

**Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
Clarion University  
4/26/21**

Faculty Senate met on April 26, 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, N. O’Neil, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, A. Shannonhouse, R. Shawgo, B. Sweet, L. Taylor, J. Walsh, P. Woodburne. D. Pehrsson, P. Gent, 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 (4/12, 2021), M. Lepore moved, (S. Boyden seconded) minutes approved.
- III. Announcements
  - A. Retirement Reception to be held 3/5 at 3:30

IV. President’s Report--D. Pehrsson

The president offered congratulations to new senators, and thanks and congratulations to those cycling off and moving to new activities.

The president discussed the academic array, and the fact that the BOG meets tomorrow, to vote on the integration plan. After the vote, which she expects to be in favor of integration, a 60 day comment period will ensue.

The president commented on the many end-of-year activities, symposia, etc, and thanked and congratulated all those involved with enhancing student learning.

The administration meets with student leaders on the integration issues tonight at 4:30. Of particular importance to students is the fee structure, given the 3-institution structure of the new institution.

PASSHE is working with the NCAA on how to run three separate and potentially competing sets of sports teams within an integrated framework.

In the midst of everything else that is still going on, CUP is still going through the Middle States process.

V. Provost Report—P. Gent

The provost noted that the updated version of the program array has gone out, based on feedback from the initial version. The related working groups, on synthesis, program alignment, and the like are still working.

In the next phase, the product of the various groups’ work, especially around curriculum, will be approved or not by some sort of interim curricular committee, the precise make-up of which is still being negotiated by APSCUF and PASSHE.

PASSHE is also negotiating various committee structures and procedures for tenure, promotion, sabbatical leave and related issues. Additionally, working groups related to department chairs as well as the structure of the New University (colleges, departments, schools, etc) are still working.

The provost noted that an email went out with a link for faculty to record messages to graduating seniors. Faculty cannot go to the graduation, but it is hoped that this will fill part of that need/desire/presence usually filled by faculty attendance.

Clarion hopes to open wholly face to face in the fall.

S. Spang reported that students are concerned about the reports of students having to take a majority of classes online and/or from non-CUP faculty. P. Gent noted that the integration will require more online/multi-modal classes, and will enable students to take non-CUP faculty who have different expertise than is available from CUP faculty alone. In part, particularly in the case of business students, students are experiencing online and/or non-CUP faculty due to a large number of COBAIS faculty retirements.

In response to a question regarding social distancing in the fall, the Provost noted that CUP has a 'drop-dead' date for decisions to open wholly face to face in the fall. This date should give time for the university to reconfigure/redesign classes.

In response to a question about whether faculty can ask about a student's vaccine status, after checking with T. Fogarty, the provost reported that faculty cannot ask students about their vaccine status. However, and in response to another question, faculty can recommend that students get their vaccine.

Students who may have compromised immune systems or other similar reasons for not being able to get the vaccine need to work with R. Radacker in student support services.

The university will have a site on campus for students to get vaccinated if they wish to. CUP cannot require students come to campus having been vaccinated. Such authority is not in the PA Constitution. However, some state agencies, such as the PA Dept of Ed have that authority.

T. Fogarty's office is working on a form for faculty to record the attendance of online students this term. Faculty will have until a couple days after final grades are due to report online student attendance. The form is not finalized yet. No specific date for payment of the online education payment has been determined.

#### VI. Student Senate – S. Spang

S. Spang reported that she is running for several positions on the student Senate e-board, so may or may not be the student senate representative to Faculty Senate next year. Student Senate just finished its annual retreat where members develop goals for the next year.

#### VII. Committee Reports.

##### A. CCPS – B. Sweet

The final read-ins of the year have been read-in. Also the courses to be removed from the university's books, on the dormant courses list, have been read-in as well. J. Knaust thanked B. Sweet for his many years of service on CCPS.

##### B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

COVID rates among students seem to be falling. The Student Affairs division is completing its accreditation process. Additionally, staff is helping students move out of university housing. J. Knaust thanked M. Lepore for the work done on this committee.

##### C. CCR – A. Roberts

The vote for Senate went well. 129 votes were cast. Only 11 votes separated the 5<sup>th</sup> vote getter from the 10<sup>th</sup> vote getter. L. Chambers will take over for newly elected H. Hampikian for fall, due to a lab scheduling problem. H. Hampikian will take over S. Prezzano's remaining term come June, as S. Prezzano is retiring in June. L. Bladen will serve Venango Campus on Senate. A. Roberts suggested that Senate may want to move to "Baseline" to conduct elections, as opposed to using "Survey Monkey". Survey Monkey license is held by local APSCUF, and Senate may wish to be a bit more removed from th

union going forward. J. Knaust thanked A. Roberts for the work done on this committee, and for being Vice-Chair this term.

#### D. Academic Standards – M. McConnell

No report on Academic Standards. The academic working group discussed the structure of the university (colleges/departments/schools, etc). J. Knaust thanked M. Mc Connell for the work done on this committee, and for being Senate's representative to the Academic Working Group.

