

## ***Meeting of the Camden Faculty Council***

***February 6, 2023 - Meeting Minutes***

### ***Zoom Meeting***

**Attendees:** Bonnie Jerome-D’Emilia, Chair, Holly Blackford Humes, Perry Dane, Paul Jargowsky, Chris Lim, Paul More, Jr., Sam Rabinowitz, Zara Wilkinson

**Absent:** Bernardo Hiraldo

**Administration:** Vice Chancellor Mike Sepanic

**Guests:** Naomi Marmorstein (in lieu of Provost Nickitas), Mike Fitzgerald

### **Call to Order:**

Chair B. Jerome-D-Emilia called the meeting to order at 11:20 am

There were no minutes to be approved (we will approve the December minutes at our next meeting).

### **Administration:**

Dr. Marmorstein reported on recent actions taken by the Provost’s office:

- Last spring, a survey of faculty was conducted in which they were asked what topics related to teaching they would be interested in learning about. Enhancing student engagement came up as a theme, so monthly Lunch and learn sessions on specific topics related to this theme have been started. 30+ faculty have attended most of the meeting.
- A faculty development program was started with an outside organization, the Association of College and University Educators (“Effective College Teaching”). This program is offered in partnership with Student Academic Success and is engaging 30+ faculty in a 25-week program.
- A New Faculty Orientation Series is being offered, with monthly sessions assisting new faculty in acclimating to our campus and learning about teaching- and research-related resources. As part of this, a trip to Washington DC is being planned which will include a small group of new faculty to meet with program officers.
- Pathways to promotion meeting will be coming soon targeted at Associate Professors to prepare them for promotion. New full professors and members of A&P committees will be invited to speak at this meeting.
- Other faculty development programs are also being planned.
- The ELF fund to be rolled out. This is a pool of money to be targeted to students who are interested in participating in study abroad or experiential learning projects such as

working in labs.

### **The state of our campus:**

Mike Fitzgerald reported on the Operations Division of Institutional Planning.

- This unit covers buildings and grounds upkeep.
- B. Jerome-D’Emilia asked about the nursing school – there was water damage in a room in the building.
- M. Fitzgerald explained that there was a leak in a water main, following that event the room was sanitized, sheet rock was restored, we are waiting for carpet to complete the job. Vendor equipment had been left in the room until the job was finished. Also there is a broken chair that needs to be repaired (there is no extra furniture available).
- Z. Wilkinson asked about the library basement flooding and about the library not being cleaned and trash not being picked up. It is a concern for faculty, staff, and students.
- Additionally, there are holes in the walls and mold in the basement.
- M. Fitzgerald advised us to call 856 225-6300 for custodian and maintenance.
- M. Fitzgerald explained that pipes have been replaced because there was rain and sewage backup. Recent equipment problems have led to flooding. His department has had a tough time recruiting new hires, there are three vacancies out of 36 custodians.
- He further explained that we will always have a problem with heavy rains in the campus center, law school, and library. This is a city infrastructure issue.
- He has not heard of any water quality issues in our buildings.

### **Follow up on the PTL Best Practices document:**

- M. Sepanic stated that the role of the Faculty Council is to advise the Chancellor in addition to other purposes in the bylaws. P. Dane
- Members discussed the history of the PTL document which was sent to academic units in the past with no concerns expressed.
- N. Marmorstein suggested we could send the document to each of the four Deans.
- P. Dane – discussed the document expressing the opinion that this is a culture we would like to have on campus. We are fine with discussing it with the Chancellor, but we should be able to send it out.
- Members agreed we can share the document with the Chancellor and get feedback, but this is a public document (the old iteration is on the Faculty Council website). Also the

Council is a campus wide governance body with a limited role. We will expect that the Chancellor will provide feedback at our next meeting, but we should still be able to distribute the document.

**Concerns for the future discussion:**

- P. More asked M. Sapanic if the Chancellor is aware that the union is considering a strike vote in the near future. The offer made to PTLs was not acceptable.
- M. Sapanic was not sure if the Chancellor was aware of a potential strike looming.

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

Minutes prepared and submitted by B. Jerome-D’Emilia

**Next Meeting:**

Monday, March 6 from 11:20am – 12:15pm

