

**Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
Clarion University  
11/9/20**

Faculty Senate met on November 9, 2020 via zoom. J. Knaust chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: 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, J. Phillips, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, R. Shawgo, B. Sweet, L. Taylor, J. Walsh, P. Woodburne. D. Pehrsson, P. Gent, L. Pierce, S. Spang (student senate), were also present. Additionally, a number of department chairs with CCPS proposals before Senate, and some other interested faculty were present as well.

- I. Call to Order – J. Knaust called the meeting to order at 3:30.
- II. Approval of the Minutes (10/26, 2020) A. Roberts moved, (J. Croskey seconded) minutes approved.

- III. Announcements
  - A. Council of Trustees meeting is coming up
  - B. PASSHE redesign, faculty leadership orientation document about integration is out.
  - C. Registration and scheduling is up and live and starting.

IV. President’s Report--D. Pehrsson  
Initiatives from the president-elect and vice-president-elect are quite excited. These seem quite interesting.

Middle States reviewed our assessment plan and liked it. Additionally, all other assessment plans done recently by CUP (CAPE, Paralegal, and others) were quite well received, without errors or things to revise.

The president noted how close we are to the end of the term, and to stay strong for a couple more weeks. As the provost noted earlier (D. Pehrsson was at a meeting and arrived late to Senate), the administration will send out soon a “Stay In-Stay Safe” announcement to encourage students to keep up the good work they have been doing, and to continue to stay safe and inside. We don’t want them to infect families. Approximately 40 students will remain on campus over thanksgiving/winter break.

Integration work groups and subgroup work will begin soon and continue until April.

The administration has been watching spikes in infection. CUP looks at contact tracing. It is hard to see where the main spikes are originating. The PEC reviews various metrics for our pivot decisions, like what we have facilities we have to conduct quarantining, etc. If projections get too high we do not have facilities, and will have to go online. We have 11 ½ weeks left before spring term. Approximately 500 students will remain here even if we go online during the spring. The coaching staff has worked well with our students to contain spread and not mimic the national statistics.

- V. Provost Report—P. Gent

We have had a spike in virus infections. This week we have had 7 students test positive, on top of 17 the prior week. No 'super spreader' events have been identified. The infections seem to be caused by going home, or going individually to events or locations and getting sick. CUP athletes have done, in general, a very good job at containing any spread and not getting sick, as opposed to athletes at bigger schools that have seen major spikes in infection.

The administration will send out soon a "Stay In-Stay Safe" announcement to encourage students to keep up the good work they have been doing, and to continue to stay safe and inside. The Rec Center will be closed, and the Dining Hall will be turned into take out facilities. One hop is that students will essentially 'self-quarantine' before going home for Thanksgiving break and the end of the semester.

The Chancellor's leadership orientation has gone out. He is focusing on the chance to build a new university. The three integrating in situations have been given their charges for the 14 committees/working groups. Some groups are meeting this week. Many are starting to work now. Mike Hannan, Dean at Edinboro and Pam Gent will head the group on Academic Affairs. Approximately 6 sub-groups will be needed. Some of the work needs to be done by mid-January.

Registration is starting, with numbers that seem to approximate those of prior years.

PSAC meet tomorrow to determine whether sports will be a 'go' for spring. The goal is to have fall sports start in the spring, and to have spring sports start in spring as well.

The provost's office has received no queries about alternative grading schemes, of the sort used last term. S. Spang noted she has had a couple comments about this, but it appears to not be a big concern locally.

#### VI. Student Senate – S. Spang

S. Spang noted that the Students in Need scholarship is now open. They have sufficient funds (\$6,000) for up to 100 students to get up to \$600. The application is live on the CU Connect site. The scholarship usually gets 45 applicants.

#### VII. Committee Reports.

##### A. CCPS – B. Sweet

CCPS major course proposals were discussed in 'New Business'. No other CCPS business to discuss here. Faculty are asked to submit proposals via pdf to the CCPS email account [ccps@clarion.edu](mailto:ccps@clarion.edu). Some read-ins were sent out, and are now read-in.

