

- 1) Voting members present:

Debra Allen	Jill Cabrera	Leslie Fadiga-Stewart
Severine Groh	Christopher Jurgenson	Jesse Kelley
Kalilah Kemp	Shannon Lamb	Gwendolyn Meador
Michaela Merryday	Bret Pimentel	Temika Simmons
Jeff Smithpeters	Thomas Taylor	Eyad Youssef

- 2) Meeting called to order @ 3:33pm by President Fadiga-Stewart

- 3) Agenda: Approved
Minutes: 3/19 meeting, 4/2 special meeting, and 4/9 meeting, approved with corrections for minutes of 4/9 meeting. Motion by Senators Youssef and Pimentel.

- 4) Guest Speaker: None

- 5) President's report:
 - a. The forum of President LaForge of 4/29 was well attended by faculty and staff. However, the forum attracted fewer students than expected. This is likely because of the timing since the presidential forum took place during the week prior to finals week.

 - b. President Fadiga-Stewart thanked former Senate President Hebert as well as the senators and proxies for their service in 2014-2015. President Fadiga-Stewart indicated that to ensure a smooth transition between Senate Presidents from one year to the next, it was customary that both the former Senate President and the current Senate President attend the cabinet meetings till June. However, the May cabinet meetings would be cancelled this year while DSU President LaForge would be away in Perm State University, Russia, as a visiting Fulbright Fellow.

 - c. President Fadiga-Stewart indicated that it was customary that the Faculty Senate President-elect attends the monthly Staff Council meetings and that the staff council Chair-elect attends the monthly Faculty Senate meetings. In this context, President-elect Youssef will attend the Staff Council meetings each first Wednesday of the month at 8:30am in 2015/2016. Since the Chair-Elect of Staff Council Justin Chandler is leaving DSU, Marilyn Read, Chair of the Staff Council 2014-2015, will take over as Chair of the Staff Council for 2015-2016; Marilyn Read will let President Fadiga-Stewart know who is going to attend monthly Faculty Senate meetings in 2015/16.

 - d. A new faculty member will be appointed to report to Faculty Senate from Graduate Council since Dr. Hartley who was reporting to senate is no longer senator in 2015/2016. President Fadiga-Stewart indicated that any faculty member, senator or not, can serve to report to Faculty Senate.

 - e. Dr. Green will continue to report to Faculty Senate about BPAC activities in 2015/2016.

 - f. President Fadiga-Stewart asked that senators meet by senate committee(s) and elect their chairs for 2015/2016 before adjournment of this senate meeting.

- 6) Cancellation of June and July Senate meetings: Motion to cancel June and July Senate meetings for lack of quorum proposed by Senators Allen and Merryday. President Fadiga-Stewart will inform senators and proxies if the need for a summer senate meeting arises. Vote: all in favor.
- 7) New business:
- a. **Student attendance policy** - Academic council is asking for faculty feedback regarding the current student attendance policy stating that *“particular policies and procedures on absences and make-up work are established for each class, and are announced in writing at the beginning of the term”, “it is expected that attendance will be taken at each class meeting”, “an undergraduate student with absences greater than 25% will be dropped and receive a grade of F in the class” and “the last date of attendance shall be recorded”.*
 - Consensus is that faculty have to take roll at each course meeting, but that faculty should have flexibility in the means used to take and record student attendance.
 - Discrepancies exist across courses regarding the consequences for students missing class time regardless of the percentage. For example, nursing students have 6 hours/day and are not allowed to miss class time. Students missing class time must take a make-up. In some courses, students are allowed to miss 3 times but are automatically failed by the faculty at the 4th time. Some faculty fail students based on the attendance when it falls below 75%. Consensus is that faculty should have flexibility to fail or not students based on the percentage of course attendance to reflect the specific course requirements as long as these requirements are clearly announced in writing in the course syllabus at the beginning of the term.
 - The attendance policy is different for online courses. President-elect Youssef indicates that students should need to show **significant** activity every week or every 2 weeks. Adding weekly mandatory but non-graded discussion assignments may solve the problem of checking attendance after the no-show reporting deadline is passed.
 - Senator Simmons reminds the senate that there is currently no campus-wide weather inclement policy.
 - b. **Sustainability committee** - Steven McClellan, VP for Finance, had asked senate for feedback regarding the need for a university standing committee on sustainability.
 - Senator Merryday indicated that many universities have such an advisory committee, the mission of which is to make recommendation for the campus community in matter of energy choices, to save energy but also to raise environmental awareness and provide leadership in the community. Such a committee could also tackle questions regarding the handling and purchase of food and provide online resources and workshops for the education of students and the DSU community at large. The committee would include students, faculty and staff.
 - Concern is raised about the efficacy of such a committee, since the Health and Wellness has tried to address similar issues but has faced many roadblocks.
 - Motion by Senators Smithpeters and Jurgenson to approve the constitution of a DSU sustainability committee. To Senator Allen’s question of whether this committee would

replace existing committee(s), senator McKnight answers that no decision has been made yet.

- Motion to postpone the discussion by Senators McKnight and Smithpeters after Senator McKnight provides the senate with a list of the DSU green committees is approved. The question of a DSU sustainability committee will be put back on the agenda in the fall semester.
- c. **Admission to the Hamilton-White Child Development Center** - President-elect Youssef inquired about the status of an earlier request made to the Cabinet to prioritize admission of DSU faculty families to the Hamilton-White Child Development Center. Senator Taylor reminded the Senate that the mission of the Hamilton-White Child Development Center was to serve as a Family and Consumer Sciences laboratory within the college of education rather than to provide a service for DSU employee and / or students. As of today, the University supports a status quo for admission to the Hamilton-White Child Development Center: first-comes first-serves with waiting list with the only priority being the admission of siblings. President Fadiga-Steward proposes to look at other existing models with Senator Youssef.

8) Meeting adjourned: Approved

Executive Committee Meeting Date: 3:30 PM - Thursday, 9/3/2015- Faculty Lounge

September Senate Meeting Date: 3:30 PM – Thursday, 9/10/2015 – 302A Union