

**Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
Clarion University  
2/15/21**

Faculty Senate met on February 15, 2021 via zoom. J. Knaust chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: V. Aravind, S. Boyden, L. Chambers, C. Childers, J. Croskey, E. Foster, J. Knaust, D. Knepp, M. Lepore, C. Li, A. Love, J. Lyle, J. May, M. K. McConnell, J. Phillips, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, A. Shannonhouse, R. Shawgo, B. Sweet, L. Taylor, J. Walsh, P. Woodburne. D. Pehrsson, P. Gent, L. Pierce, S. Spang (student senate), were also present.

- I. Call to Order – J. Knaust called the meeting to order at 3:30.
- II. Approval of the Minutes (2/1, 2021), L. Chambers moved, (J. Croskey seconded) minutes approved.
- III. Announcements
  - A. Student Trustee applications are open
  - B. Rogers Laugand is coming 3/1 to discuss diversity issues
  - C. L. Cullo will come on March 15, after the Interim BUD report is finished.
  - D. D. Dollins is coming toward the end of March to discuss enrollment issues

IV. President's Report--D. Pehrsson

The newest retirement incentive has been announced, after working with all bargaining units.

Commencement has been planned to be virtual, but, in the face of pushback from students, the administration is exploring possibilities for creating an intimate face to face ceremony of some sort.

The plan and desire is for Fall '21 to be a normal opening, as would be the case if no COVID existed. The administration is hoping for sufficient vaccines, etc by that time to allow a normal semester. No matter what, we will follow the science in all our decisions for how to open and how to behave when opened: masking etc.

Diversity initiatives are proceeding. A diversity training module through Social Equity is being put together for all faculty and staff to complete.

Integration is going apace, though that portion related to union or curriculum have been put on pause. The administration hopes that the pause is not too long, and that PASSHE will extend deadlines to accommodate. The New U and the NCAA are discussing keeping all three athletics programs.

Middle States likes our integration plans.

The various Middle States and Integration groups and plans are going well. Other integration issues, such as IT are moving forward as well.

V. Provost Report—P. Gent

In terms of the integration groups and subgroups that are in pause mode are those dealing with tenure and promotion, evaluation, program alignment and synthesis, General Education, Honors, and First Year Experience. The issue is that there is no process for approval of curricular changes.

The Faculty Senate Work group can continue. The first meeting will occur in early March.

The Middle States Self Study is continuing. A rough draft is in edit mode now.

The Stevens Hall elevator work may be complete by late Spring, or during Summer.

Regarding the CU Alert that went out re: Monday's classes influenced by adverse weather, discussion ensued on the wording. Students and faculty were not sure if classes were mandated to go online, and so, whether they needed to be on campus or not, or could if they want to. Some buildings were still locked, preventing students who may have wanted to come to face to face classes from being able to enter the building.

#### VI. Student Senate – S. Spang

S. Spang noted that the Student Senate has added two new student senators, as a result of the recent elections. P. Gent will join the next student senate meeting to discuss student issues that have arisen or been brought to student senate. S. Spang reiterated the desire to get a new student trustee. The "Students in Need" scholarship may undergo some changes as the bookstore contract has been awarded to a new firm. Some funds from bookstore sales fund the scholarship.

#### VII. Committee Reports.

##### A. CCPS – B. Sweet

Some read-ins have been read-in. Major change proposals are due 2/26, and objections are due March 19.

##### B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

No report

##### C. CCR – A. Roberts

Two issues came from CCR.

1. The committee was tasked with calling for membership on the UTAC committee. Committee structure calls for one member each from COBAIS, CAS, College of Education and Human Services, and one member from the School of Education. Nominations were put forward to the committee, which brings them to Senate. Those nominations are:

COBAIS:	Dr. Brandon Packard
CAS:	Dr. Annette Rosati
College of Education and Human Services:	Dr. Paul Klenowski
School of Education:	Karl Sprenger

As this comes to Senate from a standing committee, it does not require a second. Vote taken. Membership approved.

2. Voting processes for upcoming Senate and other elections

In the recent past, and especially during the pandemic, Senate has gone against its bylaws, which require an actual ballot box, by allowing nominations to be sent via email to the chair of CCR, who compiles them into a list of eventual nominees. The CCR chair then compiles the nominees into Survey Monkey, where anonymous elections are carried out. The concern in the past, and again raised today, is the lack of anonymity in the nominations process.

After discussion, a motion was made (E. Foster) and seconded (J. Lyle) to allow CCR to investigate the feasibility of using Survey Monkey to do nominations, and to allow CCR to make the judgement on whether that process can be used, and if is better than the prior process.

J. Walsh noted that Survey Monkey can be set up to not allow a submission unless the correct number of answers (nomination names) are included. J. Knaust wondered if the list of names so generated could be put into Excel for tabulation of the numbers of nominations of each candidate. If so, determining the eventual nominees will be easy.

Vote taken. Motion passed.

D. Academic Standards – M. McConnell

The committee has begun meeting and discussing with counterparts at EU and CAL, to determine policies on such things as AIPs, and other topics of concern to the committee. So far, the processes seem quite similar at the three institutions.

E. Budget – C. Childers

L. Cullo will come to senate on 3/15 after the Interim BUD report is finished

F Faculty Affairs – J. Walsh

As of now 24 retirees are listed. The committee hopes to hold a ceremony for all of them. 18 of the retirees are from the 2019-2020 year, and 6 are from the 2020-2021 year.

G. Institutional Resources – L. Taylor

No report

H. Venango – J. May

No report

VIII. Old Business

A. Gen Ed Requirements Document

L. Pierce has finished incorporating the changes to the Gen Ed document. Senators have looked at it, and found some small typos and the like. After these are finalized, L. Pierce will send the document to J. Knaust who will facilitate its movement to P. Gent for publication on the CUP webpage.

B. Change/Removal of INQ requirement

L. Chambers and V. Aravind have written and reviewed the CCPS proposal to eliminate the INQ requirement for Fall '21. In discussion, the credit limits in Section 1 of the checksheet need to revert to 12. Supposing that L. Chambers and V. Aravind make the change, a motion was made (A. Roberts) and seconded (S. Boyden) to send to CCPS. Vote taken, motion passed.

C. General Education and University Wide Learning Outcomes

L. Pierce noted that, for Middle States, CUP must review the General Education and University Wide Learning Outcomes. It is not the case that we need to change them, but they do need periodic review. P. Woodburne and B. O'Neil have volunteered to be the Senate Gen Ed Select Committee, to work with L. Pierce on this issue.

IX. New Business

The integrated Faculty Senate Working Group has been formed. J. Knaust, A. Roberts and P. Woodburne are on this committee for CUP. The whole group should meet for the first time in early March.

X. Adjournment – B. Sweet moved (J. Croskey, A. Roberts and E. Foster all seconded). Unanimous passage by hitting the ‘end of zoom meeting’ button.