

CU Denver Faculty Assembly Meeting

February 01st, 2022

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Zoom

Minutes

Attendees: Michelle Marks, Constancio Nakuma, Melisa Baldwin, Jarrod Hanson, Peter Anthamatten, Thomas Beck, Maryam Darbeheshti, Colleen Donnelly, Dennis DeBay, Brad Hinson, Vivian Shyu, Mia Fischer, Todd Ely, Linda Fried, Kelly See, David Bondelevitch, Jeffrey Schrader, Eric Jewett, Jeremy Nemeth, Sondra Bland, Lisa Kelley, Candan Duran-Aydintug, Andrew Friedson, Gregory Ragland, Esther Sullivan, Diana Tomback, Ilkyeun Ra, Fernando Mancilla-David, Jaedo Park, Karen Sobel, Kevin Seeber, Paul Taylor, Thorsten Spehn, Eric Baker, Joann Brennan, Inge Wefes

(12:00 PM)

Michelle Marks, Chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver

- This semester started in a way that we were not expecting. With remote learning at the start, and then the Marshall fire. We are working hard to help support those of our community who were affected.
- She is so grateful for the ways that the faculty continue to help support our community.
- The decision to start the semester remote was backed by science and experts in our community. Decision making moving forward is currently based off three criteria.
 - The Denver Hospital bed availability.
 - The impact of absenteeism on our students, staff, and faculty.
 - The Data from the state.
- The Campus is requiring boosters, increased the availability of KN95 masks, and increased access to rapid testing.
- This month we will be sharing the results of 5 specific questions from the climate survey. In April the campus community will receive the full results.
- The strategic plan
 - The commitment to becoming the first Equity Serving Institution is well underway.
 - Monique Snowden is working hard to create a strategic enrollment management plan to help achieve the goal of becoming an institution for life.
 - There were two amazing faculty research symposiums. They are working on identifying two grand challenges. They are getting close to finishing the search for the chief research officer.
 - Joann Brennan and Scott Bauer are working on a chair development program.
 - The IRC Taskforce is developing a report that will be central to improving our faculty experience.
- There was a question regarding our campuses mask mandate as Denver is ending their mandate. Our campus will be continuing their mandate until our numbers look better.
- A question was raised regarding ODE, and what our campus will be doing in this area. The Chancellor still believes that we need a more integrated model, what has also been found is that the other campuses are in the same boat. There is a taskforce led by Katie Linder that is focusing on this issue for our campus. They will be making recommendations soon.
- There was a question regarding the Vice Chancellor for Faculty Affairs search.
 - The position has been revised a bit, and the search will be posted this month. That search will be internal, the reason being that Faculty Affairs usually benefits from experience with our faculty systems.

(12:30 PM)

Melisa Baldwin Vice Chancellor for Advancement

- Melisa Baldwin joined the Assembly meeting to discuss how our advancement systems work for CU as a whole and for CU Denver specifically. The CU Foundation is a 501c3 that takes the gifts that come in and invests those gifts.
- The office of advancement is the primary catalyst for most fundraising activities and most front-line donor, faculty, and alumni interactions. The office of advancement is organized in the following areas.
 - Advancement Communications
 - Donor and Alumni Engagement
 - Major Gifts
 - Operations
- CU Denver Advancement has a budget of 2.5 million. It is funded by the CU Foundation.

(12:50)

Constancio Nakuma, Provost CU Denver and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

- The Provost wanted to encourage all teachers to apply for the CU Next award that is available from the System level. There is a deadline of April 4th for the application for this award. You can find it here <https://www.cu.edu/oaa/academic-innovation-programs/cu-next-award>.
- The Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness search was completed, and a finalist has signed their letter of offer. February 28th is the start date for the position.
- The hope for the Faculty Affairs search is that there will be internal candidates from CU Denver. That search will be posted this month.
- The search for the associate vice chancellor for research is well underway and there will be candidate forums in the coming weeks.
- Interviews for the Dean of SEHD will begin in the coming weeks.
- Our campus has a retention problem. There are several things that the provost would like to suggest our faculty do.
 - Reach out to one student personally. Especially a student who is struggling.
 - We need to create an environment where everyone feels valued.
 - All of us need to always approach situations with the benefit of the doubt.
- The Provost and Chancellor have committed to transparency on all things and asks that we all hold them accountable.
- One concern raised by a faculty member regarding student retention is the cost of tuition. This is an area that the university is working on address.
- There was a question regarding increasing the availability of TAs, this is something that would be good to bring up to the Strategic Enrollment Team.
- There were 12 letters of interest to apply for the Grand Challenge Seed Money.

(1:15 PM)

Jarrold Hanson, Chair of the Denver Faculty Assembly

- Motion to Approve the Minutes, Peter Anthamatten, Seconded Cadan Duran-Aydintug
 - 24 yes, 3 abstain.
- The EDC has created a revised proposal for the critical and emerging fellowship program. This would create a program that invites CU Denver Faculty, Students, and Staff to come and speak on critical and emerging issues.
- The group wrote the document in a way to keep it flexible so that it could be further shaped as it moves forward. The wanted to create a foundation for which the program could be built by the Chancellor or other areas.

- Motion to approve the proposal to be sent to the Chancellor, Thomas Beck, Seconded Cadan Duran-Aydintug
 - 21 Yes, 4 Abstain
- There has been an ongoing process to review salaries and pay under the equal pay act. The Board of Regents are looking at making a language change regarding their salary equity review processes guidelines for campuses.
 - The Grievance process on our campus regarding salary equity, are not good.
- Faculty Assembly will be holding elections in April. The Terms for both Secretary and Vice Chair have come to an end, if you are interested in these roles, please send nominations to Peter Anthamatten.

(1:45)

Committee Reports

- **Educational Policy and Planning Committee:** EPPC is continuing to work on the syllabus policy. They are also talking with the United workers of Colorado on their collective bargaining bill.
- **LGBTQ+ Committee**
 - The LGBTQ+ FA Committee is working on inclusive pedagogical workshops with various departments. They are collecting data on the impact of these workshops. They are also working with our HR systems to help provide feedback on making those more inclusive. FA Assembly Committee at: mia.fischer@ucdenver.edu.
- **Learning, Educational, Technology, Teaching and Scholarship Committee:** LETTS is looking at Proctorio and looking at ethical technology procurement. They are reorganizing OIT internally, this is budget neutral. CU Denver will have a much leaner and more agile team.
- **Committee on the Status of Women**
 - CSW is continuing to work on general university guidelines to address specific discrepancies and address the faculty that have been disproportionately affect by COVID.
 - issues, like gender disparities and parental leave.
- **Disabilities Committee**
 - You should be receiving revised letters for students who are working with DRS.
- **Budget Priority Committee**
 - BPC is trying to understand the role of faculty in the decision-making process around the spending of additional resources that are coming in from the system.

(2:00)

Meeting Adjourned