

**Black Hills State University**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Minutes for November 15, 2023**

**Attendance:** Skott Chandler, Laura Colmenero-Chilberg, Ron DeBeaumont, Abigail Domagall, Sydney Haugland, Katrina Jensen, Jarrett Moore, Parthasarathi Nag, Nancy Roberts, and Wendy Stewman

**Guests:** Provost Jon Kilpinen, Student Senate Secretary Cassidy Vandenhoeck

Meeting called to order at 3:15 PM.

1. Approval of minutes
  - a. Nag made a motion to approve the minutes from November 1, 2023. Laura seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.
  
2. Provost Report
  - a. Policy Development
    - i. 2:3 Faculty Absence from Class
    - ii. 2:9 Final Exam
    - iii. The above policies were discussed. Provost Kilpinen explained that changes were made to make sure that the policies were in line with the expectations of the HLC.
    - iv. Policy 2:3 was written to allow flexibility in finding alternatives when faculty are unable to be present for a regularly schedule class meeting.
    - v. Policy 2:9 expects courses to have a meaningful activity during finals week, but this does not have to be an exam.
    - vi. Certain courses are exempt from the final exam policy. This list may need to be updated.
    - vii. Future policy changes will be brought to faculty senate for review prior to publication.
  - b. Reorganization
    - i. The survey on reorganization showed a majority of respondents (34/51) favored Model 1.
    - ii. Provost Kilpinen sent a summary of the survey results and a timeline for adoption to all faculty prior to the meeting.
    - iii. Initial adoption is planned prior to the start of the 2024-25 academic year, while some behind the scenes changes will take more time.
    - iv. There will be 3 chairs in the College of Liberal Arts, 2 chairs in the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, 1 chair in the School of Education, and 1 chair in the School of Business.
    - v. An Assistant Provost will be hired internally.
  - c. Presidential search
    - i. Provost Kilpinen thanked senators for participation in the forums during the Presidential candidate interviews.

3. Honorary degrees
  - a. Jarrett encouraged faculty to nominate any worthy candidates.
4. University statements
  - a. The senate discussed when it might be appropriate for BHSU to issue statements.
5. Strategic planning survey
  - a. Jarrett encouraged faculty to take the strategic planning survey.
6. Town Hall
  - a. The next Town Hall is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29 at 3:30 PM in Club Buzz.
  - b. Faculty are encouraged to attend.
7. Campus Safety
  - a. Nancy volunteered to continue serving on the Campus Safety Committee.
  - b. The Safety Walk will be scheduled soon.
  - c. Students and faculty are encouraged to sign up for Everbridge.

Skott made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Nancy. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Minutes recorded by Katrina Jensen

Next Meeting: December 6, 2023, at 3:15 PM in the Trump Conference Room.

---

Minutes unanimously approved on December 6, 2023