#### E. Budget – C. Childers

No report. C. Childers got bumped off Zoom due to spotty internet.

#### F Faculty Affairs – J. Walsh

J. Walsh reported:

Retirement Reception: May 5th from 3:30-5:00pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 814-393-2276

The reception will start with remarks from Dr. Dale, P. Gent, and J. Overly

Reception will then include 20-30 minute PPT presentation; one slide for each retiree, and will conclude with very short remarks by retirees if so desired.

Approximately 10 bios are still needed from sponsoring faculty.

The gift for each retiree is completed, and will be mailed out to the retirees.

J. Knaust thanked J. Walsh for the work done on this committee, and noted that it was much more work than it at first appeared.

#### G. Institutional Resources – L. Taylor

No report

J. Knaust thanked L. Taylor for the work done on this committee, in this very strange year.

#### H. Venango – J. May

J. May presented a summative report of the activities and accomplishments at the Venango campus this past year.

Appalachian Regional Commission Grant - Federal Award: \$1,001,000/local Match: \$1,001,000 11/1/18 – 10/31/21 – due to COVID we have been approved for an extension through 6/30/2022

- To date we have served/improved 81 Businesses with 12 New Businesses Created
- 160 HS and college-aged students have been impacted by the grant
- Certificate Programs—5 cohorts Welding Technology completed
- Pre-Apprenticeship Programs-- Machine Setter Pre-Apprenticeship- is a high school program and 5 students have completed; Welding Technology Pre-Apprenticeship- is a high school program and 11 students have completed. (these students are awarded 12 credits if they continue on into the AAS applied technology program)
- Apprenticeship Programs—3 cohorts in Plastic Process Technician Apprenticeship; recruiting for Machine Setter Apprenticeship cohort; Welding Technology Apprenticeship – one cohort completed and second cohort underway. 31 workers/trainees served (plastics, welding apprenticeship) 27 enhanced current job, pay raise, and continuing in training
- Associates Degrees (AAS)— --13 served

#### Continuing Education/Workforce Development

- Even with having to halt many classes due to COVID still served a little over 100 students through online training and off-campus training

- Trained another 24 EMTs bringing our total to 84. Looking to offer Paramedic training soon.
- We typically offer testing to a little over 300 students annually (Praxis/CLEP/NLN/NACE) this past year we were able to test 53 students.
- Offering pharmacy tech training in partnership with CVS Pharmacy and Jevs Human Services in Philadelphia. First cohort started this week with a second cohort to start in a few weeks. We are offering the instructor led training online, CVS will offer mock pharmacy training on the ground and all students will be eligible to sit for the PTCB Certification.

#### WEDnetPA

- 18 contracts in place with awards totaling \$140,144 – just received additional monies and have \$50,146 available to award. We have 8 more companies in application process.

ASN – tracking to have another full class Fall 2021

AAS (applied technology\_ – ARC and #Prepared4PA initiatives are driving interest in degree program. Integration will allow Edinboro and Clarion to drive AAS students to BS Industrial Technology Management with CalU and CU’s BAS Technology Leadership with a business focus. We are able to now award 27 credits to students completing a state approved apprenticeship program.

#### Facility Updates

- During COVID and lower volumes of traffic, maintenance has completed upgrades in Montgomery Hall. ITV rooms, the old Academic Resource Rooms and all of the second floor faculty offices (hallway from lobby to elevator) all receive wall repairs and a fresh coat of paint. Hallway to be repainted this summer.
- 3 tons of cold patch secured for parking lot repairs this summer
- Replacement of two external doors in Montgomery Hall that were badly deteriorated
- Flower beds in front of all buildings were stripped of mulch and red stone put in place for a fresh clean look. This will allow for cost savings over time as we will not have to purchase mulch every year.
- Lighting project completed in Montgomery Hall (960 bulbs replaced with LED)
- Custodial will be completely stripping and cleaning the Rhoades Café for the new vendor.

#### VIII. Old Business

##### **Faculty Senate Working Group**

The working group will meet again in the near future. Discussion occurred on whether to change membership to reflect the election. Consensus seemed to be to continue membership as is currently constructed. It is likely that the two other schools also had elections and the committee may want to change membership in unison, or with some overlap.

##### **Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Statement**

R. Laugand is asking for Senate assistance in drafting a statement on DEI that will go into all syllabi. E. Foster, J. Walsh, J. Croskey and, M. McConnell will be on the select committee, with the understanding that R. Laugand will not refuse assistance and that other faculty will likely be welcome to join in as well.

##### **Review of University Wide General Education Learning Outcomes**

P. Woodburne noted that the committee had reviewed the outcomes and had met via email. The consensus of the group was that the outcomes work, though are imperfect, but should be kept as

they are. The committee understands that these outcomes are likely to change with the New University.

IX. New Business  
None listed

X. For the good of the Order

XI. Adjournment – J. Lyle moved (B. Sweet seconded). Unanimous passage by hitting the ‘end of zoom meeting’ button.