



ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES APRIL 25, 2024

ASD 24-43

Approved 5-16-24

11:30 AM - 12:50 PM

PLN-130

Present: Alva, Awadalla, Barber, Barros, Bauer, Bonuso, Brown, Bruschke, Casem, Childers, Dabirian, Ebrahimi, Evanow, J. Garcia, N. Garcia, Ghosh, Graewingholt, Jarvis, Kakihara, Kanel, Landeros, Lewis Chiu, Luker, Mallicoat, Meyer, Miller, Milligan, Nair, Plouffe, Robinson, Sacco, Salim, Scher, Shepard, Stanley, Swarat, Thomas, Valdez, Valencia, Walsh, Weismuller, Wilson, Wood, Zazueta

Absent: Badal, Goodarzi, Guo, Henning, Kuffner, Ordonez-Jasis, Palencia Gutierrez, Self

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jarvis called the meeting to order at 11:33 AM.

II. URGENT BUSINESS - (conducted after Time Approximate)

- (Thomas) There is a crisis in faculty governance in the College of Communications. Senator Thomas yielded the floor to Dr. Rebecca Sheehan from the Department of Cinema and Television Arts (CTVA).
 - (Dr. Sheehan) I would like to acknowledge all the CTVA students who took time out of their schedules to be here today. Dr. Sheehan read a statement that expressed the concerns of faculty regarding the violation of shared governance in the removal of Dr. Garrett Hart, Chair of CTVA. The CTVA faculty voted unanimously in opposition to Dr. Hart's removal and voted unanimously in support of Dr. Hart continuing as chair of the department. [CTVA Statement](#)
- M/S/P (Kanel/Landeros) Motion to extend urgent business by 10 minutes. Motion passed.
- (Zazueta) Yielded the floor to Gavin Ong, 4th year CTVA Student.
 - (Gavin Ong) I come to you as a student, to speak for students, and to speak on behalf of my classmates and colleagues around the room, for the Cinema and Television Arts program. I may not know entirely the background of what is happening, nor am I obligated to know. However, all I can do is speak from a student standpoint.

I am an international student who comes to America in hopes to learn about cinema and television. I wanted to graduate with the degree, so I could consider a career within the entertainment field. I could have gone to California State Long Beach, Northridge, or USC, however I fell in love with the program here at Cal State Fullerton. I fell in love with the campus, the faculty, the programs that were offered to the students who wish to go to the cinema and television career.

Over the years, I felt and feel like my other classmates that the program itself has been sorely neglected over the years. Case in point: this year the Cinema and Television Arts department offer many great courses for students to learn; however, there aren't many hands-on production classes that are offered. Yet, two of the main production classes that we have available for our students have been quite disappointing and frustrating for our students. This semester I am enrolled in both CTVA 425 and CVTA 438, advanced production classes for short film and featured film production respectively. These two classes are classes that I was looking forward to. My classmates were excited to attend these classes too, however, there has been issues, hurdles, and barriers that students shouldn't have to leap over to be able to attend these classes dedicated to teach us and build us up with valuable experiences. CTVA 425 was delayed almost six or more weeks into the semester, due to our funds not being released by the Dean's office. CTVA 438 was continuously delayed up until last month, where we were told the funds were never going to be released. That has rendered our class to fail to deliver what was promised and expected for the students. CTVA 438 was a class that was crucial to students, both me and the ones graduating this semester, to get those vital professional networking real firsthand experience of feature film production, something that isn't offered at any other undergraduate courses. This was a chance for us to meet real life professional people in the field of cinema and get those experiences that if we graduated and got into the field, we would have not been privy to get these experiences. We were dragged along and toiled with all semester by the college, not the CTVA Department. They fought very hard for our class to be run, fought very hard for our budget to be released, yet the college itself has stonewalled and left us with empty promises.

Speaking for myself, I am an international student who pays out of state tuition out of pocket. I also pay other fees and health insurances. I pay over \$2,000 for these classes, for me to do nothing in. I live paycheck to paycheck to support myself and this is not a class I was expecting. The college wasn't able to live up to its promises and deliver what we were told. My classmates, some graduating, and pay for these classes to get these experiences. Others are undocumented students who come from backgrounds of low income to attend these classes are failing to get what they were promised. These valuable experiences were vital to us and it's very frustrating and disappointing, and we are angry at how this could have happened to us here at Cal State Fullerton.

