The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

Present:

**University Deans** – M. Horan (A & S); M.P. Bigley (SEPS); S. Braverman (SOB)

**Arts and Sciences** – N. Castañeda (Math); J. Geller (English), F. Latour (Math), K. McGrath (History); I. Pevac (Computer Science); R. Schwell (Math); M. Wizevich (Physics & Earth Science)

**Engineering and Technology** – K. Hammad (Engineering); N. Moore (Engineering)

**Education and Professional Studies** – J. Melnyk (Physical Education)

**Registrar** – N. Boscarino; P. Tucker

**S.G.A. Representative** – B. Mgushi

**Admissions** – L. Hall

I. The chair welcomed the new Registrar, Patrick Tucker. The committee is greatly looking forward to his useful insights and thoughtful contributions. The chair also extended a formal thank you to F. Latour for all his work this semester, especially in presenting the committee’s work at Faculty Senate. The Committee also expressed gratitude to J. Geller for serving as chair.

II. Motion: Approval of March Minutes – M. Horan

Second: K. Hammad

Vote: Passed unanimously

II. Elections

-Nominated slate of R. Schwell as chair, F. Latour as vice-chair, and K. McGrath as secretary.

-Motion: Close slate and have secretary cast one vote for slate – S. Braverman

Second: M. P. Bigley

Vote: Passed unanimously

-K. McGrath, as secretary, casted one vote for the slate, electing the officers.

III. Old Business

-J. Geller informed the committee that the general education revision took so much time that our agenda items were not presented. The changes to study abroad grading are on the agenda for the next meeting. The Related Requirements standards have been sent back to the Curriculum Committee.

IV. Graduation Standards for Participating in Commencement
-M.P. Bigley and M. Horan presented a proposed change in the current standards to allow students to walk during commencement despite not having finished their degree. Currently, students can walk if they have 9 or fewer credits to finish. The proposal is to reduce this to 4 or fewer credits and require students to prove that they intend to complete those credits in the academic session immediately following the ceremony.

- M. P. Bigley explained the current problems in that students are extending it beyond the 9 credits and beyond the summer session. Many of these students also never finish their degree, as they mistakenly equate walking with graduating.

-J. Melnyk raised an issue for his students in Exercise Science in that most of them complete a 6 credit internship the summer after coursework. These students would then have to wait a full year to walk in commencement.

-J. Geller raised the issue of why allow students to walk before they are done at all. She noted that it made the ceremony less official by doing so.

-P. Tucker said that this has been an issue since he started. He argued that commencement is important, and we should want as many people to participate as possible. He noted that this change might be hard since there is no fall commencement. He also suggested making a note in the commencement program for those students who have credits to finish.

-B. Mgushi agreed that a fall commencement would make this earlier on the students, especially since many will not come back in the spring to walk as it is.

-N. Moore raised the issue that some students have already planned out their planned program of courses assuming that they could walk with 9 or fewer credits. It is important to consider the implementation date.

-K. McGrath noted that if the problem is a stretch issue, then even more students will be petitioning for exemptions if the credits are reduced.

-S. Braverman asked how this policy is handled in the other BOR schools?

-Motion to Postpone – R. Schwell
Second: M. P. Bigley
Vote: Passed unanimously

V. Required Credits for Graduation
-R. Schwell discussed a situation with one of her advisees who is completing the BSED in Secondary Ed Math. Her student will be student-teaching in the fall, but she will have only earned 123 credits. She will then have to take electives to reach the credit requirement, which seems unfair as other students at CCSU are graduating with 122 credits. It penalizes students for being efficient in their course selections.

-M.P. Bigley noted that this cannot be changed through Academic Standards as it is set by the curriculum.

VI. 4/4 Teaching Load
- J. Geller wants Academic Standards to explore the impact on academic standards of the current 12 credit teaching load, given that there are also high research and service expectations.
- F. Latour brought up the recent AAUP report by UMass that concluded that the average workload at CCSU was 61 hours per week, which is more than the other BOR schools.
- The committee formed a subcommittee of J. Geller, I. Pevoc, and N. Moore to work on this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

K. McGrath
Secretary