

McLennan Community College

Faculty Council 2021-2022: November 2021 Meeting

MEETING DATE: The McLennan Community College Faculty Council (FC) met Friday 11/5/2021.

LOCATION: Faculty Council met virtually via Zoom video conferencing due continued mindfulness to COVID safety precautions in Becky B. Parker's personal meeting room ID: 97794437446.

PARTICIPATING/ATTENDING MEMBERS:

- Travis Cox: Communication/Faculty Council Secretary (FCS)
- Becky Parker: Faculty Council President (FCP)
- Elaine Fagner: Faculty Council Vice President (FCVP)
- Ashley Cruseturner: History
- Richard Driver: History
- Tommy Lowrance: Business
- Joseph Taylor: Theatre
- Amy Winslow: Nursing
- Bob Ammon: Health
- Michaela McCown: Science
- Bernard Smith: Science
- Crystal Johnson: Office Tech/HITT/Hospitality
- Daelynn Copeland: Child Studies and Education
- Scott Bryant: Business
- Marcie Rierson: Surgical Technology
- Bill Lockhart: Sociology
- Molly Hunt: English
- Misty Edwards: Psychology
- John Seawright: Science
- Sharon Lavery: Music
- Emily Stottlemire: Child Studies and Education
- Laurice Jones: English
- Heather Davis: Health Professions
- Jan Robertson: CIS & Multimedia
- Alyssa Van Vleet: Health Professions
- Jarred Hankhouse: Criminal Justice
- Zachary Cleere: Paramedicine
- Yumei Wu: Mathematics
- Beth Grassmann: Spanish
- Katie Rice: Performing Arts

NON-PARTICIPATING/ABSENT MEMBERS:

- Claudette Jackson: English
 - David Fleuriet: Mental Health/Social Work (sent Substitute)
 - Donna Ewing: Biology
 - Elizabeth Painter: Nursing
 - Jenna Warf: Nursing
 - Katelyn Jaynes: Language, Literature & Communication
 - Mark Crenwelge: Mathematics
 - Thelda Jones: Nursing
 - Vince Clark: Government/History
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MEETING AGENDA:

- I. Call to Order:
 - a) Meeting was called to order by the Faculty Council President (FCP) at 10:00 am on November 5, 2021, via Zoom (Becky Parker's meeting room 97794437446).
- II. Review and approval of October minutes:
 - a) A motion to approve the October 2021 meeting minutes was made by Ashley Cruseturner. Joseph Taylor seconded the motion. There was a vote in chat and the motion was passed. There were no dissenting votes.
- III. Speaker: Mario Leal, Director of Information Systems & Services:
 - a) The FCP introduced Mario Leal as a guest, invited to address the computer replacement process. Mario Leal mentioned that he wants to provide an overview on what will be happening, but then also wants feedback as well.
 - b) Employee Computer Replacement Project:
 - i. Mario Leal provided an overview of the project which is going through the process replacing computers on campus with new workstations prioritizing older equipment for faculty and staff. He explained that the process will happen in waves in which you will get advanced notice of when your specific computer will go through the transition. Files and software will be transferred and there will be dedicated staff to assist with the transition.
 - ii. Elaine Fagner asked in chat how this will impact faculty that already use an MCC laptop. Mario Leal indicated that existing laptops will not be automatically replaced, but when a new computer is needed this is the system that will be used for the replacement.
 - iii. Crystal Johnson asked in chat about having a traditional keyboard and mouse in addition to the laptop. Mario Leal indicated that you would get a mouse and keyboard as part of your station. He also mentioned that the dock will keep things together and organized.
 - iv. Jarred Hankhouse asked in chat how this process will impact those using double monitors. Mario Leal indicated that you would be able to keep your current set up if you want two monitors and that the process will prioritize older equipment.

- v. John Seawright asked what the expectations are in using the laptop. Mario Leal mentioned that the goal is to give you a secure tool to work from wherever you need to. He also mentioned that there are potential security issues with using your own computers.
- vi. Laurice Jones asked what will happen to the old devices. Mario Leal indicated that depending on the age and quality they will be refurbished or recycled.
- vii. Mario Leal asked if a 2 week notice of the transition is enough time. Several individuals in chat mentioned that 2 weeks was plenty of time.
- viii. Mario Leal also asked if January is a bad time due to start the process. There were several comments that January and late January would be fine.
- ix. Mario Leal discussed that your old system will be held temporarily in case something is missing from the transition. He asked what amount of time would be appropriate to hold the systems. FC members provided a wide range of time frames including 2 weeks, 1 month, 1 semester, 1 year. Mario Leal said
- x. Elaine Fagner mentioned a comment in chat about prep required by the faculty. Mario Leal said faculty should know what software they use/need and that this information will probably be collected by survey.
- xi. Jan Robertson asked in chat if faculty will have administrator rights on the new computers. Mario Leal mentioned that faculty would not be administrators.
- xii. Michaela McCown asked about if she will be required to use the new system and can the system manage large storage needs. Mario Leal indicated that huge amounts of data will still need to be stored on external devices. He followed up by saying faculty should not use personal devices for FERPA and security reasons, but also is aware of unique needs by faculty that MCC cannot yet provide.
- xiii. Yumei Wu asked in chat when this will take place. Mario Leal mentioned that since this is based on need and age of current devices that newer devices will not be replaced in the first wave due to budget limitations.
- xiv. John Seawright asked in chat about impact on students. Mario Leal indicated that there may be student plans in the future, but nothing is currently happening on that front.
- xv. Bill Lockhart asked if MCC will be providing phones since work is happening on those devices. Mario Leal indicated that phones are not something that is currently being discussed.
- xvi. Zachary Cleere asked in chat about faculty not wanting to change their devices. Mario Leal indicated that since this is based on device performance faculty may be required to use replacement devices.
- xvii. John Seawright asked in chat if faculty should avoid using their phones for MCC work. Mario Leal indicated that there are

agreements that are made to use MCC information on devices that make that work possible.