Most of us came here committed to Cal State Fullerton because we believe in the department, the program, the program that Dr. Garry Hart has brought, and the other faculty have continued to work tirelessly and brought this program to what it is today. Yet, the college has still neglected the department. Furthermore, Dr. Hart takes the effort to meet one-on-one with every single student in his classes to make sure he understands what their career aspirations and goals are, and to offer them support in any way possible.

How can we as Cal State Fullerton proudly say that we are the only Cal State system that has a dedicated College of Communications, yet our Department of Cinema and Television Art is sorely neglected? The students are given false promises. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association has given us funding towards these classes, yet these fundings never come to us. How can we remain as a school known for an excellent film and TV program, yet get ignored by the College of Communications?

- (Bruschke) Frist of all I want to thank all the students who have shown up to participate in these proceedings, your presence means a lot. You're taking ownership of your own education, I think it's entirely appropriate that you're here, being the kind of passionate students that we love working with.

If you do not know, Garry Hart is with us; he is standing in the back. He's come to us from Paramount television, I believe he was the president, and brought a wealth of industry experience and connections. I believe he has been the chair for 11 years, which makes him one of the longest serving chairs on the campus. I can say from the perspective of someone in the college, that department is much better now than it was when he arrived 11 years ago. There has been clear, tangible, measurable progress. I also wanted to say I know Garry reasonably well; we have been in a ton of meetings together. I have never known him to care about anything other than the betterment of the program, the support of the students, and the support of the faculty. We don't always agree, and I know that there are other issues, but it is inconceivable to me that he has ever done anything other than try to make the programs work for the students. I don't know everything that has gone on with these funds and why they have or have not been released, but I cannot believe that the real holdup was Garry Hart's position as the chair of that department, and I cannot believe removing him will improve the program for the students. If anything, it just seems like it will add more difficulties and roadblocks to get the funds to where they need to be.

- (Shepard) Spoke in support of Dr. Garry Hart and his commitment for faculty and students.
- M/S/P (Valdez/Landeros) Motion to extend urgent business by 10 minutes. Motion passed.
- (Kanel) I stand with the Department of Communications in solidarity as a faculty member, as a former chair, and as a person who sits on search committees.
- (Evanow) Speaking as a member of the Department of Communications and as one of the Senators representing our College. I speak for our faculty in that we stand with the CTVA. I want to thank Professor Sheehan for speaking on behalf of her department and on behalf of the college. We stand with Dr. Hart as well. He is an outstanding professor and a man who came here from Paramount. I was stunned when he decided to bring his incredible talents to our University. I was very flattered that he would support our students having had the experience that he had. I would like to yield the floor to our former Dean, Dr. Irene Matz.
 - (Dr. Matz) I served as the interim associate dean for the College of Communication and two of the chairs are here today, Dr. Shepard and Dr. Hart. I can tell you when Dr. Hart was hired, it was such a coup for our college and department, because he came from Paramount, president of paramount television. He brought all the people that we know and love on television to support our department. I traveled with Dr. Hart many places because he was trying to solicit funds from the people that he knew trying to get a College of Communication building, he never stopped that effort. As the college dean, I had many hearty discussions with Dr. Shepard, not so much with Dr. Hart, but they lead with professionalism, ethics, values, integrity, and their only concern are the students they serve. We are in a crisis state in the college, and it breaks my heart to see what's happening to our department chairs, staff, and to students that feel they are not given the opportunity they need.

➤ M/S/P (Casem/Landeros) Motion to extend urgent business by 10 minutes. Motion passed.

- (Awadalla) As a communications major in broadcast journalism, we do rely greatly on our CTVA students who have been nothing but incredible and so helpful. They have been so outstanding in their work and I'm so sorry that you all are going through this. Thank you, Dr. Sheehan and Gavin, for speaking out on this issue and thank you all students for being here. I want to thank Dr. Hart for being her for such incredible students and creating this amazing group of students. I hope that we can learn how to deal with this, and we can reach some sort of common ground and be able to come up with a solution because the students are the biggest constituent, the student voice is the most important voice as we make up the majority of the school. When concerns come up about students not being able to learn in their classes, and not being able to produce the work they need to produce, that's when we get concern. We are here to learn, to graduate, and to become contributing members of society. If we cannot do that due to the issues with our department, that's when we need to figure something out.
- (Brown) I am the CFA chapter president. Thank you to all the Senators that have already spoken, I support what you have said. Students, thank you for showing up, your presence means a lot and hopefully it will have an impact for the right decision to be made. I pray that Provost Dabirian and President Alva will see a miscarriage of justice happened here and they will reverse this decision.
- (Provost) I want to thank all the students, the faculty, and Dr. Sheehan for bringing this to me. I appreciate the last meeting with the CTVA. There were several things that was said here, so I want to make sure I address all of them.