##### B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

No report

J. Knaust noted that the Power point that Student Affairs presented last week was sent to faculty.

##### C. CCR – A. Roberts

The administration asked that a Senator sit on the Integration task force for Faculty Affairs. M.K. McConnell put her name in. No other Senators volunteered to be appointed. E. Foster moved that M.K. McConnell be voted as the Senate representative to the committee on Faculty Affairs for the Integration work. C. Childers seconded. Motion passed.

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

No report

No report E. Budget – C. Childers

No report F Faculty Affairs – J. Walsh

No report G. Institutional Resources – L. Taylor

No report H. Venango – J. May

#### VIII. New Business

##### A. ISLAB—L. Pierce

In her Middle States report on general assessment, L. Pierce noted a couple of shortcomings related to communication of assessment reports and results. She proposes two solutions:

1. ISLAB will have two meetings per semester. The first meeting identifies all the assessments that will occur. The second meeting will review all the assessments done during the term.
2. L. Pierce will make the links to the assessment reports more available to Senate, and to faculty. She asked Senate to make the reports more broadly available and to broadcast the existence of the reports to faculty (on CUP's website under 'assessment'), and make Senate meeting schedule more available. Senate will more broadly advertise its meetings, and to more broadly disseminate minutes and other reports. For example, senate schedule (zoom url) etc will go on the weekly "Things You Should Know" email.

##### B. CCPS Major Course Proposals

Proposals 48-49, 88-89, and 125 were pulled for discussion. The remaining proposals came from CCPS with a positive recommendation, and were voted in.

Proposals 48-49 had to do with CIS/IS courses and new concentration on cyber security. Among the questions were whether CUP should create new programs or concentrations when integration is so close. The sense of the body was that CUP should behave in its best interest, and as it has done, until integration comes. Proposals passed.

Proposals 88-89 and 125 had to do with classes on anti-racism having the prefix SAS. Part of the confusion was that the classes given new prefixes before establishing the new prefix. Additionally, these are new classes, but confusion centered on if they would enter the rotation in spring '21. Experimental versions of these classes were approved and read-in last week, allowing these classes to become permanent as of spring '21. SAS stands for Student Advancement and Success, from the old Academic Enrichment department. The prefix denotes the new department. Other questions raised concerned the creation of a class that seems to fit the mold of an INQ class, when discussion will occur later today on whether to waive the requirements of the INQ classes. J. Croskey suggested that he'd be willing to offer the class in spring '21 as an INQ with a quick prefix change. J. Knaust called the question, and the proposals passed, such that the new class will be offered as an INQ in spring '21.

IX. Old Business

1) Gen Ed Manual/Report

P. Woodburne briefly reviewed the marked up version of the revised Gen Ed document. He noted that the major language changes have to do with clarifying language related to 'baccalaureate' students, or 'degree seeking' students, so that CUP does not have to subject certificate-seeking students to the same requirements as the other students. Senators will look at it over the next two weeks and will vote on it at the final meeting of the term.

2) Inquiry Seminar Requirement.

The Provost, at Policy last week, asked Senate to consider waiving the INQ requirement for freshmen entering as of Fall '21, due to lack of faculty to teach the classes. A. Roberts wrote up a memo outlining the proposal from the Provost, with a rationale. A detailed discussion ensued. The provost agreed to coordinate the acquisition of any data that we might want/need to assist any decisions senate would make, for instance, number of freshman in the 2020/2021 cohort, number who took inquiry seminar in fall 2020, number who still need inq. seminar in the spring, how many inq. seminar could we potentially offer in 2021/2022 based on projected faculty compliment etc. A discussion via email will continue this week and next, and a vote will occur at the last meeting of the term.

X. Adjournment – B. Sweet moved (E. Foster seconded). Unanimous passage.