- xviii. Laurice Jones asked if remote workers would need to come to campus to pick up new equipment. Mario Leal said the program is currently focused on traditional needs, but that he is aware that there are unique needs that will need to be addressed as needed.
- xix. Mario Leal shared his plan for communication surrounding the transition that is still in the process of being developed. He also stressed that it is important to him that he get feedback from faculty on the process and welcomes questions/meetings to discuss other issues.
- xx. Ashley Cruseturner asked a Student Success Subcommittee question about Brightspace download times and impacts on students. Mario Leal indicates that the goal is to get things set up within 24 hours of enrollment, but sometimes there are issues. He mentioned that he is looking into a fully automated approach to avoid delays to students. He also indicated the importance of not contacting specific IT staff directly and instead use the ticket system to get issues resolved more quickly. John Seawright asked if there are student workers at the help desk which could lead to FERPA issues. Mario Leal indicated that there are currently no student workers, and all information should be secure using the system.

IV. SACS Visit

- a) Becky Parker asked Elaine Fagner to share information on the SACS review. Elaine Fagner indicated that there were a few issues that needed to be addressed and resolved in the future and that more information would be shared in the future about these issues.

V. Committee Reports

- a) Policy
 - i. Travis Cox mentioned that the committee is still going over survey results and will report on this later.
- b) Workforce
 - i. Heather Davis discussed a potential issue for workforce students related to workload, number of faculty overloads/adjuncts, and the value of asynchronous professional development options. Becky Parker asked about which departments were most impacted by the overload issue.
- c) Elections
 - i. Nothing to report.
- d) Student Success
 - i. Ashley Cruseturner provided an overview of their meeting including the previously discussed issue related to student Brightspace access that Mario Leal addressed, as well as ongoing late registration concerns related to access and financial aid.
 - ii. John Seawright asked a question about emergency loans for students needing last minute financial aid. Ashley Cruseturner

mentioned that information is on the website, but that this information needs to be clearer and easier to use. Thomas Lowrance mentioned his positive experiences with emergency aid for students. John Seawright shared that several students have had issues with what is classified as a qualifying emergency loan need. Becky Parker indicated that they would investigate getting faculty information on emergency funding options for students.

e) Compensation

- i. Scott Bryant provided an overview of their meeting, that included a plan for addressing compensation as well as a request for data, specifically related to cost of living increases, from faculty to include in future discussions/reports.
- ii. Becky Parker asked Scott Bryant to find out more information on when they want a report of this information to be included in future compensation discussions.
- iii. Thomas Lowrance indicated that they are also in the process of looking at how other institutions are handling these changes as cost of living is going up and enrollment is decreasing as well as how MCC competes with industry compensation changes in Waco.

f) Bookstore

- i. John Seawright provided an overview of their most recent meeting, including IA frustrations, student positivity about trying to save them money on textbooks, as well as plans to get information on comparing student success from traditional textbooks versus IA options.
- ii. Dealynn Copeland shared that the bookstore has been working hard to get things ready for Spring semester and ongoing IA needs.

g) COVID Concerns

- i. Michaela McCown stressed the ongoing value of vaccines and testing and there has been a positive trend with both of these. She stressed that there should be increased attention to allergy symptoms since these are often COVID symptoms being misinterpreted. She mentioned the vaccine clinic coming up as well as the family testing now being offered. She mentioned Fred Hills' email regarding a return to originally planned Fall term teaching expectations.
- ii. Bill Lockhart mentioned his own experiences related to misinterpreting allergy symptoms and the importance of getting tested.
- iii. Becky Parker asked about faculty and students participating in the clinics. Amy Winslow indicated that it has been a positive experience and given students to make up hours.

VI. Old Business

- a) Becky Parker mentioned that there was not much to discuss here. She plans to continue to investigate the ongoing requests for asynchronous PD.

She also mentioned that she has received some emails that she will potentially address in the future.

- b) Bernard Smith mentioned some issues related to FERPA and a lack of consistency and clarity on how this information is understood/shared. Jessica Shelton mentioned her own experiences with drop box and data security. Michaela McCown asked if there was an MCC cloud system for faculty to use that was more secure. Elaine Fagner mentioned the OneDrive system as a faculty option. Becky Parker followed up by shifting this to a new business discussion.

VII. New Business:

- a) Becky Parker asked for the FERPA issues to be included here as something to investigate and address.
- b) Becky Parker asked about the possibility of avoiding recycling old computer systems based on Mario Leal's previous comments. Bernard Smith indicated that they would not actually be recycled. Laurice Jones also mentioned that giving students more access to older equipment would be valuable.

VIII. Adjournment:

- a) The FCP mentioned that the next FC meeting will be December 3rd at 10:00 am CST and that if any FC subcommittees have reports to make that they submit them in advance of the next meeting for review by the FC.
- b) A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Lockhart. Joseph Taylor seconded the motion. A poll was conducted in chat. There were no dissenting votes.
- c) The FCP adjourned the meeting at 11:35 am.