

**Faculty Senate
Minutes
Clarion University
9/20/21**

Faculty Senate met on September 20, 2021, in Still 206, via zoom and face to face. J. Knaust chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: S. Boyden, L. Chambers, J. Croskey, E. Foster, L. Fulton, B. Packard replacing H. Hampikian, J. Knaust, D. Knepp, M. Lepore, A. Love, J. Lyle, J. May, M. K. McConnell, N. O'Neil, J. Phillips, A. Roberts, A. Rosati, A. Shannonhouse, B. Sweet, L. Taylor, J. Walsh, P. Woodburne. P. Gent, J. Joseph (student senate), were also present.

- I. Call to Order – J. Knaust called the meeting to order at 3:30.
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - E. Foster moved, A. Love seconded. Motion passed.
- III. Announcements
 - A. Council of Trustees Meeting Thursday, September 23rd, 4:00 p.m., <https://clarion.zoom.us/j/91926431710>
 - B. Covid-19 Cases on campus are being updated at <https://www.clarion.edu/covid-19/cases/index.html>
 - C. COVID-19 Student Decision Tree at <https://www.clarion.edu/covid-19/student-decision-tree.jpg>
 - D. COVID-19 Employee Decision Tree at [COVID-employee-decision-tree.jpg \(1200×628\) \(clarion.edu\)](https://www.clarion.edu/covid-19/employee-decision-tree.jpg)
 - E. Free COVID-19 testing is available for students, faculty, and staff on Mondays and Wednesdays between noon and 2 p.m. in Eagle Commons room 107/108
 - F. Quarantine and Isolation Guidelines for Teaching (see email from P.Gent on 9/13/21)

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- IV. President's Report—D. Pehrsson
 - D. Pehrsson was absent. Combined President and Provost report given by P. Gent
- V. Provost Report—P. Gent
 - Middle States draft report finished. The final report will be due in February or March, depending on when the on-campus visit occurs.

The Substantial Change document has been submitted to Middle States on Friday.

In response to questions in the last session regarding the strictures of perhaps doing more than 20% of a face-to-face class via zoom or online, the administration will be lenient in this, recognizing that life happens and situations arise.

In terms of Integration, non-faculty staff have been notified of the general division in which they will be working come the integration. No one has been told a specific department, but this notification is to let them know that they still have a job. Vagaries of the duties, for example, of a secretary to a department chair, when that chair may be in a different physical location, are still being worked out. HR gave the administration three models, none of which seemed appropriate, so the administration is asking for additional guidance/models from HR. Details should emerge

in a couple weeks. At a later date, staff will be able to bid on open positions within the three locations.

The Baker-Tilley consultants are working on a Work-Flow analysis at each location, and will recommend a flow pattern for the integrated body.

The administration will announce the name of the new integrated institution in mid-October. The administration will ask for student input on logos, colors, etc. The mascot and colors of the three sports teams will remain as they are. The NCAA is in a holding pattern, but has dealt with these issues before.

Interviews of those interested in the Academic VP position is ongoing and should be wrapped up shortly. Four of the five applicants are deans from the three institutions, and one is a VP at one of the institutions. D. Pehrsson will make the final choice from recommendations by the committee. The plan is to hold a national search in 1 ½ years after the integrated institution is up and running.

The job descriptions for the 6 deans are being finalized.

Baker-Tilley has set up a set of times and activities that departments may do if they are so inclined, to perhaps, get to know each other better. These are suggestions only.

It has become clear that, despite all PASSHE schools having the same CBA, chair elections are not conducted the same way at each institution. This will need to be cleared up prior to the November chair election date.

In terms of Financial Sustainability, CUP has submitted our own sustainability plan, and one integrated plan. We are doing our own report with the knowledge that any actions taken will not have much impact on us individually, but on the integrated body. D. Pehrsson goes before the chancellor to present. We have a \$6.5 million deficit, due primarily to drop in enrollment. We hope to make it through this year with our reserves.

In Q&A, E. Foster asked about who to contact for groups and general faculty who are concerned about LGBTQ issues, use of language, etc in the integrated body. CUP appears the only institution to have a set policy/body concerned with this issue. This is not information and progress we want lost. Kelly Moran Rapinski is the liaison person to work with in integration. She is on the Governance Committee for Integration.

Also in Q&A, the question was asked about the identity of the Academic VP nominees. To avoid embarrassment to those who applied and were not selected for interviews, D. Pehrsson decided against naming all the applicants.

In response to a question, some students have been granted medical/disability exemptions for masks. Thus, they will give you an accommodation form, as per any accommodation for disability. These students can come to class unmasked or with a shield as delineated in the accommodation form.

Some numbers of quarantined students and active cases are on our COVID tracker on the CUP website, but the numbers are not as helpful as they could be. The administration is looking at other schools for models as to what to include: such as the number in quarantine, number of active cases, those no longer in quarantine, etc.

Enrollment management got a \$100,000 grant to assist students with one-time emergency monetary shortfalls that may inhibit their ability to continue in classes; such as not having the cash to get a car repaired, etc. This grant covers all three integrating institutions. The administration is looking into how to structure the distributions so as to be useful to students, and to be truly used for one-time need. Ewing Moussa is the coordinator.

VI. Student Senate – J. Joseph

Student senate is holding an Open/Town Hall meeting for students to discuss any issues that seem to be on students' minds. The event is likely up on CU Connect, but J. Joseph will check with Student Senate. Student senate is also holding a vaccine event and a voter registration table.

