

CSM Senate Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: March 20, 2023

Time: 2:30 pm

Location: Held via Zoom

Members in attendance:

- Steven Jackson, Mathematics, Associate Chair
- Kenneth Fletcher, Computer Science, Secretary
- Tiago Cogumbreiro, Computer Science
- Michael Rahaim, Engineering
- Kellee R Siegfried-Harris, Biology
- Daniel Dowling, Chemistry
- Katherine Gibson, Biology
- Maxim Olchanyi, Physics
- Moriah Roache, Physics
- Jonathan Rochford, Chemistry
- Velina Batchvarov, Student Success Program Coordinator
- Yusuf Mustopa, Mathematics
- Joel Fish, Mathematics

Member(s) Absent:

- Chandra Yelleswarapu, Physics, Chair
- Karla Schallies, Biology
- Mridula Satyamurti, Chemistry
- Eric Steele, Physics, Graduate Student Representative

Others in attendance:

- Ricardo Castano-Bernard, Associate Dean, CSM Dean's Office Representative

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 pm.

1. A motion to approve the meeting agenda was seconded and approved unanimously.
2. A motion to approve meeting minutes for February 2023 meeting was seconded and approved unanimously.
3. Announcements:
 - a. Call for nominations is out.

- b. Dean has finalized and sent to the provost the CSM TT-request for the next 3 years. A finalized version has been sent to senate members via email. (Ricardo indicated that this document will be reviewed yearly and the proper channel to submit your feedback is through our respective department chairs)
 - c. Senate members whose term is going to end May 2023 should talk to their Department Chairs. Also, at-large members can renominate themselves or nominate someone else.
4. New business:
- a. ***Motion to approve graduate course description change of Disease Ecology (BIOL-646):*** There was confusion over what exactly needs to be changed in the description of this course. Also, it wasn't clear if this change has already been reviewed and approved by the academic affairs committee. For that reason, a motion to postpone this motion until the next meeting, request clarification on what specifically needs to be approved, and to refer this proposal to the academic affairs committee for review was seconded and unanimously approved. We will revisit this next meeting.
 - b. ***Motion to approve changes to Biology Ph.D. – Environmental Biology Track:*** There was confusion over this motion on whether the academic affairs committee has already reviewed and approved the changes to this track. In addition, members are concerned that the changes requested in this motion create a list of required courses that doesn't suggest an Environmental Biology Track. The senate decided that the proposers should get feedback from the department on some minor changes, after which it should be sent to the academic affairs committee for review. So, a motion to refer the proposal to the academic affairs committee was seconded and unanimously approved.
5. Deans Office:
- a. Riccardo mentioned that the Dean wants to thank us for our participation in the town hall meeting and the strategic planning survey.
6. Other business:
- a. Discussion of Bylaws Committee – Joel suggested that there should be language that will require at least one member of our sub-committees to be on the Senate. In that way, we can have answers to questions quickly during our meetings.
7. The meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm.