

August 26, 2020

FHSU AAUP Chapter Meeting



Zoom Meeting ID: 505 539 0067 3:30-4:30

MINUTES

- **Call to order, Janett Naylor-Tincknell**
 - o 3:30 p.m. 24 present – quorum met

- **No minutes to approve as last meeting was an email update**

- **Financial Report**
 - o Charlie Gnizak provided a summary of the financial report. Does not recommend raising dues given the current financial situation of the chapter.
 - o Cole Engel moves to accept the financial report as presented
 - o Misty Schartz seconds
 - o Discussion: It is noted that the chapter is in good financial shape compared to some years
 - o Motion carries

- **President's Updates**
 - o Coronavirus and policy updates from President's Cabinet
 - Dr. Mason believes the campus is doing well. Faculty is adaptive, flexible, helpful, and focused on ethical solutions.
 - General Counsel reports that there should be a more efficient way to report positive cases out to the campus community within the week. They are working closely with the Ellis County Health Department to improve tracking. Issues with signage and supplies are being addressed. Faculty in need of supplies should contact their chair who will follow up with custodial.
 - FHSU has submitted four proposals to the county for funding through the CARES act for a total of \$220,000. Three proposals have been approved at the county level.
 - Quarantine and Isolation Update (As of 8/25/2020):
 - 881 tests were done through CRL with 48 positives.
 - Student health has done 38 test on symptomatic students with 23 of those coming up positive. Six results are still pending.
 - Ten students are isolating in hotels
 - About 40 students are quarantining on campus. It is difficult to count off-campus students who may be sick or quarantining.
 - Isolation means someone is sick, quarantining means they have had contact with someone who is sick.

- City commission is meeting on 8/27 to decide if the city mask mandate will be extended.
 - Questions and Discussion
 - How much has enrollment dropped?
 - 4.7% drop in SCH. Budget was built for a 7% drop
 - Was the messaging clear that this should have been a re-entry test for coming back to campus?
 - There is mixed understanding of the urgency of taking the tests. They have been encouraged but not mandated. The idea is to have a baseline to measure how cases are rising.
 - Is there a ceiling either by case number or percentage where they are going to go wholly remote again?
 - Ceilings are more dependent on the ability to manage the outbreak i.e. quarantine space, ability to provide instruction, hospital capacity etc. They are not a hard and fast number
 - How are cases reported for counting?
 - Students need to self-report to student affairs
 - Faculty need to report to direct supervisor
 - Is there planning for going fully remote or limiting services?
 - There isn't any current active planning for going fully remote again or limiting services at this time.
 - Will there be any additions or changes to course designations for the spring?
 - They are considering labeling online courses as synchronous/asynchronous. The TOC/TOL/hybrid designations will continue
- **KS AAUP Chapters state meeting updates**
 - Janett has volunteered to be VP/President elect (4 year commitment)
 - Robb Byer has agreed to be secretary
 - The state chapter put forth a “returning to campus” statement that was shared with the provost
- **Open Discussion of Current Faculty Experiences in Classes and On Campus**
 - Concerns
 - Some feel uncomfortable with the current plan not addressing student behavior off campus or lack of active planning for a return to remote
 - Several faculty members reporting that many of their students are missing class due to COVID and it causes multiple issues with course delivery.
 - A show of hands indicated that a majority of members present have had a student email them regarding COVID-19 exposure.
 - Concern that many students taking incompletes for the course either for student illness or faculty illness will create a backlog for future courses
 - Concern that there is no solid plan for follow-up testing after the baseline tests have been completed.
 - Concerns regarding due process for those reported for not wearing face masks. This was partially addressed for staff in the Staff Town Hall on August 10. The recording can be viewed here:

- <https://fhsu.edu/covid-19-response/faqs/staff-town-hall.html>
 - Process for faculty will need to be clarified through General Counsel. —Follow up information from Dr. Arensdorf: FHSU has a grievance process through HR that would be used when University policies are not being followed. The COVID 19 reporting form does not necessarily begin a formal grievance, but is really being used to help educate people about the policies and procedures we have in place.
- Questions
 - What should we do when a student reports exposure?
 - Encourage them to report it to student affairs.
 - What guidance is there for when students cannot complete their work due to COVID-19 exposure/illness?
 - Be flexible and offer where incompletes where possible. No hard and fast rules at this time.
 - Why is the student affairs accommodation process different for COVID?
 - Agreement that the process needs to be clarified for both students and faculty.
 - Can we ask students for verification of illness?
 - No, we cannot ask for verification due to privacy concerns.
 - Will considerations of negative teaching evaluations, similar to spring 2020, for tenure and promotion be extended for the next tenure and promotion cycle?
 - This can be brought forward to the Provost. Language from last cycle may need to be clarified.
 - Have there been many requests to stop the tenure clock due to COVID-19?
 - There haven't been many made known to AAUP but there isn't any means for tracking that outside of self-reporting to the unit.
 - Will there be a COVID town hall for faculty?
 - There isn't one scheduled but reminder that there is a coffee with the provost on 8/27/2020 at 8 am.
- **FYI: Outcome of Spring Elections**
 - President—Janett Naylor-Tincknell
 - Secretary—Elizabeth Downing-Turner
 - Collective Bargaining Committee members
 - Jason Harper (CAHSS)
 - Chris Olds (CAHSS)
 - Cole Engel (RCOBE)
 - Robert Moody (CoEd)
 - Nominating Committee—Lisa Brening
 - Executive Committee—Hendratta Ali
- **Faculty Senate News**
 - No news right now due to the beginning of the semester
- **Other Business:**
 - None at the moment

- **Next Meeting is Tuesday, September 15th at 3:30 pm on Zoom (ID 505 539 0067)**
 - Jennifer Sauer moves to adjourn
 - Helen Mills seconds
 - Motion carries

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Turner, Secretary