

**Faculty Senate  
Clarion University  
4/30/18**

Faculty Senate met on April 30, 2018 in 246 Gemmell. A. Roberts chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: S. Boyden, D. Clark, J. Croskey, E. Foster, S. Harris, J. Knaust, D. Knepp, M. Lepore, A. Lockwood, D. Lott, J Lyle, J. May, K. McIntyre, J. Overly, J. Phillips, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, A. Rosati, B. Sweet, L. Taylor, J. Touster, P. Woodburne. P. Fackler, T. Pfannestiel, P. Gent, L. Cullo, P. Terman, K. Yenerall, and R. Skunda were also present.

I. Call to Order – A. Roberts called the meeting to order at 3:30.

II. Approval of the Minutes (4/16, 2018) – E. Foster, (S. Boyden seconded) approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Announcements  
None

IV. President's Report-- P. Fackler

P. Fackler covered 3 items today. First was a review of the little he knew of the Chancellor search. He noted that there 4 candidates, two of whom had no CEO/University President experience. The candidate pool was mainly male and white, and had some military, gender and racial diversity.

Second, he discussed the Venango Campus Task Force, and its strategic future vision for the future of the campus. Committee is made up of APSCUF, Faculty, Community, and interested parties. The task is to look at the campus and its reason for being, and its strategy for going forward. The group will meet next week, and has been asked to offer a report by December, 2018.

Third, he discussed the relationship between the university and the foundation. The relationship is formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The goal is to increase transparency, and to allow the university to engage in fundraising, which is currently the purview of the foundation.

Upon a question from A. Roberts regarding retiree email, P. Fackler had no additional news, but was working as hard as he could to make the loss of the emails as difficult as possible for PASSHE to do. A. Roberts thanked him for his obstinacy in this matter.

As a final comment, the President thanked the Senate for its collegiality and willingness to work with him in his brief tenure as interim president. Senators expressed similar sentiments regarding the improved relationship between faculty and the administration. Senate applauded.

V. Student Senate –

R. Skunda noted that the Reinhard Awards were April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, and were a success. Further, the Student Senate, after a long meeting, voted in a new executive board. R. Skunda will likely continue as representative to Faculty Senate. A. Roberts thanked him for his work, and hoped he would continue.

VI. Committee Reports.

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

B. Sweet read-in the dormant course list, and some remaining CCPS proposals. As the proposal 081 had been pulled and renegotiated between the departments of Philosophy and Modern Languages, and as the resulting new proposal was non-controversial, it was dealt with now, and voted on as an amended version of CCPS proposal 081. The proposal came out of CCPS with a positive recommendation. Vote was unanimous in favor. A Roberts thanked B. Sweet for the vast amounts of work that CCPS does, and that

Senate and the university could not operate without it, and does so much more smoothly due to his leadership. Senate applauded.

#### B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

M. Lepore was invited to the Student Task Force, organized by S. Fenske. Topics of discussion included the official groundbreaking of Tippin's renovations, a survey of student desires at the rec center, which include working equipment in the rec. center, as well as some requests for re-purposing of some spaces. CUP is buying new cardio machines and new weight room equipment. A room by the climbing wall will be a boxing room. CUP will sell any used exercise equipment, and use those funds as part of the funds to purchase new equipment. Students asked if the 'stretch room' could be repurposed to become a dance studio. It cannot, as it would require wooden floors. Further discussion included changes the student health and counselling center. The center has moved to accept all walk-in crisis intervention requests, and has moved to a 'brief therapy' model where students are seen on a shorter term recurring basis than had been the case prior. Further student needs would be met by referral to outside agencies. In discussion it became clear that the elimination of the backlog is a good thing, but came at the expense of reduced services to students. Questioning clarified that the outside referrals would be paid for by student family health insurance, while treatment at the counselling center would be paid for by student fees. The committee also discussed commencement with the three services and the use of Gemmell MPR as an overflow facility. A. Roberts thanked M. Lepore for the hard work on the standard Student Affairs committee, and being willing and able to be involved in S. Fenske's Student Affairs Task force, noting that it was good to have senate/faculty involvement on that committee. Senate applauded.

#### C. CCR – J. Lyle

J. Lyle noted that the Senate Elections were a success, as was the first use of Survey Monkey to hold the elections. He noted that voting participation was higher than in the past, but noted sadly the loss of 'physical voting'. CCR met regarding the self-nominations for the GEEC. J. Lyle presented the names: L. Chambers, who will represent English/Composition, and B. O'Neil, who will represent Arts and Humanities. Coming out of committee, the names need no second. Vote was unanimous in favor. A. Roberts commended J. Lyle for the seemingly endless cycle of elections, and the work that this entailed. J. Lyle thanked A. Roberts, and noted that the real hero was Bethann Grolemond in the Provost's office. Senate applauded.