There was a question about curriculum, I want to assure you that the curriculum is with the faculty and is a purview of the faculty. I'll make sure, sitting in my seat, that will continue moving forward. I want this body to know, and I have shared it with Dean Sha and the faculty of CTVA, and if that is not happening, please bring it to my attention. That has always been the case at Fullerton, and it's always the case of our University and we want to continue that commitment to the curriculum being a faculty's work. I want to thank our students, and know I am always with our students and always been with our faculty. I will do everything I can to make sure your educational mission and journey is the best it can be. I will work as hard as I can 24/7. My next step is to work with the department. I already have an appointment to come see the department; if you need to move that appointment up, I'd be happy to do so, to make sure that I hear the faculty and we lay the next steps of this.

There was a question about grants that Gavin brought up, we will follow up on that. We have been working on how to make sure those grants get back to the students. There are a lot of steps on these processes, my office is working on that to make sure and help the college, but mostly it's a college umbrella that does all of this and we support at the Provost office. But if that's becoming a barrier to student's we'll be happy to step in and help in any way we can to make sure those things move forward.

I know some of the actions is hard. Senator Kanel, you bring it every time, and I will agree, there's some things that we can or cannot say when we got personnel actions, when I come to the department I'm going to be as transparent as I can at the department meeting.

There was a question Dr. Sheehan brought up about how the delegation of authority works. If you look at the CBA and our policy, it's delegated to the President. On our campus, that delegation is delegated to the Provost, and from an operation perspective is delegation to the Dean. The Dean with my consultation informs the President of the action; this is not a presidential action. I want everybody to understand, this was a recommendation from a Dean and consultation from me. I want everyone to be clear of the steps are from the process perspective, and I will be happy to talk about the next step when I come to your departmental meeting.

If you have questions, I will be happy to answer them. I will not rest and will do my best to make sure the students get what they need to move forward. If anybody wants to talk to me, I will be more than happy to. I will set up time to come and talk to the students, ASI students know that I am always open to students, to hear them out and see what we can do to move forward. I also want to thank the CTVA faculty for what they have done for our students and what you do to make our student success.

➤ M/S/P (Walsh/Mallicoat) Motion to extend urgent business by 10 minutes. Motion passed.

Q: (Bruschke) Does the President and the Provost have the authority to reverse this decision of the dean?

A: (Provost) Correct.

- (Thomas) I stand in solidarity with the Department of CTVA. I am the Department of Human Communications Studies, married to a television producer. He has recently worked with our graduates from the CTVA Department, he thinks very highly of the students that go through that program. In sharing with him, he asked if the new direction could mean cutting back on production courses and immediately raised alarm of how devastating that could be to students.
 - M/S/P (Weismuller /Landeros) Motion to extend the Senate meeting by 10 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
 - (Dabirian) Senator Thomas, the courses are not going away. We are supportive of the students and those courses. When I had the meeting with the college department, I said the same thing.
 - (Valencia) I would like to reiterate the College of Communication has one of the highest workloads in teaching load, it comes from a lack in equity of how much the college and other colleges teach. We have a really high teaching load that adds to how faculty like Dr. Sheehan does things on top of the 4/4 teaching load we have in the College of Communication, there has been a historic inequality towards our professors. I know many colleagues in many colleges, and we are one of the highest, with the highest teaching load with less reward for research. There is a systemic with teaching load in the College of Communication that needs to be addressed too. It's not only about the chair issue, but also inequality within our different colleges and I thinks it's important to address it when Provost Dabirian talks to the department.
- Q: (Brown) Provost Dabirian, when you were speaking, did you say that you were the one that made the decision about the chair's removal?
- A: (Provost) The decision was done at the recommendation of the dean with consultation with me.
- (Kanel) I would like to mention to the President and Provost, we talk a lot about these people work at the pleasure of the President. After hearing all this and you've got faculty, students, other colleagues, and baring some flagrant ethical or legal violation on the part of Chair Hart, I just can't imagine what pleasure you would get out of keeping that Dean in office.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤	Sexual Assault Awareness Month	flyer in Dropbox folder: https://www.fullerton.edu/titleix/events/
➤	University Honors Program: Senior Honors Conference	Friday, May 10 th , 9:00 am - 12:00 pm TSU Pavilions C
➤	UROC presents Student Travel Grants	Spring deadline: May 19, 2024 https://www.fullerton.edu/uroc

IV. TIME APPROXIMATE

11:35 AM – 12:05 PM

Topic: Faculty Award Presentations

Presenter: President Alva

President Alva presented the faculty awards listed below.

John W. "Jack" Bedell Faculty Leadership in Collegial Governance Award 2023-24 - Dr. Stephen Stambough (Politics, Administration and Justice)

President Alva acknowledged the 2023-24 recipient of the John W. "Jack" Bedell Faculty Leadership in Collegial Governance Award recipient, Dr. Stephen Stambough. UPS 292.000 recognizes exemplary leadership, lasting contributions to shared governance, and acknowledges the recipient's value and enduring impact in promoting consensus and collegiality. President Alva enumerated a long list of accomplishments for this year's recipient.

Outstanding Lecturer Award 2023-24 – Professor Julia Schneiderman (Human Communication Studies)

President Alva acknowledged the 2023-24 recipient of the Outstanding Lecturer Award recipient, Professor Julia Schneiderman. UPS 295.000 recognizes lecturers who demonstrate excellence in teaching effectiveness and commitment beyond classroom teaching. President Alva enumerated a long list of accomplishments for this year's recipient.

The Carol Barnes Excellence in Teaching Award 2023-24 - Dr. Parvin Shahrestani (Biological Science)

President Alva acknowledged the 2023-24 recipient of the Carol Barnes Excellence in Teaching Award recipient, Dr. Parvin Shahrestani. UPS 292.000 recognizes faculty who demonstrate academic rigor in teaching consistent with the University Mission and Goals and the CSU mission. President Alva enumerated a long list of accomplishments for this year's recipient.

The L. Donald Shields Excellence in Scholarly & Creativity Award 2023-24 - Dr. Matthew Kirby (Geological Sciences)

President Alva acknowledged the 2023-24 recipient of the L. Donald Shields Excellence in Scholarly & Creativity Award recipient, Dr. Matthew Kirby. UPS 294.000 recognizes outstanding scholarship, sustained record of research publications, external recognition in mentorship to students, and commitment to the educational mission of CSUF. President Alva enumerated a long list of accomplishments for this year's recipient.

The Outstanding Professor Award 2023-24 - Dr. Paul Stapp (Biological Science)

President Alva acknowledged the 2023-24 recipient of the Outstanding Professor Award recipient, Dr. Paul Stapp. UPS 294.000 recognizes outstanding scholarship, sustained record of research publications, external recognition in mentorship to students, and commitment to the educational mission of CSUF. President Alva enumerated a long list of accomplishments for this year's recipient.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 5.1 ASD 24-40 Academic Senate Minutes 4-18-24 (Draft) - *forthcoming*

VI. REPORTS

1. [Chair's Report](#)
2. President Report - **no report submitted.**
3. [Provost Report](#)
4. Statewide Academic Senate Report - **no report submitted.**
5. ASI Report - **no report submitted.**
6. [CFA Report](#)

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 7.1 ASD 23-120 Revisions to UPS 210.080 - Classroom Observations

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- 8.1 ASD 24-10 Revisions to UPS 102.001 - The Faculty Development Center (FDC)
- 8.2 ASD 24-36 Revisions to UPS 220.000 - Policies, Procedures and Guidelines for the Administration of SOQ Forms
- 8.3 ASD 24-16 Resolution on Creating of New Workload Policy Related to Research
- 8.4 ASD 24-17 Revisions to UPS 620.000 - Protection of Human Participants
- 8.5 ASD 24-23 Revisions to UPS 300.010 - Policy on Final Grade Reporting
- 8.6 ASD 24-41 New UPS 410.400 - Academic Standards for Blended Bachelor's and Master's Programs
 1. CSUF Blended Programs Moving Forward

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- M/S/P (Shepard/Landeros) Meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.