

**Faculty Senate
Minutes
Clarion University
11/1/21**

Faculty Senate met on November 1, 2021, in Still 206, via zoom and face to face. B. Sweet chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: J. Croskey, N. Dias, E. Foster, L. Fulton, B. Packard replacing H. Hampikian, J. Knaust, D. Knepp, M. Lepore, A. Love, J. Lyle, M. K. McConnell, J. Phillips, A. Roberts, A. Rosati, R. Shawgo, B. Sweet, L. Taylor, J. Walsh, P. Woodburne. D. Pehrsson, P. Gent, J. Geiger, J. McGee. J. Joseph, S. Spang, and S. Shannon (all from student senate), were also present. Zebulon was also present.

- I. Call to Order – B. Sweet called the meeting to order at 3:30.
- II. Approval of the Minutes (10/18/21). E. Foster moved, M. Lepore seconded. Motion passed.
- III. Announcements
 - o November 10, the promotion and tenure celebration is to be held at Level A in Carlson
 - o November 5, the Student Research Symposium will be held in Still Hall’s Carter Auditorium from 12-1 pm.

- IV. President’s Report—J. Geiger and D. Pehrsson
Work flow analysis is ongoing. “Tier 1” is done, and “Tier 2” is ongoing.
Three options of PennWest colors and branding were presented to students to vote on.
Approximately 5,000 voted. The choice was overwhelming, but will not be revealed to the general public until the end of November. CUP had the second highest participation in the vote on the new colors/branding schema.

The president noted that the academic array should be completed in the next few days, and expressed happiness that the various departmental chair elections seemed to be going smoothly.

- V. Provost Report—P. Gent
COVID #s are down from the ALF induced high. While these numbers vary daily, as of today, CUP has 22 in quarantine, down about 50% from a week or so ago.

The movement of all three campuses of PennWest to Banner is ongoing. The goal is to enable students to enroll for summer and fall classes in the Banner System. This version of Banner is not quite what those schools that use it are used to. It is a new version that will require training of faculty and staff.

In related news, email with the Clarion.edu format will be changed to a PennWest.edu address. This will take some time and will require each to automatically forward email from one to the other until the change is complete. The administration expects this to take about 6 months. The current head of CALU’s IT department will lead the similar department for PennWest. The issue of retiree emails has not been solved, but is on everyone’s radar.

D2L will be used at PennWest, and migration of classes (up to 5 years old) will occur automatically. Faculty can petition to have older classes migrated to the new D2L.

The search for the new Dean for Health Sciences is ongoing. This will be an internal search for a 2-year temporary position. In related news, departmental support staff locations were due to be

revealed on Nov. 19, but snags have occurred. They will be notified soon. The administration realizes the stress that this puts onto clerical and other support staff.

Student course evaluations went live as of today. They are all being conducted online, due to the continuing disruption caused by COVID.

VI. Student Senate – A. Barrett/S. Spang

The Students In Need scholarship is open and will be open for two more weeks. Student senate hopes to get letters to the recipients about money for spring books out to students by November 22. The scholarship has been all over media used by students, such as email, CU Connect, and other locations.

Senate members and students engaged in a Good Neighbor walk prior to Halloween.

The Town Hall meeting sponsored by student senate was not as well attended as hoped. Senate is working on a re-branding to get more response by students.

The English 276 Student Survival Guide project is ongoing.

The Social Equity Dinner will be held Dec. 9 from 7-9 pm in Gemmill.

VII. Committee Reports.

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

No objections were filed in latest group of CCPS proposals. A couple departments are self-amending proposals. They will be brought to next senate meeting.

The group of 6 interim-interim curriculum committee has been meeting and gathering information, and will pick up steam and urgency when the program array comes out, and when the work flow process is more finalized.

B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

J. McGee gave the report under New Business. M. Lepore noted that S. Fenske cannot make it to Senate this term to discuss Student Affairs' 5-year review completion, but will present to the Senate in the Spring.

C. CCR – M. McConnell

N/R

D. Academic Standards – L. Chambers

N/R

E. Budget – A. Roberts

N/R

F. Faculty Affairs – J. Walsh

N/R

G. Institutional Resources – L Taylor

N/R

H. Venango – J. May

N/R

VIII. Old Business

1. Integrated Faculty Senate Working Group (A. Roberts, P. Woodburne, J. Knaust and M. McCullough)

Met to discuss work flow. Were joined by members of Baker-Tilly in order that they do not determine a work flow pattern that excludes the PennWest Senate from conducting curricular oversight. CALU Senate has no curricular oversight, and is interested in this brave new world. EU has a situation similar to ours, but all curricular proposals are brought to Senate by the Provost. In a 3-campus situation, it seems unlikely that the new Provost will have enough clarity in what happens at the other two campuses to be the one officially bringing proposals to Senate, much less to be able to argue intelligently about them. The provost at EU is not taking the call of Bob Mehalik, from CALU, who is the committee chair. Committee member P. Kuvshnikov from EU has met with EU's provost and seems to want to control how the new Senate does its curricular business.

2. Statement of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

No further meetings have occurred

IX. New Business

1. **New Interim PennWest Provost Scott Miller**

Scott Miller discussed the integration, and the fact that he plans to travel regularly to each school. PennWest will be the second largest university in western PA, behind Pitt.

The search for the new interim dean of Health Sciences will be an internal and abbreviated process, staffed by the three provosts plus one faculty member from each campus in departments under the auspices of the new Dean. The goal is to zoom with the applicants and make the recommendation to Dr. Dale in the next 3 weeks.

In response to questions, he noted that he has no additional information on issues such as what will happen vis-à-vis the NCAA. As has been said before, the NCAA will hold off on any announcement until Middle States has had its say. This should occur 3/22. In a related question, the various athletics departments do not seem to be having trouble recruiting students to a specific campus in the new institution.

2. **J. McGee**

J. McGee brought some students from Student Senate to augment his talk. A. Barrett's specific discussion of Student Senate is reported above.

Fall athletics are open to the public, and will soon end. Winter and Spring athletics are gearing up, and will also be open to the public. He urged faculty to attend and show support.

Residence Life is preparing for the Thanksgiving shutdown

COVID testing has been conducted by AMI. They have pulled out, which was not unexpected. Their spot will be taken by EMS, who will be testing three days per week: M,W, and Thursday from 7am to noon for students and from noon-2pm for faculty. They are working on a schedule for Venango.

Student Senator S. Spang noted that the wellness center is now partnered with UPMC. Students can book appointments with their phones, and at no co-pay. Hours have been expanded to 9am to 7pm during the week and 12-5 on Saturdays.

Student Senator A. Barrett noted that students have access to a hotline 24/7 for any issue; mental and physical health, as well as other concerns.

- X. For the good of the Order
M. McConnell went to EU's Faculty Senate via Zoom. She noted that they do not have standing committees and no student senate report. Senate heard reports from Dr. Dale.
- XI. Adjournment – L. Taylor moved. J. Croskey seconded. Unanimous vote of 'aye' by hitting the 'Leave' button.