

**FACULTY SENATE****Minutes for HSSU Faculty Senate Meeting****Friday, February 19, 2021 - 3:45 p.m.**

Guest Present: Dr. LaTonia Collins-Smith Provost; Dr. Edward Hill, Asst. Provost; Chief Eric Sullivan Sr. Interim Director HSSU Department of Public Safety.

Members Present: Dr. Odessa Weatherford-Jacobs; Dr. Joyce Eisel; Dr. Warletta Brookins; Mr. Gregory Carr; Dr. Candice Idlebird; Dr. Amber Jones; Dr. Suneetha deSilva; Dr. Scott Horrell; Dr. Charlene Jones; Dr. Peter Ndoma Ogar; Dr. Ekeama Goddard-Scovel; Dr. Robert Kamkwalala; and Dr. Owakabi Tiamiyu.

Dr. LaTonia Collins-Smith, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs began at 3:55 p.m. with University updates. She shared that the university is working with Jenzabar to update faculty advising software. This should address the concerns of faculty around degree audits. In addition, she shared with the Senate that it is imperative to submit accurate attendance on time for every class. Failure to submit accurate and timely attendance have implication on the accreditation and future finances for the HSSU and the students.

She asked the Senate to work with university officials to ensure that all faculty are clear on how important attendance is and submit accurate attendance on time.

After meeting with the Student Government Association, Dr. Collins-Smith said, she is now aware that some fulltime faculty members are saying they are unclear about what hybrid meant. She reiterated that this has been discussed on numerous occasions with faculty and reminded faculty no one is exempt from attending in person hybrid classes unless they are athletes are excused for sports on particular days. However, everyone in the hybrid classes are expected to meet in person on assigned days and at assigned times.

Dr. Collins-Smith also discussed the following:

- The HSSU/NG/TREC on Washington STEM partnership is moving forward. A statewide STEM mission was being presented to the Higher Education Commission. These initiatives are being spearhead by Dr. Wills.
 - The spring faculty meeting is set for March 5th at 2 p.m. on Zoom.
 - Spring Commencement will be May 8th – It is expected to be a Socially Distanced Outdoor event.
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- Full participation is needed for the Accreditation team. All faculty members are to be on at least one of the teams.
- Clean Tech should be available and cleaning classrooms between classes.
- Care packages with disinfectant will be provided for all faculty.
- It will be asked to make sure all classrooms have working cameras and provide training for faculty.
- Self-care is the Best care, and we must take care of ourselves and our families.

Interim Chief Sullivan then spoke and shared that he wanted to find out from faculty what their thoughts are about the Public Safety Department. Additionally, he shared that the HSSU Public Safety is proposing to transition to a full camps police department. This would take them from being security officers to trained police officers. Public Safety would become a stand alone police department. This would all the department to apply for Department of Justice funding that they are currently ineligible for. They would continue to partner with St. Louis Police Department.

The meeting was then officially called to order by President Weatherford-Jacobs, who introduced the Faculty member of the month Dr. Peter Ndoma-Ogar. He was recognized for his years of dedication and commitment to Harris Stowe.

Dr. Ndoma-Ogar has been a faculty member at HSSU for 17 years. He matriculated at Harvard University and in Belgin. His undergraduate education began in London, and he earned his PhD in Oklahoma. He was instrumental in bringing the Board of Regents policies to Harris Stowe.

He was thrilled and honored to receive the recognition. Various faculty members spoke about the contribution of Dr. Ndoma-Ogar. He was instrumental in bringing the Marketing Program at HSSU.

In other matters:

The minutes of the January 2021 meeting were unanimously approved with corrections – the addition of the names of individuals who attended the meeting. (moved by Carr; Seconded by Eisel)

NEA President Gregory Carr said there seems to be some confusion about the NEA (National Education Association) dues and the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The NEA is submitting a Memorandum of Understanding to the University for the current CBA to remain in effect until 2022. Bargaining will occur in 2022. All faculty should be familiar with the CBA and Board Policies because they go hand and hand and government standard operating procedures for faculty and the university.

President Weatherford-Jacobs encourage faculty that in shared governance, we must be prepared for working in a virtual environment and their voice matters.

Dr. deSilva; Dr. Goddard-Scovel; and Mr. Carr agreed to become members of the Senate Legislative Ad hoc Committee along with Dr. Brookins.

Student advising continues to be a challenge for some faculty members. It was discussed that expectations and mindsets around advising must be changed. There was discussion about having Senators see if dialogue around Advising can be added the meeting agendas for discussion in each college. Mr.Carr will take the lead for Humanities.

Dr, MacDougal and Dr. Horrell were previously asked to look into faculty advising degree audit software. They are going to try to meet with Mr, Sean Spinks in Academic Success and report back at the next meeting. It was discussed that the current system is not automatically updating the degree audits. The reporting system reportedly needs to be updated.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.