

**College of the Marshall Islands**  
**Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>: 11:10 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Faculty Senate – Minutes of Discussion**

**Chair:** Alvin Page – FS President

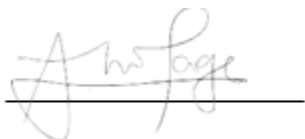
**Deputy Chair:** Rosalinda Sumaoang – FS Vice President

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


**Quorum:** 23 required, 31 in attendance.

1. The meeting was called to order.
  - i. **Quorum was reached at 11:19 AM.**
2. The College Mission Statement was read.
3. Review of the Minutes from March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - i. Minutes were approved and seconded with no abstentions.
4. Special/Urgent Business
  - i. One faculty member asked if there were any objections to starting the honors program, as the existence of the program is still on the table.
    1. A summary of the honors program was then given:
      - a. It's a program to cater to high achieving students; to challenge students who are highly capable – either in a separate class or in the regular class.
    2. The faculty made a motion to the moving forward of the discussion of the Honors program, with the establishment of the Honors Program Council, who will be able to clarify details of the program that relates to the Faculty and other relevant questions that were raised at the meeting.
      - a. The Program was approved and seconded without abstention.
    3. Other details have yet to be discussed such as how the honors program will affect faculty load.
  - ii. Clarification of 5ia from the March 25<sup>th</sup> minutes:
    1. The question raised was the following: Why is it a \$100 raise per credit for those with a Master's degree but only a \$50 raise for those with a PhD?
      - a. However, per HR, there was a \$100 raise across the board for both PhD and Master's degree holders. Below are the details:
        - i. The current overload rates are the following:
          1. \$800 for PhD Holders
          2. \$750 for Master's Degree Holders
        - ii. The previous overload rates were the following:
          1. \$700 for PhD Holders
          2. \$650 for Master's Degree Holders
5. New Business
  - i. Faculty Senate Working Conditions and Satisfaction Survey reminder:
    1. The survey is open until next week, and the link was shared again with faculty.
  - ii. The Great Colleges Survey should also be filled out; April 8<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to complete the survey.
  - iii. A new Faculty Senate representative is needed to replace Rebecca in EC:
    1. Darren Dillman was tentatively voted to replace Rebecca online via email.
      - a. The motion to nominate Darren was approved and seconded with no abstention.
6. Unfinished Business
  - i. PMS issues from the rubric proposals:
    1. PMS is being fine-tuned and revamped: Theoretically it looks good on paper, but it is not user-friendly.
      - a. Hopefully the rubric will take care of that issue.
  - ii. Housing Allocation

1. Per the recently approved housing policy by EC:
    - a. \$750.00/month for a single renter,
    - b. a maximum of \$1000.00/month for two people sharing an accommodation when both people are under full-time contract with the College or up to \$500 when the spouse/partner is working for another organization and also receiving a housing benefit.
      - i. There was no increase to the rent because anything more than the specified amounts above would be taxed by the RMI government.
        1. Question for clarification posed by Faculty Senate: But are those who receive higher allowances also being taxed by the RMI government? If not, then what is the reasoning behind that?
  - iii. Faculty Senate Retreat
    1. A trip to Eneko is in the works, as faculty would rather take thirty minutes and go to Eneko instead of taking a one-hour bus ride to go to Laura.
7. Executive Council & Executive Officers' Report
    - i. Per the President's EC Report, there was a \$400 increase in the maximum Pell Grant – the largest increase in over nine years.
    - ii. There was also a \$96 million increase in funding for Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) that includes institutions such as the College of the Marshall Islands.
  8. Plant & Facilities Committee
    - i. The Maritime Office will be moving to a new location: G&L Enterprises, located next to Misco Market.
  9. Information Technology Committee
    - i. The ITC Policy was voted on and approved.
  10. Discussion
    - i. Discussion was had about the new policy coming out of LEAP, specifically CMI Policy No. 361:
      1. All faculty are expected to contain grading their records within Moodle. This is non-negotiable and will begin Fall 2022.
        - a. However, some faculty expressed their discontent and feel that they are losing their freedom as to how to maintain their own grading records.
          - i. Faculty Senate will request training from Manny so as to make the transition smoother for all faculty.
  11. Announcements
    - i. The Liberal Arts Exhibition will take place on April 29th.
    - ii. Faculty should participate in Saturday's raffle.
      1. For those that have not received their raffle tickets for Saturday, you may pick yours with Cherly, Susanna, Ruthy or Ninitha.
  12. **The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.**



Alvin Page  
Faculty Senate President



Alexander Velasquez  
Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer