

**College of the Marshall Islands**  
**Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup>: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Faculty Senate – Minutes of Discussion**

**Chair:** Alvin Page – FS President [**Voted in as President during meeting**]

**Deputy Chair:** Rosalinda Sumaoang – FS Vice President [**Voted in as Vice President during meeting**]

**Minute taker:** Alexander Velasquez – FS Secretary and Treasurer

**Quorum:** 23 required, 28 in attendance; quorum reached.

1. **The meeting was called to order.**

i. However, quorum had not been officially reached at this point, so the meeting began with Dr. Irene Taafaki's presentation on the CARES Fund.

ii. **Quorum was reached at 11:18 AM**

2. Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF)

i. Dr. Irene Taafaki presented and summarized the spending of the Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF) that dealt with how the College has spent and is spending money from the allocated budget.

1. The details of the Relief Fund are too numerous to mention, but there has been a document circulated by Alan Keoni Murphy to all members of Faculty Senate titled "American Rescue Plan (ARP).pdf" where all of the relevant details are mentioned.
2. However, what Dr. Taafaki wanted out of the presentation was what faculty recommendations are on how we can use \$6.5 million in HEERF Funds to impact and improve the CMI Student experience.

a. Alvin Page has also sent out a document open to faculty to edit for ideas on HEERF funding.

3. **September 30<sup>th</sup> will be the last day to receive input.**

a. Here are some, but not all, of the recommendations that were thrown around during the meeting, as well as their responses:

i. **Recommendation:** Improving the Efficiency of the Internet on Campus

1. **Response:** NTA is currently working on building a second tower on the island to improve connection and speed, as well as for 4G connectivity. A lot of what can be done with the internet will rely on what NTA can do.
2. **Response:** An app for CMI is also being created for instant communication between faculty and students.

ii. **Recommendation:** Improving the Zoom System

1. The College has placed an order for all the faculty so that they are capable of doing Zoom from home.

iii. **Increasing Faculty Pay**

1. This is received indirectly through overloads.

iv. **Student Laptops**

1. Students *who pass* their classes with a C or better taking 15 credits or more will receive laptops for class use.

v. **Library Laptops for Students to Use on Loan**

1. CMI is working on this.

vi. **Busses for Students Who Live Far Away**

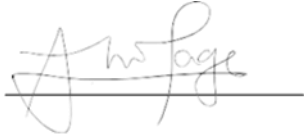
1. Three more busses have been ordered for students. Some will even pick up faculty with fixed regular schedules attached to each bus.

vii. **Allocation for Health & Home Gardening (in the case that COVID hits the Marshalls and there is a lockdown). This could maybe include a home economics course to teach life skills such as sewing.**

1. This may not qualify under HEERF guidelines.

viii. Improvements in Food Services for Students

1. There is a plan to possess Lucky Star in the future to use it for food processing.
4. HEERF Discussion Ended at 11:55 AM
3. Election for Faculty Senate President
  - i. Alvin Page was nominated and seconded without abstentions.
4. Election for Faculty Senate Vice President
  - i. Rosalinda Sumaoang was nominated and seconded without abstentions.
5. The rest of the items were motioned to be tabled to the next meeting without abstention.
6. **Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 PM.**



Alvin Page  
Faculty Senate President



Alexander Velasquez  
Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer