



## Academic Senate Meeting

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 9:10-11

**Present:** Marvin Argersinger, Brittany Barber, Mark Bathurst, Laura Bishop, Elizabeth Clifford, Robyn Corey, Tim Deines, Nancy Dietrich, Paige Dunckel, Bruce Farris, Sarah Garcia-Linz, Bill Garlick, Courtney Geisel, Gerry Haddad, Susan Hardie, Dawn Hardin, Melinda Hernandez, Jessica Hester, Lorin Honeysett, Susan Jepsen, Heidi Jordan, Mark Kelland, Eliza Lee, Megan Lin, Tamara McDiarmid, Robin McGuire, Tricia McKay, Tracy Nothnagel, Scott Poe, Chris Richards, Danielle Savory, Joann Silsby, Denise Warner, Nancy Weatherwax, Sally Welch, Richard Williams,

**Absent:** Brenda Brown, Cheryl Chase, Lisa Dobson, Charles Page, Louise Rabidoux, Tedd Sperling, Jeff Janowick,

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Approved without objection.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Senator Mark Kelland – Minor grammatical changes.
  - b. Approved with amendments.
- V. President's Report
  - a. "Good Morning! First of all, I want to thank you for taking time out of your summer to come to this meeting and I hope all of you have had a chance to take some time to recharge, and spend time with loved ones. This report will be brief as it is our summer meeting. First, I would like to take the time to introduce two new committee chairs to our standing committees. Courtney Geisel is now the Chair of the Curriculum Committee and Elizabeth Clifford is the Chair of the SAC committee. Thank you to both Courtney and Elizabeth for stepping up and taking on the responsibilities of that position when the Chair became vacant. Second, We are in need of two student senators for the upcoming academic year. If you know of any students in your programs who would be interested or you think would be a good fit for the Senate, forward their name to Elizabeth so she can reach out to them. Last, our first meeting of the academic year is

scheduled for Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. This will be by WebEx. Remember that all Academic Senate meeting occur on Pay day Fridays, so mark your calendars. And that is all for my President's report."

VI. Provost's Report

- a. Early Alert name is changing to Academic Alert. Revising the form that faculty fill out as well as LMS training for faculty. Working on a better way to collect data too.
- b. HLC reaffirmation is 14 months away. Sept. 23-24, 2024. We are in a good place. Going to do some things this year to be in a great place. Will create an HLC website before the semester starts. Will keep updated on what we need to work on for assurance argument.

VII. Consent Agenda

- a. Curriculum Committee Report
- b. Senator Mark Kelland – Request to remove Math 095 from consent agenda.
  - i. Removed.
- c. Approved as amended

VIII. Math 095 – Senator Mark Kelland

- a. Approval of the course is time sensitive in relation to Michigan Reconnect.
  - i. Move to amend the Math 095 proposal to change requirement of reading level 4 to reading level 5.
    1. Second Senator Tracy Nothnagel.
    2. Approved.
  - ii. Move to approve Math 095 as amended.
    1. Second Senator Tracy Nothnagel
    2. Approved.

IX. Vice-President Nominations – Senator Eliza Lee

- a. Entertain Vice President Nomination.
- b. Vote will take place at first Fall meeting, Aug. 25, 2023.

X. Limited Discussion Senate Meeting Modality – Senator Tamara McDiarmid

- a. Senator Gerry Haddad – F2F is hard because there are meetings surrounding those meeting. For instance, Budget Committee has a meeting directly before. Limited in person meeting is okay.
- b. Senator Jessica Hester – Like the idea of an every other Senate meeting being F2F. Would give a good balance.
- c. Past President Jon Ten Brink – Productivity of F2F was great. Consider some capacity of F2F.

- d. Senator Mel Hernandez – A lot of meetings on Friday. For efficiency, would prefer online.
- e. Patrick Butcher – May be able to do Hybrid. Hard to mic the Board room. More confident that Slido or Microsoft Forms could do voting. Warmed up to the idea over the summer.
- f. Senator Denise Warner – Like the idea of having some meetings F2F.
- g. Senator Mark Kelland – If we pick a number, we should also specify it's out at West Campus.
- h. Senator Mark Kelland – Move that the Academic Senate meet Face to Face once in the Board room and once at West Campus per semester.
  - i. Second Senator Tracy Nothnagel
  - ii. Senator Sue Jepsen – Amend the motion to make F2F to read Hybrid.
    - 1. Second Senator Bruce Farris.
    - 2. Approved as Amended.
  - iii. Motion approved as voted.

