

**Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
Clarion University  
3/16/20**

Faculty Senate met on March 16 2020 in 250 Gemmell. J. Lyle chaired the meeting. First meeting using Zoom. Attendance not taken.

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

II. Approval of the Minutes (1/10, 2020 and 2/24/20). M. Lepore moved, S. Boyden seconded. Approved

III. Announcements

1. Clarion has suspended face to face instruction for the duration of the semester.

IV. President's Report-- D. Pehrsson

The President was on a group phone call with the Chancellor and others. No report

V. Provost Report—P. Gent

Clarion, as noted above, Clarion, on the advice and from the direction of the Chancellor, has cancelled face to face instruction until the end of the semester. Students have been asked to leave campus. Exceptions are available for those who have nowhere else to go. Some of our students are homeless if they were to leave campus. Those, and students in similar situations, can apply for an exception and can stay in the dorms.

The Provost noted how proud and appreciative she was of the faculty, in doing a lot of work quickly, and getting into the new normal that is our campus life now.

The administration and APSCUF are working on what to do with peer and student evaluations for this term. It seems unfair to force everyone to learn this specific form of online teaching in a weekend, AND put pressure on with peer/promotion evaluations as well. Both sides expect deadlines to be extended.

Middle States accreditation is ongoing. As we have approval to have many online and hybrid courses, our move to online education will not harm accreditation results.

Several questions were raised. Regarding student refunds on room and board, etc, the university will reimburse students. The form of the reimbursement is not clear. It may be in the form of credit to upcoming tuition, except for those graduating. No firm decisions have been made. Any decision will come in the form of guidance from the State System.

No decision has been made on graduation celebrations. While we want to honor our students' achievement, exactly how is still up in the air. Again, guidance will come from the CDC and the PA Governor's office.

The Provost expects the already online summer classes to continue with minimal issues. The face to face classes may prove harder.

Regarding students doing clinicals and the like, the initial decision has been made to suspend for two weeks. As this is an essentially arbitrary deadline, and as the virus can't tell time, deadlines are likely to be extended. Locations for Nursing and Education internships are being contacted as those students need

specific numbers of hours.

Regarding the closure of non-essential businesses, it is unclear how this will impact some staff on campus. There exist clauses in various CBAs that force workers who cannot work remotely to take sick leave in situations such as this. As regards faculty, some do not have laptops and thus cannot work remotely either. There is an issue with the number and configuration of laptops that hampers them from being easily distributed across campus. The Provost expects that faculty can still come into the office, as many faculty already 'social distance' themselves by being in their offices.

As with so many of these issues, guidance will come from various state officials.

#### VI. Student Senate – R. Skunda

Ryan Skunda and Kaitlyn Krupa reported that Brianna and Tree were working on a plan for what to do in case the university shut down. That plan is being implemented. The Student Need Scholarship is ongoing. Many activities will not happen when initially scheduled. Groups continue to fund-raise, and will conduct their activities in the fall. Relay for Life will be one of the activities to occur at a later date.

#### VI. Committee Reports.

##### i. CCPS – B. Sweet

CCPS Read-Ins have been 'read in'. No objections have been received regarding any CCPS proposals. No decision has been made re: the Open Hearing, which was to be April 7. It will likely not be face to face.

##### ii. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

Most anticipated student activities have been postponed. Jerry, of Ben and Jerry's, will come back in the fall. However, the ice cream that was to be distributed is here now.

##### iii. CCR – J. Knaust

The nominating went out last week and are due back April 6. As the nominations election occur via paper ballots, questions arose about how voting will be done. Suggestions for emailed ballots runs into the issue of someone seeing the ballots. It is hard to take a 'Survey Monkey' approach because the number of names is prohibitive. Absentee nominating ballots may be the way to go. Senate Policy will meet next week and discuss what approach to take.

##### iv. Academic Standards – A. Roberts

No report

#### E. Budget – C. Childers

No report

#### F Faculty Affairs – D. Knepp

CUP has 14 retirees, as the system more than met the 200 retiree threshold. A face to face celebration of retirees is unlikely. Below is the list of CUP retirees.

##### Retirees (June 2019 thru August 2020)

1. Stephen Agyei-Mensah – 05/22/2020
2. Jerry Belloit – 01/03/2020
3. Joseph Bodzioc – 08/24/2020
4. Nancyann Falvo – 08/14/2020
5. John Heard - 8/1/2019
6. Christine Hearst – 08/14/2020
7. Ralph Leary – 01/10/2020

8. John McCullough – 08/07/2020
9. Mark Mitchell – 08/14/2020
10. Jim Rose – 08/14/2020
11. Thomas Rourke – 05/22/2020
12. Richard Sabousky – 08/14/2020
13. Jocelynn Smrekar – 08/14/2020
14. Lisa Turner – 08/12/2020

G. Institutional Resources – L. Taylor

The committee met Feb. 20, and a variety of issues were discussed. Specifically, the sawhorses in front of Becker and the leaks in the Rec Center were discussed. These will be looked at prior to the next meeting.

H. Venango – J. May

An abbreviated Forum was held last week. The new dean was not able attend, so most of the meeting was a discussion of student club activities. As is the case on Main Campus, most of these activities will occur in the fall.

VIII. New Business

Middle States

S. Boyden, A. Roberts and D. Hartley presented on the Middle States process. The accreditation process is an opportunity to tell our story. This occurs every 8 years now, instead of the previous 10 year schedule. CUP will report our self study plan next week. Assessment and other priorities align with the 7 standards and will come out of the TNI and related documents. Accreditation includes everything CUP does in a formal way, including academics, but also student affairs, orientation, etc. A great many subcommittees are working now, gathering evidence and the like. The process will begin in earnest in the fall, to be finished approximately a year after that.

Faculty are asked to check websites, links, old checksheets that are on the web, and anything else that we can check to make sure they are up to date and accurate.

IX. Old Business

No old business

J. Lyle noted that three full senate meetings remain in the semester.

J. Lyle also noted that a resolution, or perhaps something more formal, will be forthcoming recognizing the work of the LTC and IT support in our rapid transition from face to face to wholly online instruction during the corona virus crisis.

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