#### D. Academic Standards – J. Phillips

J. Phillips noted that the committee had been given a couple of policy change suggestions at the very end of the term, too close to the end of term to be addressed by the current committee. He will forward the details to the next committee chair. A. Roberts thanked J. Phillips, and noted that, due to the change in the By-Laws and Constitution, all the various subcommittees have been abolished. Senate Policy decided to use the model initiated by J. Phillips in this committee, to whittle down the subcommittees while keeping the standing committee stable. That policy is described under Old Business. Senate applauded.

#### E. Budget – J. Knaust

No report, except to note that Len Cullo had just spoken. A. Roberts thanked J. Knaust for her work, especially as a first term senator. Senate applauded.

#### F Faculty Affairs – D. Knepp

D. Knepp said the retirement party is going well. Three retirees will attend. The date is May 2, 2018 from 4-6pm. D. Knepp expressed the hope that many people would attend to wish our colleagues well and to take advantage of the activities/speeches, etc that will occur close to 4 pm. A. Roberts thanked D. Knepp for his work and the smoothness with which the committee ran. A running joke all semester long was that B. Sweet wanted to know the menu. A. Roberts thanked D. Knepp for successfully keeping B.

Sweet in the dark on this matter. If B. Sweet wants to know the menu, he needs to attend. Senate applauded.

#### G. Institutional Resources – E. Foster

E. Foster noted that the fencing around Tippin has been moved back onto the sidewalk. Apparently the contractor is being fined by Clarion borough \$25 per day for this violation. CUP Police Chief Hendershott sent an email reminding all and sundry to be careful in the roads, and to walk on the other side of the street. A student may be considered at fault if an accident occurs due to walking on the wrong sidewalk or in the street. J. Lyle noted a rumor he had heard from student senate that the body was going to name the Gemmell MPR as the Whitney MPR. J. Knaust noted that she had seen a CUP police (or maybe borough police) directing students to not use one crosswalk and to use a second. She wondered if that officer could actually direct traffic and not simply direct students to a specific crosswalk. Police Chief Hendershott noted that putting an officer would not help the situation. Rather, they are trying to re-educate students from their bad behavior related to crossing the street. After this, the police plant to direct their attention to the re-education of motorists. E. Foster further noted that the university is pursuing new doors for the retail establishments in SOMS. The lack of ADA compliance was noted by J. Lyle's honors students. The doors cost \$19,000 a pair. The university is also seeking funding for changes to Gemmell. J. Croskey asked about the radio tower being erected. T. Pfannestiel said that the tower will provide radio broadcasting, as well as space for a broad improvement on wireless access in the region. Additionally, he noted that the tower is being paid for by an outside vendor, who will also maintain it, causing revenues to flow to the university. A. Roberts thanked E. Foster for her work. As an experienced Senator, and because it is the duty of the President of Senate to appoint members to committees, A. Roberts knew he could count on her to do a good job on the committee, which she has done. Senate applauded.

#### H. Venango – J. May

J. May noted that the last Venango Forum occurred. The improvements to the public safety at the campus were noted. Also, she noted the Venango Task Force, of which she is a member. She looks forward to working on that committee for the future of Venango campus location. A. Roberts noted that J. May has been re-elected from Venango, and commended her on keeping Senate apprised of the happenings at the remote location. Being active in two locations is difficult. Senate applauded.

### VII. Old Business

#### A. By Laws/Constitution

A. Roberts noted that the Council of Trustees met April 19, where the approval of the amended By-Laws/Constitution was finalized, and where they were signed. The changes occasioned the need to change how subcommittees are eliminated. As noted above, Policy decided to follow the pattern begun by J. Phillips in Academic Affairs. The policy will be that members of the various subcommittees will be removed as their terms expire, eventually eliminating the subcommittees. The standing committee membership will change as per standard procedure. Within a couple of years the various subcommittees should be eliminated without removing opportunities for service from those wanting to take advantage.

#### B. Seifert Cultural Series

Prior to discussing the issues related to the Seifert Series, A. Roberts asked for a motion to read the following proposed senate resolution prepared at Policy. D. Knepp moved, and P. Woodburne seconded A. Roberts read the motion:

Whereas, the Mary L. Seifert Cultural Series is an endowed cultural and lecture series intended to provide Clarion University students and the broader Clarion community with educational experiences through thoughtful discussion of shared cultural experiences,

And whereas, historically and conceptually this requires formal faculty involvement at all stages of the series, to include selection of theme, format, speakers, events, venues, and pedagogy, And whereas currently there is uncertainty regarding whether faculty involvement will continue or how faculty will be involved, there is now a need to ensure formal faculty involvement in the series,

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Clarion University recommends that a permanent Mary L. Seifert Culture Series committee be formed and the Faculty Senate's Committee on Committees and Rules be tasked with appointing faculty to this committee on an annual basis in a time-frame necessary to meet the needs of this committee.

