



Faculty Assembly

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

CU Denver Faculty Assembly Meeting

April 7th, 2020

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Zoom

Minutes

Attendees: Joann Brennan, Andrew Friedson, Vivian Shyu, Tammy Stone, Sharon Coggan, Maryam Darbeheshti, Lucy Dwight, Bruce Neumann, Rebecca Hunt, Jeffrey Schrader, Diana White, Peter Anthamatten, Cristina Gillanders, Steffen Borgwardt, Geoff Johnson, Diana Tomback, Brent Wilson, Eric Baker, Inge Wefes, Christy Briles, Geeta Verma, Kelly McCusker, Lonnie Schaible, Jeremy Nemeth, Timberly Roane, Sondra Bland, Fernando Mancilla-David, David Bondelevitch, Dale Stahl, Linda Fried, Thomas Beck, Marta Maron, Tod Duncan, Michael Zinser, Dr. Nairn, Lee Potter

12:00 PM **Michael Zinser - CU Denver Faculty Assembly Chair**

- Meeting brought to order.

12:10 PM **Roderick Nairn, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor**

- Dr. Nairn thanked the assembly for their quick response and participation on the new Pass/Fail policy.
- They want to get a policy in place to pause the tenure clock by one year, but they will give faculty the option to opt out of the pause.
- They are working on a policy that will focus on FCQs; once this is worked out information will be distributed. They are interested in feedback regarding ideas surrounding FCQs during this time.
- They are moving forward on a few senior level searches.
 - They are trying to identify a preferred finalist for the Business School Dean.
 - They are working with the search firm to identify finalists for the Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion search.
 - A search for Linda Bowman's replacement will be starting soon, as she is set to retire in June.
- There will be a financial impact from this current situation; we are unsure however how big the impact will be.
- Questions for Dr. Nairn:
 - How will the Pass/Fail policy apply to students who take an incomplete during this semester?
 - This is a question that might be best suited for the Registrar. For students who are currently working on an incomplete, this policy would apply to them.
 - There is a concern that some students might race to take an incomplete.

- This isn't something that Deans are seeing very much of, but this is something that advisors can help prevent.
 - There are concerns surrounding the availability of information for students regarding the Pass/Fail policy, and the exceptions surrounding it. It might be helpful for there to be a triage page with FCQs, for this policy and for the current situation.
 - There is a thought that we should encourage students not to jump ship and change over to Pass/Fail, since we've already completed half of the semester, and many students are doing ok. We could weigh the first part of semester more heavily, but we shouldn't make this policy the main course of action.
 - A concern was raised that the word "pass" misconstrues that a pass will meet a grade requirement, however it won't.
 - There was a recommendation for a visual aid regarding the policy that might be helpful for students who don't have a strong grasp of the language.
- Polling questions
 - Do you support the tenure clock extension proposed by the Provost- an automatic one-year extension?
 - 28 yes, 2 abstain
 - Do you agree that we should extend the "University of Colorado Denver Campus Spring 2020 Modified Grade Policy" through summer term 2020, if the Summer term is offered remote/online?
 - Yes 21, no 2, abstain 4

12:30 PM

Dorothy Horrell, Chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver

- Chancellor Horrell gave a beautiful reflection on her time at the University, and her appreciation of all that the faculty do for our campus.
- Some of her treasured memories were: RACAS, the Distinguished Lecturer series, reviewing promotion and tenure files, lunches with faculty members, and commencement, and the way our faculty treat that event.
- One area where we made headway in the last few years was how we lifted up CU Denver and made it more visible.
- The assembly thinks that it would be nice for the chancellor to record a short message for our students during these trying times.
- The Chancellor will be spending an hour a week to meet with the new chancellor prior to the transition. Ideally, she would've liked to have had some time where they were both on campus in person.
- The Faculty members thanked Chancellor Horrell for her time with the University and hoped she would send a video message to the students soon.

12:30 PM

Michael Zinser - CU Denver Faculty Assembly Chair

- Approval of March Minutes
 - 26 yes, 1 Abstain.
- There was a question regarding lab and field work, and how it is affected due to the COVID-19 situation. The Graduate School is hoping to get out some communication regarding this. The main concern is that the timeline for graduate degrees may be disrupted in a significant way, as students are unable to collect data or do research.
- The School of Education and Human Development has created a collaborative website for their students and parents within the CU Denver system. The website is a location where SEHD students can register to offer virtual services to parents. The services include help

with homework, social play focused sessions, educational play focused sessions. This site will help both students and parents.

1:40 PM

CU Denver Faculty Assembly Committee & Campus Reports:

- **Academic Personnel Comm (APC):** Mark and Nelia have been very responsive with the APC, however, when things are at the system level, their voice feels like it is getting lost. Also please be ready to review Article 8 of the Regents laws and policies. APS 5060 which focuses on faculty titles is also important to follow.
- **Budget Priorities Comm (BPC):** Everything related to the budget process has been upended. Most things have been postponed, as the state process is also in a state of flux. There should be some funding from the Federal government coming from the last stimulus package.
- **Disabilities Committee (DisC):** The climate survey has been completed, and they have drafted a memo that will be brought to the assembly.
- **Ethnic Diversity Committee (EDC):** The EDC met with folks up on the Boulder campus to discuss immigration workshops and resources. They are hoping to make these resources available to our students, but they are still working through the logistics.
- **Educational Policy & Planning Comm (EPPC):** They are concerned that the memos they have sent to the Provost's Office regarding certain policies don't seem to be holding weight. They haven't seen a policy change or revision due to their recommendations from their memos. They would like clarification on the revision process.
- **Learning, Educational Technology, Teaching, and Scholarship Committee (LETTS):** ODE is working on getting resources on remote teaching for faculty up and running. OIT put the Multifactor authentication process on hold. They are focusing on responding to the situation at hand. ThingStudio is another important resource for providing support to our faculty during this transition.
- **Lucy Dwight:** Please send nominations to Lucy Dwight for the Vice Chair and Secretary positions. Elections will be at the May meeting.

2:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned