



Boulder Faculty Assembly

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

BFA General Assembly

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 4, 2024

The Boulder Faculty Assembly held a regular meeting on Thursday April 4, 2024, via Zoom. BFA Chair Shelly Miller presided over the meeting. The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m. and was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. Please see both the BFA and CUBT news stories on the meeting.

I. Address to Assembly – Phil DiStefano, Chancellor

Chancellor Phil DiStefano gave his final Assembly address prior to stepping down on June 30, 2024. He is the longest serving chancellor of CU Boulder having started that role in 2009 and previously served as Provost, as well as Dean and faculty of the School of Education. Members thanked the chancellor for his service and work on campus. DiStefano spoke about various topics including:

- The unique role of shared governance and how important his interactions with the BFA and campus shared governance bodies have been.
- CU Boulder’s growth over the last fifteen years in research, scholarship, and creative work of the faculty and Boulder’s ranking with AU peers.
- Main challenges facing higher education in coming years is the negative public perception of higher education and the impact to academic freedom and free speech.
- Looking forward to returning to the faculty as the Newton Chair in Leadership and Senior Executive Director of the [Center for Leadership](#).

II. Update from Office of Student Affairs – Dr. D’Andra Mull, VC Student Affairs

Dr. Mull spoke with representatives about her first year at CU Boulder and the work and changes that are happening in the Office of Student Affairs. The key focus of her unit is on student engagement and belonging and the critical role those play in student success. She spoke about the work they are doing on wrap around support services as well as high impact learning opportunities that their office supports. She also introduced faculty to Joe Thomas in her office who has a key role in building connections between faculty and student affairs.

III. BFA-R-1-030424 Recommendation to Review FCQ Open Comments

- Shelly Miller, BFA Chair
- Katherine Eggert, Sr. V. Provost Academic Planning & Assessment

Miller introduced a thirty day notice of motion on behalf of the Executive Committee requesting that Academic Affairs form a working group to review how campus uses the open comment section of the campus FCQ’s. Members were asked to share with constituents and send feedback to the BFA.

IV. CU Book Access - Course Materials

- Jessica Carlsen, Director – CU Bookstore
- Matthew Avena, Asst. Dir. E-Commerce – CU Bookstore
- Tim Shea, VP of Product – Redshelf



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Carlsen updated members on the campus course materials subscription program which was implemented last year. Undergraduate students are automatically enrolled in this program but can opt out at any time. The goal of the program is severalfold:

- Ensure students have course materials on the first day of class (also helpful for students waitlisted in a course)
- Reduce the cost of course materials to students, in particular in certain fields where costs can be prohibitive.
- Provide electronic materials as the availability and increased costs of printed materials and book reprints dwindles as the industry moves away from physical books.
- Reduce the environmental impact of paper, ink, and lack of recycling options for printed materials.

Members made recommendations for RedShelf including inconsistencies between page numbers in the book vs. e-book version, improving the program to be more faculty-focused and useable, increased communication to students about opting out if desired, and digital fatigue.

V. BFA Updates

- [Chancellor Finalist Survey – Open to 4/9](#)
- [BFA Officer Elections](#)
- [RSVP - Excellence Awards Ceremony – April 18 at 4:30pm](#)
- [Climate Course Inventory Fellow](#) – open through Friday, May 3

Meeting Attendance and Documents

Assembly Attendance: *Please see the attached list of meeting attendees*

Meeting Documents: All the below documents can be found in the [Google 2023-24 BFA General Assembly shared folder](#) under the corresponding semester and meeting date.

- BFA-R-1-030424 Review the Open Comment Section of UCB FCQs
- CUFaculty_Adoptions_CourseMaterials_BFA.040424
- SA_OrgChart_Emails