

Stamford Faculty Council Meeting
September 28, 2022, 7:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Minutes by Jonathan Gilbert

SFC Attendees: Carol Ann Wetmore, Bill Schwendner, Claudia Kraemer, Kevin McEvoy, Beth Ginsberg, John White, Sam Schoonmaker

Guest Attendees: Hasan Baige

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

OPEN COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

- I. Approve 9/12 Minutes: Bill motion to approve, Carol Anne second. 6 approvals. Beth abstains. No objections.
- II. Jennifer will attend October 10 SFC Meeting.
 - a. Open exchange with no specific topic requested by Jennifer.
- III. Director Discussions
 - a. Campus Town Hall October will include Officer Mickens. No new information on October town hall. Had planned on speaking about campus security training and active shooter training. Beth remembers the date falling on a holiday. Bill asks the council if anyone attended the September town hall & to supply an update. Claudia was sole SFC member attending. She remembers topics included Jennifer's introduction and presentation of awardees.
 - b. UPD will provide security training in person in fall.
 - c. Adjunct faculty recognition will be added to FTE/Staff Recognition Awards Ceremony. Jennifer agreed to represent adjuncts but has requested the adjuncts bring other ideas that can be included in the program.
 - d. Open question: What else from [Employee Recognition Program](#) (only FTE/staff) should be included for adjuncts
 - i. Bill suggested that adjuncts match equal representation and compensation as full-time.
- IV. Future Guest Speaker Plans [Speaker List](#)
 1. CSD: Emily Sears agreed (Bill). Tentative date set for 10/26
 2. Community Standards: Claudia reached out to Storrs then and was directed to Erica Granoff. Erica is willing to come to a meeting to discuss topics. Tentatively date of 11/14.
 3. Library: Beth will reach out to Phara for either, 11/30, or 12/12 date. Dates are contingent upon date confirmation from Emily and Erica.

4. Mental Health: Beth Asks Hasan what the SFC can do to help facilitate teaching at UCONN. Hasan admits a heavy workload in his first semester and expresses concern for mental health for both faculty and students. Claudia points out that there are no mental health services for faculty members. Beth suggests bringing in a representative from MHRC as a guest speaker. Claudia asks Hassan if he is using his designated mentor and offers additional support. Carol reminds the group that each school needs to meet the union requirement of a 'workload document', by explaining the credit load and expected work. Beth finalizes the conversation with additional offers of support and suggests that Hasan, or any other new faculty in need, reach out to members of the SFC for any questions and support.
- V. 2022-2023 AY SFC Membership (one open slot on Council (CLAS or ENG)) [SFC MakeUp](#)
- a. David Anderson (CLAS) (Adjunct)
 - i. Will replace Schwendner ('23-'24 terms). Bill told David that adjunct participation would be too high for the by-laws for this year. Bill proposed either adjusting the by-laws to accommodate a new position or waiting until next year. Group agrees to wait.
 - b. Phil Dwire (Digital Media & Design) (APiR)
 - i. There are 3 options presented for Phil's membership: offer a position now, wait until by-laws can be reviewed or changed, or wait until next year. Claudia suggests waiting until next year as there may be a change in memberships and positions. Beth and Bill agree. Kevin suggests that taking another interested member is better than waiting. Carol Ann agrees with Kevin. Sam suggests that finding a way to get a new member involved with the committee. Phil would be 'at large' representative.
 - ii. Kevin brings the offer of the 'at-large' FTE membership position to a vote.**
 1. Kevin – yes,
 2. Carol Ann – yes,
 3. John – yes,
 4. Sam – yes,
 5. Claudia – yes,
 6. Beth – yes,
 7. Bill – yes
 - iii. Claudia agrees to go back to Phil and offer the position.
 - c. Questions were raised about the 'adjunct at large' position on the committee. Claudia points out that the by-laws dictate 12 total members and a maximum of 3 adjuncts. Currently there are 13 members and 4 adjuncts. Carol points out that the future of Stamford faculty may change in favor of adjunct population (currently consists of 52% adjunct population). Bill suggests creating another discussion point in a near future meeting to discuss adjuncts and full-time members serving on the SFC.

