

Stamford Faculty Council Meeting
April 15, 2024, 7:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Minutes by Jonathan Gilbert

SFC Attendees: Claudia Kraemer, Bill Schwendner, Sharon Lattig, Katie Nagrotsky, Felice Lesser, Beth Ginsberg, Marie Ruiz-Martinez

Guest Attendees: Joel Blatt

Guest Speaker: *Ana Ocasio: ConnCAP (Center for Access & Post Secondary Success) *Did not attend*

OPEN COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- I. Approve Minutes
 - A. 2/12 minutes
 - I. Beth motions to approve under conditions to change Roman numeral II, subsection f, 'IDA law' to 'IDEA law'
 - II. Bill Seconds
 - B. 3/4 minutes
 - I. Beth motions to approve, Claudia seconds
- II. Budget Updates
 - A. AAUP Meeting Recap
 - I. Bill asks if the 25-year wage discussions were still going on
 - A. Claudia says they were approved
 - II. Beth mentions that Unions currently are negotiating contracts.
 - A. A member asks if there are expected cuts to Stamford
 - I. No one knows.
 - B. A member suggests inviting Michael Bailey to speak to the council about the process and updates.
 - I. Bill or Beth will reach out about being a guest speaker
- III. Follow up status.
 - A. Faculty Office Hours/Concourse
 - I. Pilot 3/28 with several tables in the main concourse.
 - A. Went well, about 15 people showed up. Served its purpose to show faculty accessibility.
 - I. Storrs Provost showed up as well
 - II. April 25, 11-2
 - A. Schedule is out

- I. A member raises a concern that they did not get an email
 - I. Claudia explains Jonathan reached out to Aris directly and asked for a schedule as well as volunteer.
 - II. Claudia, Bill, Jonathan and another member of Biology will attend from 11-2
 - II. A member asks if it will only be a STEM event
 - I. Claudia clarifies that it is not and is open to all faculty and explains that because Jonathan reached out directly and that the email only went to bio.
 - III. A member asks if this will continue in the Fall
 - A. Beth suggested there be department/field specific events.
 - B. Bill said he would reach out but expects a return request for dates/availability
 - C. Claudia suggests establishing 1 day a month (sept, oct, nov) then we can ask faculty. Each month could represent a field (STEM, social science, and fine art)
 - I. The group agrees.
 - II. Beth adds that we should do multiple days, (tues, wed, & thurs) to capture a wider audience.
- B. Parking concerns
 - A. Claudia spoke to Aris. There were issues in the beginning and have returned. Aris will continue to work with parking services to discuss event parking and overflow.
- C. Financial Aid (scholarship division)
 - I. No news from Marie as no information can be gained.
 - A. Marie is willing to continue searching but needs a contact with scholarship specific knowledge
 - I. She approached Laura and the financial aid office in Storrs and was told there is no specific person in charge of scholarships in Stamford.
 - B. A member suggests reaching out to Alfie
 - I. Marie will follow up with Alfie
 - C. A member posts the link to the scholarships
 - I. Marie says she reached out to the contact listed on the website and did not get a response.
 - I. She can follow up again.
 - D. In summation, there is no point person but there is a website that students can access. For the next meeting, Marie will reach out to Alife and see if there is a point person in his group.
- D. Stamford Graduates / Graduation Ceremony
 - I. Claudia asked Jennifer and she said she will ask again.

- A. She suggests asking again on day one of the Fall semester for potential changes in May
 - E. UCONN Stamford Open House Engagement
 - I. March 23rd (Saturday)
 - A. Bill will attend.
 - B. Beth asks if they are all on Saturdays
 - I. Yes, admissions schedules the events.
 - II. Beth expresses concern that Saturday's conflict with religious practices and there should be alternative days to accommodate every member.
 - I. Beth will email admissions to suggest that at least 1 of the 5 days scheduled not be held on Saturdays.
 - I. Claudia suggests reaching out to Kim Shellenberger
(Kimberly.borstein@uconn.edu)
- IV. Faculty Colloquia (planned)
 - A. 4/18 Thurs, Dr. Serkan Gorkemli
- V. Upcoming SFC guests
 - A. Non scheduled but Marie has a suggestion for the fall and will reach out.
- VI. Reminders
 - A. New Faculty Orientation participation Aug 21, 11-3pm
 - I. Claudia, Bill, and Beth will attend
 - A. Beth will be speaking about the mentorship program
 - B. May 9th Students awards Ceremony
 - I. A member asks if Joel will be organizing
 - A. Joel says Laura has taken over the event.
 - I. He said he will help but does not have control
 - II. Joel explains that Laura is asking for recommendations from departments
 - A. Claudia shares that the requests were to be sent through Kual.
 - I. Joel says that the deadline is the 18th.
 - III. Multiple members express concerns that they never received an email about this topic.
 - A. Claudia and Marie received an email and indicate that the emails were only sent to coordinators.
 - I. Beth expresses concern that her coordinators did not share the information
 - II. Felice expresses concern that she does not have a coordinator.
 - B. Claudia agrees this is unfair and suggests Beth and/or Felice write to Laura and ask that the info go to all faculty.
 - I. Marie will bring it up with her meeting with Laura.

VII. SFC

- A. No more spring 2024 meeting dates
- B. Fall 2024 schedule 7:15 pm
 - I. **9/9**, 10/14, 11/11, 12, 2

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Claudia received a message from Kevin McAvoy announcing that despite his willingness, he will no longer be teaching at UCONN.