

Academic Senate

Supplemental Minutes 4.4.23

Full statement shared by Tina McClurkin during agenda item III. Announcements and Public Comments.

I am reading this statement in its entirety into the minutes.

In April 2019, as your Academic Senate president, I presented a letter on behalf of the Senate to the Provost and her cabinet on poor working conditions. Four years later, the faculty have now taken on the very behavior in which we were fighting.

Several of you have stood and said the environment couldn't be better. I encourage you to look at the back of your hand and acknowledge that everyone is not treated equally. We've been called out for traumatizing our colleagues because we dared to ask the hard questions, hold to a standard, or defend ourselves, yet we have been disrespected, our qualifications questioned, spoken down to, ignored, and more.

If I called you a racist, you would be offended and emphatically deny the allegation. However, you have sat in our meetings month after month and watched it all happen and have not done anything or said anything all while our school and senate presidents orate about DEIA and collegiality. Sometimes silence speaks louder than words.

The Senate's power is in its ability to work collegially and in harmony with its colleagues and stakeholders. I don't care what you put in writing; the Senate does not have the power to dictate.

In 2019 I closed our letter with a quote that says:

When we eat and are still hungry, drink and are still thirsty, are clothed and still cold, consider your ways.

After four years, we are starving, dehydrated, and frozen.

Full statement shared by Dr. Kimberley Stiemke during agenda item III. Announcements and Public Comments.

I am concerned that the proposed bylaws would result in "sanctioned bullying, create barriers to service and give unprecedented authority to the senate president." I am also expressing concern for the potential abuse of that authority and the legality surrounding the processes for removing faculty from their leadership positions. Furthermore, I am alarmed by the microaggressions and silencing that take place during the senate meetings.