

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**Cheyenne Campus-Room 2410**  
**May 9, 2008**

1. Chair Judy Stewart opened the meeting at 1:07 p.m.. She welcomed everyone and Commented that this is the culmination of a good year.
2. The attendance sheet was signed.

**Senate Leadership Present:**

Judy Stewart, Chair; Sondra Cosgrove, Chair Elect; Alok Pandey, Past-Chair; Jodie Mandel, Secretary

**Senators Present:** Leticia Llamas, Ivonne Leavell, Jennifer Basquiat, Laura McBride, Robb Bay, Bob Gutschick, Terry Pippin, Ken Betita, Heidi Schneider, racy Sherman, Melissa Schalles, Randy Becker, Mike Connolly, Sandra Kingma, Joe Miller, Jim Matovina Joel Johnson, Bert Chiasson, Sue Blizard, Norman Rauls, Shari Lyman

**Senators Absent w/ (proxy):**

Joshua Levin (Candace Kant), Judy Scott (Agnes Galvez), Eric Moreau (Joanne Vuillemot)

**Senators Absent w/o proxy:**

Kim Brown, Samuel Esemuede, Deborah Mzhickteno, Darlene Brown, Lynn Best, Rhett Michelson, Their Wyckoff

**Guest:**

Regent Dr. Thalia M. Dondero, Billy Duke, Bob Aberle, Bill Kerney, Dale Etheridge, Mitzi Ware, Sue Gordon, K.C.Howard, Dick McGee, Stephen Konowalow, John Mueller, Tina Petrie.

**3. Approval of April 11, 2008 Minutes:**

A motion to approve the April Minutes was made by Terri Pippin and seconded by Joe Miller. The minutes were approved by a majority vote.

**4. Guest: Regent Dr. Thalia Dondero**

Chair Stewart introduced and welcomed Regent Thalia Dondero. Chair Stewart said Regent Dondero Chairs the Investment Committee, and the Student and Academic Affairs Committee. She said Regent Dondero would speak to faculty and then take questions.

Regent Dondero said she served twenty years on the County Commission, the State Park Commission, and the State Parks were put together under two different Governors. She served on the committee for the Test Site, regarding handling nuclear waste, which she was opposed to. She served on the National Board of County Commissioners representing the State of Nevada. She also proposed that waste be recycled and reprocessed. She said she's served on every committee the County Commission has.

Regent Dondero went through the package that was sent to her before this meeting, regarding the underfunding of CSN. She spoke with David Parks from Reno (a Senate Candidate) and faxed him the information regarding the funding inequities. She also saw Bernice Matthews who sits on the Finance Committee and discussed the issue with her and

was asked to fax the material to her office. She then went to Charlie Sylvestry, showed him the material, he was surprised and gave her a book with members of all Committees to call. Regent Dondero said she's amazed at the vast number of students CSN takes care of. She will make a report to the Board of Regents and get the support for more equity in funding of the Community College. She said she can't figure out the reason for the inequity. Dr. Richards responded, stating the serve rural areas (north) but we also serve rural areas. Regent Dondero said her granddaughter is a student here too, and she promised to work hard to put together a story regarding the inequity. She reported she goes on a Program called "Pay Back", visiting inner-city schools. High School and Community Colleges have a lot of work to do to prepare students. Regent Dondero opened the floor for questions. Many Senators thanked Regent Dondero for her support regarding the inequity issue and her willingness to seek out the people who can make a difference regarding the issue. Senators also discussed with Regent Dondero the issue of CSN needing a four-year degree program. Regent Dondero stated that Charlie Sylvester bought up this issue when she spoke with him this morning. She said she will bring this issue up at one of the Board of Regent committee meetings. She thanked Senators and Chair Stewart thanked her for speaking and for her support.

#### **5. President Dr. Michael Richards**

Chair Stewart introduced CSN's newest President, Dr. Michael Richards. He commented that he was pleased to see Regent Dondero's name on the list of candidates for upcoming election. He stated that Faculty has done a lot of work helping the inequity issue be understood. He said the work has been well received by a lot of people in the State. Dr. Richards said there are three elements in his mind to the equity issue.

- 1) Put down a marker so that decision makers and opinion leaders in the state know that there is a problem that needs to be addressed.
- 2) The second is to get an appropriation of some kind.
- 3) The third is an obligation on the part of CSN to put together an Expenditure Plan as to how we would improve the value of the State's investment in our institution by funding the equity gap.

