list of open offices to submit for the swap.

Summer Classes – At the time of the meeting, there hadn't been any official decision as to whether ALL summer class will be offered online, whether there will be an option for hybrid options, or if there might be the option for some on campus classes. However, administration seems to be leaning towards having everything online. One of the issues associated with this is that students WILL have to pay the additional fee of \$144 per credit hour for the online classes, which is a CCCS policy and there is no indication that they will budge on this fee. This will obviously affect enrollment and summer tuition revenue in a substantial way.

The question was asked as to whether classes could run as Face-to-Face classes, but simply begin online with the hopes of meeting mid semester. The question is, what happens if we *can't* get back on campus? And how would this question affect course planning, additionally if the class is supposed to go to campus but instead stays online for the entire semester then those students would have not had to pay the fee for online classes that other students DID have to pay. It was also noted that the VPI does not consider an online

synchronous class to be face-to-face, a face-to-face class *must* have an on-campus presence.

It should be noted that there are a *few* exceptions, some classes must be taught face-to-face and these exceptions have been granted by the health department and directly relate to medical training.

The issue of Veteran's benefits was brought up, noting that Veterans are not given tuition for purely online classes, however it appears that the VA is giving full GI benefits for online classes through the end of the year in response to the Covid-19 crisis.

There was a question as to whether the administration were discussing the Fall semester being online, and at this point no one is thinking restriction will last that long.

SOI's – There was a question posed to the faculty senate seeking our input on whether or not SOI's should be distributed this semester. The general feeling of the Senate was that SOI's would not be appropriate for this semester and probably wouldn't be a helpful metric of teaching performance. Instead it was suggested that a different evaluation was created for students to fill out which would be more customized for the specific circumstances of the semester.

Teaching Observations - It was suggested that faculty observations should not be conducted at this point in the semester, however it was pointed out that doing so would prohibit the advancement of Provisional Faculty to the Non-Provisional status. The general consensus of Senate was to recommend that Teaching Observations should be omitted for this semester.

Faculty Evaluations – It is stated that faculty should be permitted to alter their initial performance goals in response to this instructional crisis. It is suggested that, if possible, those faculty with a track record of receiving "Exemplary" reviews be able to skip the evaluation process for this year, or perhaps wrap this year's evaluation into next year's evaluation. It was pointed out that skipping faculty evaluations for the year would affect non-provisional faculty status change. It was noted that Faculty Evaluations are a requirement of the CCCS, and currently they must be conducted annually.

Instructional Leadership Model - There is a question as to whether the current crisis would affect the implementation of the new Instructional Leadership Model this

summer. The general consensus of the Senate was it shouldn't be need to be delayed.