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Senate minutes March 21, 2024

Attendance: Please see the Appendix for the list of attendees.

Call to Order: Senate President Hussein Mohamed called the meeting to order at 3:30. Parliamentarian Tom Gonzalez stated that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Hussein asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. The motion was made by Carl Gabrini and seconded by James Adams. There was no discussion; the vote to approve the minutes was carried.

Executive Cabinet: Hussein invited Dr. Fuchko and the members of the President's Executive Cabinet to speak.

Dr. Fuchko: Dr. Fuchko welcomed everyone back after spring break. He said that the meeting of the Latin American Association was successful, with attendance by 450-500 high school students who are prospective college students.

The college plans an initial session to kick-start the Strategic Plan initiative; faculty will be asked to participate.

For this year's tenure and promotion candidates, he has received the list of recommendations from Provost Bruno Hicks.

Dr. Fuchko then invited Kate Maine to speak. She reminded everyone that Dr. Fuchko's investiture is scheduled for April 26. There will be several events starting on the 25th; please RSVP on the investiture website: <https://www.daltonstate.edu/investiture.cms>

Kate said that Dalton State representatives have met with several state legislators, advocating for Dalton State and the USG. The Senate Appropriations Committee has announced that funding is being diverted from special funding initiatives to cover insurance costs for the system.

Dr. Hicks: Bruno thanked everyone for their hard work and thanked Nick Gewecke for his work on SACS. He also thanked Tammy Byron for her work on the Momentum report.

Bruno reminded all faculty to make sure their advisees are registered for next semester.

Dr. Johnson: Jodi said that Banner 8 will be replaced by Banner 9 on April 1; the new version will look different from the current one. Her office will be sending out information on how to use it; she recommends that everyone preview it. The new version will include some customization,

such as preferred language and preferred name and pronouns. The tranguide will be replaced by a student profile page.

Jodi stated that the college will be awarded the enrollment trophy; Dalton State is #1 among state colleges in head count increase. We are the only state college to achieve growth over the past five years.

Hussein asked why Banner is being changed in the middle of the semester; Jodi said that the decision was made by the USG.

David Lesicko: David said that \$66 million had been restored to the USG budget this year. An additional \$1.78 million will be available to Dalton State for Major Renovation and Repairs. These will include replacing Westcott's roof, replacing outdated electrical panels, and other projects. The Lorberbaum renovations are still on schedule; the college will meet with the system office to discuss the upcoming Library project.

David said that the college is considering adopting the Rave Guardian app, which should improve communication with Public Safety.

The campus Landscaping and Habitat Committee will meet soon; membership currently includes two faculty members and three students.

On April 18, a public safety exercise will be conducted to help with emergency training.

Hussein said that there is a need to update the labs in Sequoya. David said that Randall Griffus is looking into obtaining private funding to renovate an area into a lab.

New Business

Executive Committee nominations: Hussein said that the vote for next year's Executive Committee will be held at the April meeting. Currently, there is one nominee for each position, but there is still time for additional nominees. Matt Hipps, nominee for President-Elect, said that he would use his previous experience in the office to continue the Senate's work.

Parliamentary Procedure: Jennifer Randall has proposed using an alternative to Roberts' Rules of Order. She will send the specifics out to everyone in the near future.

Liaison between Evaluation Committee and Tenure and Promotion Committee: Chris Wozny, chair of the Tenure and Promotion Committee, said that the committee discussed four proposals to achieve closer communication between the two committees. Their recommendation was that the chair of Tenure and Promotion should also be a member of the Evaluation Committee. Chris stated that his committee had encountered a number of issues in the tenure and promotion process this year.

Tom Gonzalez moved to adopt Chris's proposal; Kent Harrelson seconded. Discussion followed. Susan Burran said that in her opinion, it was not appropriate for the senate to vote on the

matter at this point. Hussein referred the matter to the Evaluation Committee for discussion at the April meeting.

Hybrid Format for Senate Meetings: Starting next fall, Jennifer Randall proposed to hold senate meetings in person, with participation via Teams also available. Matt Hipps moved to adopt the change; Jennifer seconded the motion.

The motion to conduct senate meetings in a hybrid format starting in fall 2024 carried.

Committee Reports

Academic Conduct: Leah Howell stated that the committee is writing an A.I. syllabus policy for use at Dalton State; they expect to send a proposal out in the near future.

Academic Programs: The committee met on Feb. 9. All proposals from Arts and Sciences and the Wright School of Business were accepted.

Assessment: Nothing to report.

Faculty Development: Lynda Ridley reported that the Bold Talks event was a success.

Faculty Evaluation: Jeff Stanley said that the committee will be meeting to finalize a number of proposals to be presented at the April senate meeting.

Faculty Resource: Calley Hornbuckle said that the committee is still researching campus-wide polling software and options. She said that any problems with classroom technology should be reported to OCIS. Melissa Whitesell and the Library staff have been holding a series of workshops at the Dalton-Whitfield Public Library; these will continue next fall.

Faculty Welfare: Jennifer Randall reported that the committee has looked into the faculty office hour policy. Faculty may contact their chair to request modified office hours. The committee also discussed ways to improve campus safety. These include the Rave app mentioned by David Lesicko, adding signs around campus dealing with safety, and increased presence by campus security officers.

Strategic Planning Monitoring: Nothing to report.

Tenure and Promotion: Matt Hipps said that the committee will work with Faculty Evaluation to have reports ready for the April senate meeting.

Announcements

Hussein asked Elizabeth Hutchins to discuss the list of advisees in Banner and how the list differs from the Excel sheet that is sent out each semester. Elizabeth said that students are dropped from the Banner list after a year of inactivity at the college. The spreadsheet list is accurate at the time it is distributed.

Hussein reminded everyone to fill out the Great Colleges survey.

Patrick Ryle reminded everyone that the Securities Exchange Commission will be on campus on Thursday, March 28; it's a great opportunity to meet members of the American financial industry.

Forrest Blackbourn said that the QEP committee is developing a survey that will be presented at the April senate meeting.

[Adjournment and next meeting](#)

The next senate meeting is scheduled for 3:30 on April 11.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kent Harrelson, secretary

Appendix: Attendance at Senate Meeting, March 21, 2024

Senators	Guests
James Adams (proxy) Ali Akdeniz Cynthia Bailey Susan Burran John Fuchko, Dalton State President Carl Gabrini Thomas Gonzalez, Parliamentarian Kent Harrelson, Secretary Timothy Hawkins Bruno Hicks, Provost Matthew Hipps Calley Hornbuckle Leah Howell Natalie Johnson Clint Kinhead Jon Littlefield Micah Manley Annabelle McKie-Voerste Sarah Min Hussein Mohamed, Senate President Jodie Pack Jennifer Randall, President-Elect Lynda Ridley Jeff Stanley Laura Tolliver, Webmaster Lirong Yu	Manal Abdelsamie James Adams Katrina Autry James Beach Forrest Blackburn Tammy Byron Alicia Causey Omin Chandler Joy Defoor Mike D'Itri Sarita Gale Nicholas Gewecke Cameron Godfrey Jami Hall Marilyn Helms Brooklyn Herrera Michael Hilgemann Elizabeth Hutchins Katherine Hyatt Jodi Johnson David Lesicko Chelsea Lopez Kate Maine Nancy Mason William Mast Michael Masters Lori McCarty Rosalva Moso Keith Perry Tammy Rice Andrea Roberson Patrick Ryle Carole Shealy John Shim Amanda Smith Marina Smitherman Wendy Sosebee Ale Velazquez Melissa Whitesell Christopher Wozny