- VI. Past Meeting Follow-Ups Status
 - a. Handicapped doors Franklin Street: fixed.
 - b. 2nd/3rd floor center doors – “Open” button to be installed by the first half of 2023

- VII. SFC [Schedule](#)
 - a. Updated: next meeting Oct 10th is with Jennifer.

- VIII. SFC webpage
 - a. Bill suggests posting the minutes on the webpage, making them available to the public.

- IX. Emails.
 - a. In response to Johanna’s questions about grants, Beth found out that Julie Wade will assist with finding a mentor with grant writing for CLAS faculty. The mentorship is a new faculty initiative.
 - b. Response to First Year writing questions were directed to John. Beth recommends reaching out and speaking to Lisa Blansett.
 - c. Lack of spaces for parking for faculty will be addressed by Bill.
 - d. With Danny leaving, Beth suggests that the search committees for new employees have at least one SFC representative member.

9/28/2022 (WEDNESDAY), 7PM, SFC AGENDA

GUEST SPEAKER: Jennifer Orlikoff

Claudia, jon, bill, Johana, john white,

Kate Liebman, pamela brown, elena levy, chris carney, rhea Hirschman

OPEN COUNCIL DISCUSSION

NEWS FROM JENNIGER. CLOSING THE ACEDIC AFFAIRS POSITION. HOPING TO MEET THE CANIDATES. ...COMING FROM STORRS TO ASSIST WITH DANNY'S DEPARTTURE.

- I. Approve 9/12 Minutes (attached)-
- II. Jennifer will attend October 10 SFC Meeting
 - a. Open exchange / No specific topic requested by her
 - i. Bill poses the question about campus safety in the building. Jennifer says that of the 5 officers, there are plans to introduce 5 security officers. Campus police will also offer to escort anyone to the parking lot. Mc
 - ii. Rhea asks why is there a sign requesting people to 'check in' if it is not enforced. These were covid policies and Jennifer will follow up whether it should be enforced or removed.
 - iii. Bill asks if the info center can be moved to doors. Jennifer says there should be better sinage.
 - iv. Claudia asks about sinage including 2nd and 3rd floor in terms of
 - v. Wellness coordinator. Joleene nevers. President Marick will be avaiilbe to discuss options with Jennifer. Needs a job description but should offer mindfulness and other wellness support. for both faculty and students. EAP employee assistance program. Offers mental health for faculty. By HR Wellness for Possibility of a healthcare professional on campus a possibility. David Anderson offers wellness. Jennifer asks that Marta needs to be informed to find a space and appropriate time. Bill will follow up.
 - vi. Pamela asks about active threats. Wants a workshop in identifying. She asks if this is part of wellness/mental health. They also bring up the available space on 1st floor. Jennifer knows of the space and will confer with others to determine the space needs. She expects an announcement before Nov. 8th. Pamela indicates that the space is msmall in limited. Pamela asks that if we are an urban campus what can be done to reduce active threats. The digital thread is not as active as NYU's. Jennifer says that an active shooter training is available in the near future. There is a training module. Jennifer offers the module.

Pameal asks that Jennifer address the entire faculty and offers the module in an email. Pameal addresses the fact that UCONN is not prepared and there is little to no information available.

