

**Faculty Senate
Clarion University
3/11/19**

Faculty Senate met on March 11, 2019 in 246 Gemmell. J. Lyle chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: L. Chambers, C. Childers, D. Clark, J. Croskey, E. Foster, J. Knaust, D. Knepp, M. Lepore, D. Lott, A. Love, J. Lyle, J. May, J. Overly J. Phillips, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, A. Rosati, B. Sweet, P. Woodburne. S. Boyden, D. Dollins and R. Skunda were also present.

I. Call to Order – J. Lyle called the meeting to order at 3:30.

II. Approval of the Minutes (2/18, 2018) – E. Foster, (S. Boyden seconded) approval of the minutes. A. Rosati noted that the 2/18 minutes implied that she was at the same meeting as the president. This is not true. She attended legislative assembly meeting. The Chancellor spoke to the Legislative Assembly about system redesign. With that alteration the motion passed unanimously.

III. Announcements

1. Inauguration of Dr. Pehrsson, April 5

IV. President's Report-- D. Pehrsson

No Report. President is out of town

V. Provost Report—P. Gent

No Report.

VI. True North Initiative Report—A. Roberts: co-chair

The TNI is busy and is waiting for the working groups to finish their work. Work will be finished in mid-March, for the final compilation, to be given to Dr. Pehrsson on April 1.

VII. Student Senate – R. Skunda

R. Skunda noted that student senate that D. Pehrsson attend the most recent senate meeting to discuss system redesign. Good questions were posed.

VIII. Committee Reports.

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

The objection deadline is 3/15. No objections received yet. Open Hearing is 3/26 at 3:30, probably in rm 250. Read-ins have been read in.

B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

The committee will meet this week at 12:30. S. Fenske is invited.

C. CCR – J. Knaust

CCR met and finalized the slate of 3 for the Seifert Cultural Series membership. There is one person from each college. As this comes from committee, it needs to second. Discussion ensued. Vote: Unanimous to accept the slate. As per prior decision, the slate will be randomly sorted into 1, 2, and 3 year positions, in order to keep the membership fresh. J. Lyle used a random number generator to determine terms:

Alawya Alawami, Associate Professor of Data Analytics, COBAIS, has a 3-year appointment.

Lacey Fulton, Assistant Professor of Communication, CAES, has a 2-year appointment

Mark Lepore, Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Sciences, CHSHS, has a 1-year appointment.

D. Academic Standards – J. Phillips

The committee met 2/15 re: several issues.

- 1) Regarding the issue of the AIP form and the fact that it has not been changed to get rid of the language about the acceptability of getting Ds in all classes:

The form must be changed as this passed all relevant bodies. As the Provost was not at today's senate, no action taken at this time.

S. Boyden noted that the AIP form is trying to meet needs of federal financial aid guidelines, where getting a 'D' is acceptable for continued federal financial aid, and the need of CUP, where the committee decided it is NOT acceptable to get Ds in all classes.

- 2) Regarding the issue of the two policies (Graduate Dismissal and Second Degree) that were changed without following of process. As the Provost was not at today's senate, no action taken at this time.
- 3) J. Phillips emailed the Provost and ask her whether (i) in the future Z grades can be given to students when faculty have not posted grades on time and (ii) whether a process can be set up whereby coaches are able to access students grades for the purposes of helping student athletes determine eligibility during Winter. As the Provost was not at today's senate, no action taken at this time.
- 4) J. Phillips emailed the Provost and asked if her office now has the re-admit data for students who were placed on suspension, but who successfully appealed their suspension, as well as whether they have generated data to determine whether Inquiry Seminars have positively impacted students who are placed on AIPs. As the Provost was not at today's senate, no action taken at this time.
- 5) J. Phillips emailed the Provost and let her know that the committee is willing to consider a recommendation that three-week attendance checks be made mandatory. As the Provost was not at today's senate, no action taken at this time.

E. Budget – A. Roberts

L. Cullo seems to want two faculty on his Budget Advisory Committee. Senate can ask for clarification at his upcoming presentation next meeting.

F Faculty Affairs – D. Knepp

The committee sent out an email asking faculty to 'save the date' for Tuesday, April 23 at 5:00 pm when we will gather to celebrate the contributions of eight of our own faculty or coaches that are retiring during the current academic year.

G. Institutional Resources – A. Love

As A. Love was unable to attend, P. Woodburne attended the most recent IR committee meeting.

Old Business

Tippin Update: On schedule, Aux gym almost done, pool is nearing completion. Fixtures/scoreboard bid and installed soon. Will be huge scoreboard. Lots of inside work going on.

Still Hall: Halon extinguishing system is 3x as expensive as planned. Re-bidding.

Campus Steam Tunnel: To be done with May's steam shutdown. Asbestos to be removed still.

Harvey steam Tunnel: 30 days ahead of schedule. Need to put down blacktop when warm, so may use up the 30 day window.

Stevens and Moore Accessibility upgrades: Getting bids in early April, start in June, 9 month project. Water in much of Stevens' walls, ruining plaster, etc.

Accessibility in SOMS: Early in process.

Venango: Suhr and Montgomery roof: Design firm is working on drawings, will bid both at same time.

New Business

Ralston Steam Pipe: Leaked. Closed off, and redirecting steam from another place. Choice is to replace pipe or put in stand-alone boiler. Each expensive. Replacement is more expensive, but gives flexibility if a leak develops elsewhere.

Second Steam Tunnel: about 1/3 done. Will be finished with May steam shutdown. Must rebid the remaining 2/3 of work.

Signage: Many nice designs for new signage around campus. Coming up or down 322 no one knows that CUP is here. Must work with borough's regulations.

Outdoor Fitness Court between Marwick Boyd and Fitness center: (Separate set of funds). Will have 15 stations for sit-ups, etc. Order being placed in a couple weeks. In place by Fall.

Carter Auditorium: On Hold

Bell Tower Plaza: Architectural stage. Coming out in 2 weeks to visit. Want it to blend better.

Marwick Boyd: Concrete steps to be replaced, other parts re-mortared, etc.

Student Concerns:

Internet Speed. Very slow in residence halls: 4-5 mps. Library around 10 mps. Other schools have speeds of 68 mps. Speeds vary across campus. In Carrier was tested at 45 mps. (My own test in Still was about 17 mps). May risk alienating tech savvy would-be students. Can't download assignments or upload assignments, can't download you tube stuff. Makes recreational internet use very difficult.

I asked my class of freshmen, who all said that internet speeds were low. One knowledgeable student quoted .6mps for a youtube video and maybe 4-5 mps for other purposes.

It seems that computer support suggested that student speeds are limited to not choke the system. Rumor.

Harvey Hall and other places: Snow causes rusting and concrete damage. Off putting during campus family visits.

Handicapped Buttons and Stands: Stands especially get wobbly because students kick them to remove snow, etc from shoes. Get repaired, and are wobbly a week later.

In discussion, A. Rosati noted that a student had a seizure on the second floor of Davis Hall. When the ambulance responded, the paramedics could not fit the gurney up the elevator in Davis Hall.

H. Venango – J. May

Open forum held on 3/11. Dates were set for various activities held at Venango, such as Honors night, admissions days, etc. Rhoades building will see tech improvements, particularly with Zoom, via grants for the purpose. A one-stop-shop will be set up in Suhr to help students with a variety of issues. The respiratory care labs will see major upgrades ahead of accreditation in May. Upgrades to computers is ongoing. The safety committee has reconvened, and will meet regularly. Public safety is on campus M-F from 3:00 to 9:30 pm. Public safety is also enforcing ticketing of cars parked in wrong lots. A first aid training (CPR etc) will occur April 12.

IX. New Business

Enrollment issues were discussed by D. Dollins. Freshman applications and deposits are up from last year. Similar data exits for transfer students, but their final numbers are more variable, and firm up later in the process. There is a revival of applications from surrounding counties, and from locations in Ohio, which were down the past couple of years. No real explanation. May 1 is National Decision Day. This is a good day to predict our numbers for fall. It is true that CAES applications overall are down, but Biology and associated majors (including undeclared) are up. Nursing is on the rise, as is COBAIS in

some majors. Grad student applications and deposits are up a bit, but these are more space limited than for undergrads. In response from J. Lyle, D. Dollins does not see a 'nursing bubble' where we pin hopes on an increasing demand for nursing students, only to suffer a big fall. The demand seems solid in the high schools. It is true that other universities, such as Thiel, are starting up graduate programs to compete with some of ours, especially in speech path and health related areas.

X. Old Business

1. GEEC proposal of 11/29.

L. Chambers noted that GEEC will pull out the W and Q flag portions of the 11-29 proposal, which will include some definitions and two learning outcomes each for the Senate Select Committee to view and act upon. The process is that the proposal goes to the Select Committee for recommendation, and then to Senate, and then to CCPS. As there are 3 meetings left, the next meeting will be that the revised proposal is sent to the Select Committee. That committee can meet outside on its own, in time to send to CCPS. CCPS can work to make sure the proposal comes back to Senate by the next-to last meeting, as an informational item. The proposal can be viewed prior to last senate meeting, and discussed on and voted on at the last meeting of the term.

2. Affordability Issues.

J. Lyle noted that many affordability issues are too big for Senate to tackle, but that book costs is a good place to start. He received some data on the number of sales and rentals, and the costs of these sales and rentals. Including rentals, the average cost is about \$60, and not including rentals, the average cost is \$81. J. Lyle presented some links to different universities that offer incentives to faculty to use Open Educational Resources, and two links to Department of Education documents on textbook affordability.

In discussion, A. Rosati noted that if students/parents pay tuition via credit card, they are charged 2.8%, which works out to over \$500. Other merchants charge 1%. Discussion noted that CUP uses a middleman for credit card transactions. Also, such a charge may be seen as an attempt to dis-incentivize parents from paying via credit card, but to pursue lower interest student loans.

The biggest apparent element of affordability obstacles to students is housing. The Housing Affordability Task Force presented some material to the Council of Trustees at a workshop meeting, but not at the open meeting. Body, on advice of D. Pehrsson decided to ask S. Fenske to come to Senate this term to present what she can, as she was on the task force.

Other discussion noted the prevalence of 'access codes' on textbooks. Some 34 courses (not sections) use these codes. This seems both an affordability issue, as well as an educational quality and accountability issue. Many times the classes with the codes are created by the publisher as almost stand-alone courses, which have little input from faculty. Discussion on transparency of costs ensued as well. Many times access codes do not show up on what students can look up to see what their books/costs will be. Also discussed is the issue of student privacy, when a third party has access to grades of our students. Faculty using the canned courses (which are not necessarily the same as courses using access codes) do not necessarily know student grades. When the third party wipes their servers, all history of grades are gone.

University bookstore makes it hard to find a version of the book without the access code. Books without access codes exist, but seem hidden by seller algorithms.

J. Lyle said he would write up a resolution of some sort, including discussion of the issues discussed, including incentives for OER, access codes, etc.

XI. Adjournment – J. Knaust moved (B. Sweet seconded). Unanimous passage.