

Western Nevada College Academic Faculty Senate Agenda

Date: December 13, 2024
Zoom Meeting, 1:30-3:30 pm

Disclaimer: Items may be taken out of order.

Call to Order

Roll Call

1. **Approval of Minutes (November) Action**
2. **Executive Updates (Dr. K. Dalpe) Info/Discussion**
3. **LAS Transition Item Update (J. Lazzari and L. Gallo Swan) Info/Discussion**
Introduction of J. Lazzari as the interim Director of the Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) division. The discussion will focus on his vision for the division during the transition period and provide an opportunity for faculty to offer feedback and insights.
4. **Canvas Access for Peer Evaluations Discussion**
Discussion on establishing clear protocols for online course access during peer evaluations. Concerns have been raised regarding unfettered access to online courses, particularly in comparison to the controlled nature of in-person observations, where observers provide notice, state their purpose, and engage in collegial conversations post-observation. Faculty Senate will explore ways to balance the need for access with maintaining professional autonomy for the faculty being observed, ensuring their materials and communications are shared intentionally. This discussion will also address how these protocols can align with broader mentorship goals for pre-tenured faculty while protecting the integrity of the online classroom space.
5. **Chair Report (M. Schmidt)Info/Discussion**
Updates from the Faculty Senate Chair, including a recap of the recent Board of Regents meeting and its implications for faculty, as well as ongoing Senate initiatives and upcoming priorities.
6. **Support/Opposition for Proposed Chapter 6 Policy Revisions Action**
Faculty Senate will vote to either support or oppose the proposed revisions to Chapter 6 of the NSHE Code, which shift the appeals process for employment terminations from the Board of Regents to the Chancellor. Proponents argue that this change aligns with proper supervisory structures and streamlines a complex process, while concerns include potential impacts on transparency, impartiality, and faculty trust in administrative oversight. This vote will reflect faculty opinion on the policy revisions and guide WNC's institutional response.
7. **NFA Updates (R. Bassen and H. Reardon)Info/Discussion**
8. **Public Comment**

Adjournment

Meeting dates:

Fall 2024

~~August 16, 2024~~

~~September 13, 2024~~

~~October 18, 2024~~

~~November 15, 2024~~

~~December 13, 2024~~

Spring 2025

January 17, 2025

February 14, 2025

March 8, 2025

April 11, 2025

May 9, 2025