XI. Faculty and Student Values – Past President Jon Ten Brink

- a. See Appendix I.
- b. Senator Denise Warner – Small grammatical error.
- c. Senator Joann Silsby – In support.
- d. Senator Rick Williams – Motion to strike third bullet point, two down “Learn and use student’s preferred names and pronouns.”
  - i. No second, motion is lost.
- e. Document approved as voted.

XII. Public Comments

- a. Senator Mark Kelland – Several points of parliamentary procedure. Compliment President McDiarmid for being open to suggestions.
- b. Senator Eliza Lee – Thank Mark Bathurst for his years of service, for being parliamentarian, and on his upcoming retirement.
- c. Anonymous public comment – “I appreciate an open forum to discuss concerns with our colleagues. However, it is important that discussions remain factually correct. Sex and gender are two different, yet related concepts. One is biological (that is, scientific) and one is sociological (created by humans and our interactions with one another). Conflating the two concepts creates confusion and leads to incorrect statements (under the guise of academic discussion). Moreover, in this case, it is harmful to a vulnerable population. Gender is a social construct. Men wear their hair short and wear pants because that is what "men" do, unless you are in ancient Greece or Scotland, or any number of other cultures where short hair is not a marker of "men." To say that "girls wear pink

and boys wear blue" only serves to anchor you to recent generations situated in the global West of what boys and girls are "supposed" to wear. Gender is cultural, and what is "acceptable" markers of "men" and "women" have changed throughout time. Science assigns the terms male and female (which are biological terms) based on genetic chromosomes AND acknowledges that there is a spectrum (XXY, XYY, etc.). Society assigns the terms men and women based on sociological markers, and I suggest following science's lead in accepting a spectrum. Society often makes mistakes about what should be acceptable, but offering kindness, dignity, and respect to all fellow humans should be universal and atemporal."

XIII. Potential Future Agenda Items

- a. Senator Denise Warner – Add use of AI generated writing to an agenda. IE is developing policies and language. AI generated writing affects all departments.

***Purpose:*** *The purpose of the Academic Senate will be to provide faculty input and advice to the administration concerning issues of College-wide educational philosophy, College-wide academic policy, and priorities in the College-wide deployment of capital or financial resources, except as covered by the scope of collective bargaining. The Senate will be proactive and collaborative in its approach, seeking consensus whenever possible, and will foster and support effective and transparent communication with the college community. Student learning is the ultimate goal of this body.*

Respectfully submitted by Academic Senate Secretary, Eliza Lee.

# Appendix I

Vision Statement: Promoting authentic engagement between faculty and students.

As faculty, we value:

- A Culture of Care, emphasizing empathy and trust
- Maintaining standards of excellence and utilizing best practices, including
  - Creating, maintaining, and following a comprehensive and inclusive syllabus
  - Providing timely and meaningful feedback to students
- Fostering a welcoming environment conducive to student learning and should
  - Treat each student with respect and dignity
  - Learn and use students' preferred names and pronouns
  - Listen to student concerns, appreciative of their cultural perspectives
  - Assume positive intent of others
- Being available to students through traditional, face-to-face office hours or other technologies as indicated in the syllabus
- Acknowledging that students have lives and commitments beyond the classroom
- Providing sensitive and timely responses to accommodation requests
- Using student support resources, such as Academic Success Coaches, to equip students for success

As students, we value:

- A Culture of Care, emphasizing empathy and trust
- Striving for academic excellence by
  - Actively participating in this course
  - Reading the syllabus and using it as a guide through the semester
  - Preparing for class in advance, and completing assignments on time
  - Engaging with the instructor often, when there are questions and any time clarity is needed
  - Actively using the College's communications systems such as @mail.lcc.edu and @D2L.lcc.edu email accounts
- Respectful participation by assuming positive intent of others, inclusive of others' perspectives
- Intellectual property and integrity, our own and others'
- Embracing and utilizing campus resources such as tutoring, Academic Success Coaches, Counseling Services, and more to support studies as needed

This special committee moves that the faculty of the college actively engage with their students in accordance with these values and additional matters uniquely important to their courses and programs.