

**Black Hills State University**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Minutes for October 18, 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:** President Laurie Nichols, Randy Culver, Student Senate Vice President Bailey Froelich and Secretary Cassidy VandenHoek

Meeting called to order at 3:15 PM.

1. Approval of minutes

- a. Nag made a motion to approve the minutes from October 4, 2023. Sydney seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Facilities Report

Randy Culver addressed several areas of concern or interest on campus.

- a. Heating and cooling
  - i. During the shoulder season, when it is cool in the mornings and warm in the afternoons, both heat and air conditioning are running during the same day to try to maintain a comfortable temperature.
  - ii. It takes several days to heat buildings after the boiler is turned on.
  - iii. Some rooms have sensors to turn on heat when occupied.
- b. Dark room ventilation.
  - i. Air is pulled directly from outdoors for the ventilation system, meaning it can be very cold or very hot, depending on the weather.
  - ii. It is unsafe to use the dark room without ventilation.
  - iii. Randy said facilities will look into it.
- c. Door locks
  - i. Rooms with large capacity (such as Jonas 305, the choir and band rooms in Meier) require a panic device on doors to allow for swift exit in an emergency.
  - ii. Switches are being installed inside these rooms to allow them to be locked in case of an active shooter emergency.
  - iii. Other classrooms on campus have had push-button door locks installed to allow them to be locked from inside.
- d. Renovation and addition at BHSU-RC
  - i. Randy gave an update on the plans to renovate existing space and add on new space at this campus.
    1. The testing center will be larger.
    2. There will be two main entrances to encourage all students to enter through the same area.
    3. The bookstore will not be regularly staffed. Vending machines will provide a variety of items.

4. Study spaces will be included in the atrium.
  5. The second floor will include exam rooms.
  6. The Native American Nursing Education Center (NANEC) will include indoor and outdoor space.
- e. Flooding in Jonas parking lot
    - i. A larger pipe is being installed to meet a larger flow of water during storms, which should prevent future flooding.
    - ii. The pipe will drain into the ditch that runs through campus, not directly into Spearfish Creek.
3. President's Report
    - a. BHSU-RC
      - i. The SD Legislature issued a mandate in 2020 to rebrand this campus as the West River Health Science Center following a ten-year decline in enrollment at the center.
      - ii. Funds for the renovation and addition have been supported by the state, Monument Health, and HEF funding.
      - iii. The goal is to have 600-800 nursing students at the center.
      - iv. The President encouraged faculty to develop ideas to offer other programs in health sciences at the center, either independently or in partnership with other institutions.
    - b. Whistleblower Hotline
      - i. The President summarized the content of letters issued by Governor Noem's office regarding issues that came up through the hotline.
      - ii. Investigations were performed into any allegations that involved BHSU.
      - iii. Corrective actions have been taken, where necessary.
4. University Committees
    - a. Concerns had been raised in previous meetings that faculty service is inequitable.
    - b. Jarrett had brought this to the attention of the Provost, who is willing to address the issue.
    - c. A discussion occurred about the need to balance faculty workload on committees with the desire to have a voice in decision-making.
5. Jarrett asked for recommendations for future guests to invite to Faculty Senate
    - a. Kathy Johnson and Becca Walters were both mentioned.

Nag made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Nancy. The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 PM.

Minutes recorded by Katrina Jensen

Next Meeting: November 1, 2023, at 3:15 PM in the Trump Conference Room.

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Minutes unanimously approved on November 1, 2023