P. Terman and K. Yenerall, as faculty advisors to the Seifert Series committee, expressed dismay and worry about the future of the committee, given that planning has to have already started for next year's activities. K. McIntyre noted that the committee had wanted to focus on 'play', bringing in Education (pedagogy), Physics (video games), and other departments, as well as the well-known author, Steven Johnson, of RMU, of the text 'Playland: A History of Play' to put into English (and other departments) curriculum, but that now it was too late. T. Pfannestiel reiterated that the committee was still in process of figuring out how the committee would work and the degree to which faculty would be involved. T. Pfannestiel reiterated the fact that he directed S. Fenske to make sure faculty are involved at the start of the committee decision-making process, and not only at the end. The committee is still working this out. T. Pfannestiel noted that he supports the position taken by the resolution. P. Terman wondered if faculty could be involved with the discussion of how to make sure faculty are involved, as currently they are not included in this discussion. Some faculty discussion questioned how the resolution would be intentionalized and/or operationalized. T. Pfannestiel noted that P. Gent, as his successor, together with the new Senate president, and the future chair of Student Affairs, can decide how to be involved in this process, and to codify the role of faculty, as described in the resolution.

P. Terman, K. Yenerall and K. McIntyre noted that the delays have made next year's schedule very much up in the air.

A. Roberts asked for a vote, given that the resolution being moved and seconded, to be sent to P. Fackler.

Vote taken on the resolution. Passed unanimously.

C. Haines

A. Roberts presented the revised language to the Haines Memorandum. P. Fackler thanked the feedback received from Senate, which helped him clarify his purpose, Discussion ensued. P. Fackler noted that the 44% faculty involvement comes from an anticipated 9 person committee. P. Fackler noted a friendly change, making a parallel construction consistent throughout: recruitment/search/hiring process. He noted that this usage should be duplicated into #3 (first principles). Other discussion found that, as the Provost is the Vice President of Academic Affairs, ought the title of the revision be amended to reflect it. E. Foster noted that this would occasion alterations in several other places.

J. Phillips moved and J. Lyle seconded the acceptance of the revised Haines Memorandum along with the friendly amendments. Vote: unanimous acceptance.

## VIII. New Business

### A. Discussion of Budget—L. Cullo

L. Cullo gave a review of the current budget and projections. The main theme is that we are flat revenue and cost-wise, even in the face of increasing compensation at all levels. 80% of a university's costs are compensation. The only way this works is reduced FTE. L. Cullo noted that flat is good, especially compared to prior circumstances. He noted that the advancement of CUP over his tenure is the best in the state system. Next year the university expects to hire approximately 12 new tenure track people. This does not mean that costs will necessarily rise, as we expect almost the same number of retirees, and the new faculty often mean a reduction in temporary faculty as well. He reminded Senate that last year several 'one-off' things happened in our favor that helped us. This year there seems to be one additional 'one off' that is breaking our way, and another one or two may also. Specifics included gains from debt collections, and gains from a healthier work force and reduced workers compensation claims. He noted that CUP expects a \$1.1 million deficit, down from years of much larger deficits, and sees a path to a balance. He did note that CUP needs several years of surplus, and that we cannot get it solely through cost containment. The future is better, but CUP is not out of the woods.

### B. Advising Assessment Task Force Report—P. Gent

P. Gent reviewed the history of the creation of the Advising Task force, as a recognition that CUP had not assessed advising, and did so now with an eye toward Middle States in a couple of years. This presentation is informational. No voting will occur now. The Task Force looked at NSSE and other existing data. The Task Force Student Subcommittee heard from students in focus group sessions and surveyed students. The Faculty Subcommittee surveyed faculty. The Benchmarking Subcommittee looked at best practices of competitor and/or similar schools. The Task Force came up with several recommendations, among which are to create an Advising Council, like Grad Council to serve as a resource and to play a broad role in creation of advising policy at the university. Other recommendations fall into categories of better preparing faculty to do advising, better prepare students in preparing for advising, and potentially adding advising to the categories for tenure and promotion.

### C. Not on Agenda

A. Roberts noted that there was one piece of new business that was not on the agenda. He had a resolution for T. Pfannestiel and asked for a movement and second to put it forward. P. Woodburne moved and M. Lepore seconded:

Whereas, Dr. Todd Pfannestiel has served Clarion University's Faculty Senate as a Chair and member for several years during his 20-year tenure at Clarion University,

Whereas, Dr. Todd Pfannestiel will soon become the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Utica College,

Be it resolved that Faculty Senate recognizes Dr. Pfannestiel's leadership, with appreciation for his contributions to this body and to Clarion University, and wishes him well in his new endeavor.

Vote was unanimous in favor.

## IX. Adjournment –moved (A. Roberts, B. Sweet seconded). Unanimous passage.