# MINUTES

**GOVERNANCE COUNCIL –**

**Members Present:** Matt Seimears, Kristen Finnel, Wendy Hall, Sue Orchard, Kendra Sprague, Nolan Wheeler, Trey Batey, Brad Benjamin, Dana Cummings, Amber Lemiere, Kailie Drumm, Caitie Graham, and Hannah Palenske

## **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Brad moved to approve the minutes with the following addition: 'It was discussed that Dan Ruiz be added to the Governance Council under an amendment to the bylaws at the next Governance Meeting.' The motion was seconded by Trey Batey,

**MOTION CARRIED** **unanimously**

1. **Amendment of Bylaws to add Dan Ruiz**
   1. It was noted that there was interest in amending the Faculty side of the bylaws on other matters; however, those changes will not occur during the current Governance Meeting. This specific bylaw to add Dan Ruiz, however, was amended.
2. [**2029-2030 Academic Calendar**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17h8OKZ-cs-i6CcKlsrSf1huvt1pHxK96FWfv8S8OixU/edit?gid=1170597440#gid=1170597440) **Approval**
   1. Brad expressed concerns regarding contract days. Kailie inquired whether there could be better alignment with the K–12 school calendars. Brad explained that adjustments to the academic calendar can significantly impact Running Start seniors and other areas. He emphasized that the current approach is as beneficial as possible for the campus. Kristen supported Brad’s explanation and echoed his sentiments

**MOTION:** By Brad Benjamin, seconded by Amber Lemiere,

The 2029-2030 Academic Calendar, will be approved.

**MOTION CARRIED** **unanimously**

1. **DEI Procedure 220.1A - Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Programs**
   1. Amber shared that there was some confusion regarding meeting with Dan.
      1. She noted that faculty continue to express uncertainty about what qualifies and does not qualify under the policy. To support clarity, definitions have been added.
   2. A question was raised regarding the role of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) in determining whether something meets the definition of an initiative. Specifically, the question was about the intent behind this role and the distinction between initiatives and activities. Dan provided an explanation of the intent and further clarified the differences between the two.
   3. Matt outlined the next steps for the procedure, including the move to open it for campus comment
   4. Kristen asked whether Governance must approve the procedure or simply provide input. According to the bylaws, Governance is an advisory body and does not need to formally approve procedures, but it does offer meaningful input.
      1. Brad echoed this point, emphasizing that while Governance plays an important role, there is no broader body than the campus community. He noted that delaying the process at this stage could limit opportunities for broader campus feedback. He supported the idea of a six-month check-in to review the policy’s application.
   5. Dan added that, in his view, the procedure is not perfect and will likely require future revisions and adjustments, which is a natural part of the process.
   6. The Procedure is moving forward to campus comment.
2. **May 29th - Tentative Scheduling of an Evacuation Drill (MAIN, HSB, AAR, DTV, & VOC)**
   1. The Governance Council was informed of a tentative evacuation drill of the above buildings.
3. **Other Items**
   1. Appreciation was expressed to Kendra Sprague for sharing the news of Zimmerman’s passing. Efforts are being made to maintain communication with retired faculty members, and such updates are greatly valued.

## With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 3:42 PM.