Dr. Richards said they are working on all three of those components, because they are expecting another budget cut. He feels we need to let the Legislature and the Regents know that this is a real problem. Dr. Richards said that they are the Policy makers in this state and hold the purse strings, which puts them in a position to recognize and understand this problem and work out a way to address it. Dr. Richards said the gap is now 19.2 million dollars. The approach they are taking is a multiple –biennium approach, working with the system staff, to lay out a strategy for an appropriation that makes sense for us. Dr. Richards continued, saying when we receive an appropriation, we want to be in a position to say how we are going to use every dime. If we have a sliding plan, we can receive whatever amount that might be appropriated to us, and do something meaningful with it. That plan is being put together. Dr. Richards said Patty Dayar is making sure there is a lot of input and review to the Expenditure Plan. He feels this is a key issue, when approaching the legislature, in order to say, "this is what we are going to do for our students". Dr. Richards said we can improve our instruction, provide more advisors, and do so many things for the students. He urged faculty to send any input to Patty Dayar, and said this will be very important for the

next four to six years. Dr. Richards stated that he sincerely enjoys working with the entire faculty. He said there will be a few challenges next year and in the coming years, but feels they can be worked through and we can provide a high quality of service to our students. Faculty gave Dr. Richards an ovation, and proceeded to ask him a few questions regarding the Expenditure Plan.

Dr. Richards answered questions from faculty, regarding the budget cuts. He told faculty they need to be involved in upcoming elections, and reported that debates and forums will be sponsored by this institution, from the County Level to the Federal Level. Dr. Richards said he signed a four-year contract and will be here to see this through.

## 6. Policies

Chair Stewart explained Policy Movement, and explained the difference between a Policies coming in as Information only, or as Information/Action. She introduced Bill Kerney to explain the Certificates Policy.

- a. **Certificates Policy:** Jim Matovina made a motion to approve, and Candace Kant (proxy for Joshua Levin) seconded. The Policy was approved by a majority vote.
- b. **Unregistered Persons in Class:** Candace Kant made a motion to approve, Joe Miller seconded. The Policy was approved by a majority vote.
- c. **Reinstatement Policy:** Chair Stewart introduced Pat Zozaya, Registrar; Peter Hurley, Financial Aid Director; and Joe Thomas, Manager of Student Accounts. Pat Zozaya explained the Purge process and the lengths they go to for students, before they purge them. Peter Hurley explained the Financial Aid process, and Joe Thomas explained the Payment process. After an intense discussion and questions from senators, it was decided to bring this policy back in the fall after looking at the Add Drop Policy. Chair Stewart asked comments be sent to Bill Kerney, he asked the comments be e-mailed to him. Chair Stewart thanked Pat Zozaya, Peter Hurley and Joe Thomas for explaining the Reinstatement Process.
- d. **Mentor Process:** Candace Kant explained the policy and answered questions from senators. The policy was moved to action. Sue Blizard made a motion to approve the policy with amendment: *(IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR TO DETERMINE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MENTOR COMMITTEE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS)*, Jim Matovina seconded. The Policy was approved by majority vote, with one opposed.
- e. **Hiring Update III:** Chair Stewart explained the Policy. The final decision is made by the Dean, the Department Chair and the Committee Chair, and the Dean makes the offer of employment. The Policy also describes the hosting, however, that may be dependent on available funds. Chair Stewart asked that any questions regarding the Interview Process be e-mailed to her. The Policy was moved to action by Randy Becker and seconded by Mike Connolly. After discussion, two amendments were approved: (1) In item #8 add Faculty Senate Chair (2) remove "host" from item #8) Policy was approved by majority vote with Laura McBride opposed.
- f. **Acceptable Use Policy:** Dale Etheridge explained the Policy. Mike Connolly made a motion to approve, Joe Miller seconded. The Policy was approved by majority vote. It was noted that grammatical changes would be corrected.

- g. Department Chairs:** Candace Kant explained the policy; Chair Stewart explained how the Policy came about. Candace Kant said the Policy will be ready for Senate in the fall, and asked Faculty to read it over the summer.
- h. Evaluation Policy:** Dick McGee and Jim Matovina explained the policy and responded to e-mails received by making changes. Jim will give Judy two cleaned-up pages to send out to Senators. Dick McGee asked that Senators study Policy over the summer and will attempt to set up forums during convocation to discuss further. Mitzi Ware commented that the College was docked with the Accreditation Committee and must do something regarding this issue.
- i. Vote to support/not support UNLV Proposal:** Chair explained the proposal by UNLV. She explained that UNLV is taking their proposal to the Board in June, and she gave them her opinion regarding it. Chair Stewart has a problem at the Community College level with the proposal. Chair Stewart asked senators the question (support/not support) and the vote was a unanimous NO. Chair Stewart will report this decision at the June meeting.

