

**Faculty Senate
Clarion University
2/18/19**

Faculty Senate met on February 18, 2019 in 250 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, L. Lillard, A. Lockwood, D. Lott, A. Love, J. Lyle, J. May, J. McCullough, J. Overly, J. Phillips, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, A. Rosati, B. Sweet, J. Walsh, P. Woodburne. R. Feroz, D. Pehrsson, P. Gent, R. Skunda were also present.

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

II. Approval of the Minutes (2/4, 2018) – E. Foster, (S. Prezzano seconded) approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Announcements

1. Council of Trustees Meeting – February 21, 7:00 PM, 108 Eagle Commons
2. Inauguration of Dr. Pehrsson, April 5

IV. President's Report-- D. Pehrsson

D. Pehrsson commented on 3 items.

CUP is now \$700,000 ahead of last year in terms of fundraising. Seems a good sign that we are connecting with alumni.

The PASSHE presidents met with the chancellor who reported his meeting with the legislature as regards the budget. She asked A. Rosati to comment, as she was also at that meeting. A. Rosati noted that the chancellor wants the various faculty senates to lead the way in the system redesign efforts. D. Pehrsson summarized the chancellor's position as being essentially that the redesign will look different at each institution, consistent with the specific missions of each. The chancellor will use an inclusive process, as with the 'systemness' initiative. The chancellor presented our needs before the Budget committee of the state legislature, where he faced tough questions, some skepticism, but support as well.

The president awaits the report of the TNI, due April 1. The goal is to post it quickly so the community can see it and respond.

The president asked faculty to come to her inauguration.

J. Lyle noted that the Tea Time held after the last Senate's full session, and that it was well attended, with good discussion. The president noted that these Tea Times will occur regularly at Moore Hall.

V. Provost Report—P. Gent

No Report. Wants to leave time for the General Education Assessment issues.

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 held Wingo last Friday. It was well attended. It was held in Eagle Commons instead of Gemmell, (due to the Military Ball) which seemed to work better, as the food was right there and did not have to be transported to Gemmell.

Provost Gent came to student senate and got good questions.

Student senate is raising funds for the Relay for Life Team by donating \$1 and being allowed to wear casual clothes to the senate meetings.

D. Pehrsson will attend the next senate meeting to discuss system redesign.

J. Lyle suggested that Faculty Senate may raise many dollars in a similar manner.

VIII. Committee Reports.

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

Read-ins have been read in. Look at the website for proposals of interest.

B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

No report.

C. CCR – J. Knaust

The election/call for Seifert Cultural Series has 3 self-nominations.

Will work on the various other elections on the slate

D. Academic Standards – J. Phillips

Had first meeting on February 15, at 3:30. Report to be made at next meeting

E. Budget – A. Roberts

No report.

F Faculty Affairs – D. Knepp

No report

G. Institutional Resources – A. Love

No report except that P. Woodburne will attend the next meeting in A. Love's stead.

H. Venango – J. May

E. Foster reported a summary of the Venango Task Force report to Venango faculty.

IX. New Business

R. Feroz reported on the Systemness initiative. On Feb 8, the chancellor addressed APSCUF. The remarks aligned with other remarks made in other venues on the topic of redesign and systemness, etc. The chancellor is committed to the SYSTEM of PASSHE. He believes that all universities play a significant role in the local/regional needs in their areas, and each has a vital role to play in the commonwealth as a whole. This is consistent with the NCHEMS report done a year or so ago. The chancellor sees each school as offering its students a way to rise in their socio-economic condition, which would be absent were the PASSHE schools not there. The chancellor said that we need to 'act boldly'. R. Feroz quoted the chancellor saying that the system has 7-10 years of life if nothing is done. The cost of not acting boldly will exact a price on the people of PA that will be unacceptably high. The chancellor said that we need to be a 'sharing system' that capitalizes on each schools strengths and works interdependently and supports each other in shared systems instead of competing with each other. A quote was that the system of universities work interdependently 'leveraging their combined scale to maximize students' access to academic programs, experiential learning opportunities, and career placement, and more'.

The chancellor's initiative has 3 stages. The first is done, the second is systemness, and the third is underway. R. Feroz noted that the devil will be in the details. He shared some specific initiatives and ideas the chancellor had. 1. Specifically, the chancellor wants to allow student access to the breadth of opportunities available across the system. For example a student at Clarion would be able to take a

similar class elsewhere, probably online, if, for example, the class is full. This may be a good idea, but, as noted, the devil is in the details. 2. The chancellor wants schools competing more as a system, against schools in other systems, instead of against PASSHE schools. 3. To coordinate outreach to underserved populations like adults, vets, corporate customers, and the like. 4. Extend programming to the sub-baccalaureate degrees and certificates in high needs areas. 5. To use evidence based tools to improve retention. 6. To organize and re-prioritize the use of system resources. 7. Foster shared accountability among stakeholders for financial performance of shared systems. This is critical if universities are to be financially interdependent. The chancellor wants to see the system with a single pot of money, as opposed to a loose confederation of schools each sinking or swimming on the whims of an educational market. The chancellor seems to believe that education is a public good, and has to be treated differently than a standard market place might. (*MY OWN ASIDE: An analogy that come to my mind is the NFL or MLB's profit sharing process where stronger teams donate to the wellbeing of smaller market teams*). 8. Use funding incentives to drive transformation to a shared system. 9. Advocate aggressively for public funding using a 'return on public investment' metric. This implies again that the chancellor sees education as a public good, where the return is better measured on social impact (raising the living standards of commonwealth citizens and expanding opportunity, etc) than on individual institution profitability.

X. Old Business

1. GEEC proposal of 11/29.

J. Phillips asked that the body move to suspend the rules whereby those speaking at a senate meeting must be asked to speak by a senator. He asked that this rule be suspended, to allow anyone to speak or to ask questions. Proposal moved and seconded, voted unanimously.

At this point P. Gent and S. Montgomery presented the basic nature of the proposal by GEEC. The proposal is to conduct assessment of the General Education program, and classes.

A bit of confusion arose by what is meant by General Education. It is both embodied in the two sides of the checksheet, and accompanying flag system, as well as by the 9 or so learning outcomes as listed by Middle States. Thus, assessment may be tricky. Broadly, GEEC noted that currently some of our flags (W and Q) have too many outcomes, which the committee has reduced to 2. Other flags, like the I flag, have no assessable learning outcomes. Other of the skills noted by Middle States, have no outcomes at all. GEEC has proposed 2 outcomes for each of these skills.

The discussion was wide ranging and no attempt is made to summarize it here.

XI. Adjournment – B. Sweet moved (S. Prezzano seconded). Unanimous passage.