- vii. Claudia asks about the 3rd floor lab space. Jennifer asks what the need is and has not heard of any plans. She assumes the space would be converted into teaching labs. Jennifer asks for a meeting with chem and bio to discuss.
- viii. Elena Levy asks about wellness and suggests that students have lost student skills. She asks for resources to help build some study skills. Maybe Hartford has a center to help. Jennifer tells the group Derall stark acknowledges there is a need. More information is coming soon.
- ix. Elena asks about COVID as rates are increasing. She attributes the students skills are decreasing and covid doesn't help. increase in rates
- x. Bill asks how to proceed with with 5 members that have COVID. Cannot discuss personal situations or point out to other students.
- xi. There is the self reporting, but is not required. Students are encouraged to reach out to student services.
- xii. Bill goes back to study skills. He points out that Math skills are deficient in prerequisites. He is aware that there is the Q center to assist, but more is needed. Rhea points out that even note taking is deficient. What can be done. Pamela has adjusted teaching methods to re-train and adjust for deficiencies. Pamela says that more q hours are possible. Elena suggests depression is an issue. Group agrees more student services.
- xiii. Kate Leibman suggests more focused support for large classrooms, like Ta's in the classrooms. Elena recalls peer tutor program that had passed the course and could offer support to other students. Program closed, but Jennifer agrees that we should bring the program back. She mentions that the provost agrees that this should be done. We can offer credits as a 'practicum'. Claudia asks about an independent study, 1 credit.
- xiv. Cafeteria. Non exists. Is there a need?! Is there a plan? Jennifer says they improve the offerings. Len Oser and Pam William and they said they were going to increase the offerings. For students, they want to offer a meal plan. For a set price offer a well-rounded meal. They will purchase meals in advance. A few members are lined up and hoping to get more. This would be outside the res halls or campus. They would go to the resraunt/cafeteria. Including the government center (has a full cafeteria). Pam says that all regional campuses have preferred, cooked food options and Stamford has the worst, including pre-packaged, preserved, stale options. Rhea seconds Pamela motion as students must leave campus to get decent food. The transition happened 10-15 years ago, when Stamford was not a residential campus. Rent was high, and nobody rented and barns and noble came in. Jennifer said there was discussion of Winfields occupying the space was better.
- xv. Faculty lounge. Better equipment, more attractive and welcoming. We wants to be an attractive place for faculty to congregate. Claudia says she needs a designated individual to clean the area. Some faculty cannot

follow rules and cleaning. Claudia is in charge of plants, but needs more assistance as it is a communal space. Jennifer reiterates that faculty needs to be responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Jennifer will find out.

- xvi. Prayer room. Jennifer agrees for a large space open for meditation wellness with operating bathrooms and

Council resumes discussions.

No quorum.

Cannot welcomPhil

Emily has agreed to attend the 10/26 meeting. Erica Granoff will attend 11/30. Beth is still working with Phara and mental health services (joleene nevers). Bill will contact Joleene for attending.

Next meeting 10/26

5 SFC members attended tonight's meeting. Claudia asks if an email could be sent to other SFC members about attendance. Bill will send an email.

xvii.

xviii. Financial aid officer

III. Director Discussions

- a. Campus Town Hall October will include Officer Mickens
- b. UPD will provide security training in person in fall.
- c. Adjunct faculty recognition will be added to FTE/Staff Recognition Awards Ceremony
 - i. Open question: What else from [Employee Recognition Program](#) (only FTE/staff) should be included for adjuncts
 - 1. Adjunct input: match the recognition / compensation for FTEs.

IV. Future Guest Speaker Plans [Speaker List](#)

- a. CSD: Emily Sears agreed (Bill). Need date.
- b. Community Standards: (Claudia). Need date.

V. 2022-2023 AY SFC Membership (one open slot on Council (CLAS or ENG)) [SFC MakeUp](#)

- a. Agreed to serve (now):
 - i. David Anderson (CLAS) (Adjunct)
 - 1. Will replace Schwendner ('23-'24 terms)
 - ii. Phil Dwire (Digital Media & Design) (APiR)
 - 1. SFC to discuss
 - 2. By Law change/Impact
- b. Felice on sabbatical until spring

VI. Past Meeting Follow-Ups Status

- a. Handicapped doors Franklin Street: fixed
- b. 2nd/3rd floor center doors – “Open” button to be installed ~ 1H23

VII. SFC Schedule [Schedule](#)

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION (CLOSED MEETING)