#### **7. New Faculty Salary Schedule Placement- John Mueller, Tina Petrie**

Chair Stewart introduced John Mueller and Tina Petrie to discuss the new faculty Salary Schedule Placement (they passed out current schedule and new schedule effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. John Mueller reported that the steps will change as of July 1<sup>st</sup> he said three steps have been removed from the bottom of the schedule and three steps have been added to the top of the schedule. John Mueller reported that there was a two-hundred dollar base adjustment to the salary schedule. It will go up, the higher you are on the schedule, and he says that's the good news. The bad news is that the merit has been deferred; we will lose six months worth of merit in essence, half of what they would have earned in merit for the year. The salary will be reduced. The other issue is with the summer term pay schedule. Summer payroll dates are established—First Session = 1<sup>st</sup> check June 30 and the remainder July 31<sup>st</sup>. Eight week courses will receive one-third on each check. John will send an e-mail to all faculty with the Salary Schedule. He reported that the Board of Regents approved this in November, right before the December Budget crisis. Chair Stewart explained that new faculty will not be coming in at higher pay. John will have forms in the fall explaining this information and will send out a letter next week giving examples and explaining in further detail. He said he and Tina Petrie will be available to faculty for any questions.

#### **8. Chairs Report:**

**Gen Ed Committee:** Chair Stewart reported she is trying to form a Gen Ed committee as a trial. She asked that senators e-mail her comments if interested.

##### **New Business**

Chair Stewart feels the Evaluation Committee and the On-Line Resources Committee should become standing committees. A vote was taken and it was approved that the two committees be added as Standing Committees. Chair Stewart also encourage faculty to fill out the Salary and Benefits survey. She then introduced Chair-elect Sondra Cosgrove to discuss communication, specifically starting a Faculty Newsletter. Chair-Elect Cosgrove said it would go out once a month, and deal with other issues, i.e. retirements, awards recipients, etc. She asked for volunteers to participate in this project.

She also asked that everyone participate in the website survey sent out by OTS. Ken Betita asked if there is a way faculty, on summer leave could be notified if during the summer something happens regarding the budget. Chair Stewart replied, saying that you should check your e-mail periodically during summer break.

#### **8. Passing The Gavel:**

Chair Stewart welcomed all the new Senators and asked them to stand. She then asked Carolyn Collins, Candace Kant and Mitzi Ware to come to the front. Chair Stewart gave them each a “bucket” and a “pony”, then related a story, regarding a boy in a barn and horse manure—the jest of it is, a young boy was always optimistic about everything and those around him tried to find something he wouldn’t be cheerful about. On his birthday, they had him come to the barn (filled with manure), they thought he would be sad but instead he shoveled and shoveled and when asked why, he said with all the manure a pony must be in there somewhere. Chair Stewart reported that we had the equivalent of a lot of manure with the budget crisis, however, Patty Dayar, Carolyn Candace and Mitzi took the opportunity to highlight the Funding Gap. The award is presented on behalf of Senate for service, dedication, expertise and tireless efforts to achieve equitable funding for the College of Southern Nevada. Chair Stewart expressed appreciation for all the work Senators have done throughout this year; Certificates were passed out to them. Chair Stewart honored Past-Chair Alok Pandey for his three years of service to Senate. Now that his term is over, she gave him supplies to pursue some hobbies, art, a butterfly catcher and a lunch box. Chair Stewart gave Chair-Elect Sondra Cosgrove a few items she’ll be able to use as she takes on the job as Chair. She gave her a shield, eye protector and a magic eight-ball. Chair Stewart then called Mark Rauls and asked Senators to welcome him as the new Senate Chair-Elect. She gave Mark sixteen-rubber ducks, a word game called In A Pickle. Chair Stewart also thanked the Executive committee, asked them to stand and they were given an ovation. She also thanked Joshua Levin and Fred Jackson, who also served on the Executive Committee. She said a Senate Chair cannot do a good job without an Executive Committee. Chair Stewart presented them with Fisher Space Pens that write upside down, a Certificate and a thank you.

Sondra Cosgrove presented Chair- Elect Mark Rauls, things he will need daily as Chair-Elect. She gave him a calendar so he’ll know what day it is, coffee because caffeine will be needed, at lunch time he’ll need chocolate, by the time he gets home he’ll need aspirin.

Chair-Elect Cosgrove said this has not been an easy year for Faculty, and especially for Faculty Senate. She gave praise and thanks to Chair Stewart for all her work this year. She presented Chair Stewart with a Plaque. She also gave Chair Stewart a gift card. Chair Stewart said she’s the product of the people around her, and it’s been a great year. She thanked Faculty Senators for all their hard work this year. She then passed the gavel to Chair Sondra Cosgrove who adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.