

## CMU Faculty Senate MEETING MINUTES

**Date: October 16, 2025, 3:30 – 5:00pm**

**Venue: Center for Teaching and Learning**

**Senators/Representatives present:**

Karl Castleton, Kathy Diehl, Cassie Fenton, Ann Gillies, Eli Hall, Yen-Sheng Lee, Christopher McKim, Steve Merino, Josh Meuwly, Christine Noel, James Perez, Jenny Radomski, Markus Reitenbach, Stacie Schreiner, Megan Sherbenou, Rachel Weinzimmer, Chad Middleton (on behalf of Cher Hendricks), Anne Bledsoe (on behalf of Richard Scott)

**Senators/Representatives Absent:**

Leilani Domingo

**Guests:**

Mary Jo Stanley, Greg Baker

Renae Phillips- Recorder

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call by Sign-In
  - a. President Merino calls meeting to order at 3:30pm
- II. Approve Faculty Senate Minutes from October 2, 2025

**Motion: to approve Faculty Senate Minutes from October 2, 2025 (Reitenbach, Seconded Weinzimmer); Motion Carried**
- III. Continuing Business
  - a. Creation of a new Faculty Senate priority list
    - i. Discussion: Middleton offered his encouragement that the Faculty Senate determines the full ranking of the priority list. Middleton reiterated that President Marshall sees the Faculty Senate as the body to make the ranking order of the list. Merino agrees with Middleton to charge Faculty Senate to finalize the list then decide the ranking of the list. Merino met with Brian Perry for more information on the history of the procedures with the last time the faculty priority list was created to get a better view. McKim sees it different than Merino about relying fully on Faculty Senate to decide the final priority, as he is afraid of missing others' views, who are not in the room during the discussion. Castleton believes that now that there has been some communication with the faculty about the possibility to help rank, then taking that decision back and relying on Faculty Senate ranking directly may not be appreciated by colleagues across campus. Schreiner reiterated that we have asked the faculty twice, via the survey and having the Faculty Senate representative reach out to their colleagues for feedback. She reiterated that all faculty are allowed to be present at the Faculty Senate meetings. Discussion ensued.

**Motion: to adapt the list of priorities as written.**

**(Reitenbach, Seconded Hall); Motion Carried, Castleton abstained**

- ii. Discussion: Merino asked, who should rank order the priorities? Informally, the Faculty Senate shared that the majority believes the Faculty Senate should create the final rank of the priorities. It is encouraged to have one final request from faculty within each Senator's department, for their ranking on the priority list, so that the Senator can vote based on their feedback. Merino will send a Qualtrics link for the Faculty Senators to give their final ranking next week, requesting completion by the 10/28/2025.

**Motion: that Faculty Senate will rank priority list.**

**(Schreiner, Seconded Hall); Motion Carried, Reitenbach, Weinzimmer voted nay; McKim abstained**

#### IV. New Business

##### a. Assessment Committee plans for AY 2025-2026

- i. Discussion: Greg Baker, shared the following about the Assessment Committee: "Help make CMU's assessment process something that works for us, not something done to us." Weinzimmer asked how will this look for programs that already go through accreditation already? Dr. Stanley shared that the programs on our campus that already go through accreditation processes already meet the requirements, using the documents that are already being used. There will be a 3-year (mid) and 6-year cycle.

##### b. Defense pacts among Colorado colleges and universities

- i. Discussion: Merino shared that other Colorado colleges and universities are asking others to participate in a defense pact, to support institutions if the current administration's policies toward higher education targets Colorado colleges and universities. President Marshall has a negative view on defense pacts, as he believes it feeds into the perception of partisanship. Fort Lewis and Western Colorado University has passed the resolution. Reitenbach said that participating in something of this nature may put CMU in the light. Castleton believes if Faculty Senate is going to spend political capital that this is not the area that we would focus on at this time.

#### V. Reports

##### a. Provost Report, Chad Middleton (on behalf of Cher Hendricks)

- i. Faculty Professional Development Fund: Letters went out 10/14/2025 to all 102 faculty members who requested funding. The total cost of all requests was \$207,000. 77 requests were funded. Next Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> is the BOT meeting. PPH will be voted on. Faculty priority list, think carefully if you want the vote to go out to the faculty or have the Faculty Senate make the vote themselves, for a pragmatic reason.
- b. Faculty Trustee Report, Stacie Schreiner
  - i. There are many Homecoming and 100-year celebrations all next week. The Board of Trustees meeting is next week.
- c. CFAC report, Christine Noel
  - i. No report.
- d. VP report, Christopher McKim
  - i. 2024-2025 Committee List is rebuilt and is in the folder.
- e. Student Government Report, Leilani Domingo
  - i. No report.
- f. Executive Committee Report, Markus Reitenbach
  - i. No report.
- g. President's Report, Stephen Merino
  - i. No report. Radomski asked if there was a turnout with the "open hours." Merino/Schreiner said there were many present and had lots of questions, majority over faculty pay.

VI. Adjourn

**Motion: to adjourn the meeting**

**(Weinzimmer, Seconded Sherbenou); Motion carried 4:41p**