VII. Committee Reports.

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

As there is no work study student currently, B. Sweet asks that TWO hard copies be sent to his office.

The deadline for submitting Special Topics and Experimental course proposals to CCPS is **Wednesday, September 22**. This deadline must be met to ensure a timely publication of Special Topics and Experimental course offerings.

The deadline for submitting major curricular proposals is **Friday, September 24** and objections must be made by **Friday, October 15**. Proposals and objections must be delivered to the office of the chair of CCPS by 4:00 PM on the deadline date.

The Side Letter on curriculum mandates that two members of each university's curriculum committee meet as kind of interim curriculum committee, to determine what the interim Curriculum committee will look like, and how it will process curricular changes to make the initial NewU curriculum operational by Fall of 2022. B. Sweet has been in contact with his counterparts. CALU and EU seem to have much larger curricular committees than our own CCPS. The members of the interim committee have to decide on the size of the eventual body. Our hope is that it will not incorporate our entire CCPS body.

B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

- President's Leadership Academy is entering their new year and has expanded to Edinboro for Athletes and general students and also is being offered for the Student Government Association at California.
- UAB has been experiencing a rise in attendance at in person events.
- Student Conduct & Community Development celebrated Constitution Day at Clarion and Edinboro on Friday, September 17th.
- LEAD held a 9/11 event to create an American Flag out of painted hands to be donated to the Clarion Legion.
- Gemmell 148 has been fitted with Zoom equipment for student meetings and other meetings scheduled through Conference & Events.
- Student Engagement & Development hosted the first in person Activities Fair since February, 2020. The weather was great and there was a large crowd in attendance
- New Student Programs
- 468 freshmen/incoming students participated in Welcome Week activities
- 22 freshmen are currently participating in the Peer Adjustment Leader (PALs) program
- 34 families have joined the Parent & Family Association and 75 people attended the Parent 2 Parent social at last Saturday's football game against Shippensburg

- Fraternity & Sorority Life - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was officially recognized by Student Senate, 14 women have joined a sorority so far this fall
- Opened temporary store in Gemmell racquetball courts while plans for renovation of space in Gemmell proceed-New store hours are M-F 10 am - 6 pm and the new store manager was hired and started last week
- CSA and eCampus are preparing for winter intercession and spring semester textbook adoptions to begin on September 27th. Emails regarding adoption process training sessions are coming soon.

In response to questions, the staffing in the Gemmell food court seems to be an issue of inability to hire sufficient staff.

J. Joseph said that Aramark has come to Student Senate and is working on various student issues. Commons food service seems to be well used.

C. CCR – M. McConnell

Calls for various committees have gone out, and some responses have come in. The committee will wait until 9/27 before asking for any more volunteers.

D. Academic Standards – L. Chambers

All three integrating institutions have similar, but different AIP processes. It does not appear that other Senates have standing committees such as Academic Standards. Some faculty at EU are looking into their process and the committee will try to come up with a unified process.

E. Budget – A. Roberts

N/R

F. Faculty Affairs – J. Walsh

As the mentoring program is kind of moot, as there are no new faculty to mentor, the suggestion was made in the committee to try to incorporate the new DEI initiative into a mentoring program. Also, D. Dollins noted to J. Walsh that CUP has a mentoring platform, mainly to hook up students with career mentors. This platform maybe modifiable to assist with DEI issues. As many commissions and committees are working on DEI types of issues, and as many faculty are very busy right now, the decision was made to work together instead of singly on issues.

G. Institutional Resources – L Taylor

N/R

H. Venango – J. May

- Many events and student activities are occurring on campus
- Mark Conrad has accepted a new 12-month position as a Library Technician. He previously was in Career/Professional Development, and students are being referred to the main campus for these services. Career Services will continue to work with faculty to meet their class-related needs for students.
- Casey McVay is working with student clubs in attempts to get them back up and running, as they were unable to do many activities last year.
- November 11, 2021 will be the Flag for the Fallen event, with the program at 11:00 AM.
- Admissions reported that 38 students received over \$60,000 in scholarship monies for the AY21-21.
- Several grounds/maintenance improvements are currently being done to include:
 - Acoustic panels, LED lighting in gym

- Frame Hall (painting, upgrades to Chem lab, flooring/ceiling repairs)
- removing a wall to combine rooms to accommodate a larger classroom in Frame

Students are being referred to local pharmacies for COVID testing if needed.

The Venango campus is renting some of the dorm spaces to Webco to house some of their employees on a month-to-month basis.

A church is renting out part of the Rhoades center every Sunday for their services.

Funds from these two activities are paying for some of the renovations described above.

VIII. Old Business

1. Integrated Faculty Senate Working Group (A. Roberts, P. Woodburne, J. Knaust and M. McCullough)
Has not met this term.

The next move is to start on By-Laws enshrining some curricular involvement in the NewU Senate, but this will be hampered by lack of knowledge of what the NewU's version of CCPS will do.

2. Statement of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.
Committee has not met.

IX. New Business

As Senate was happening, J. Knaust got a push notice on her phone from T. Fogarty that the planned vaccine event was cancelled due to lack of registrations.

X. For the good of the Order

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

From Tim Fogarty's Office:

- *We have had reported positive cases involving students and staff. Those cases are reported via the COVID Tracker on the web site.*
- *For any positive case known close contacts are identified and contacted and advised to quarantine if appropriate.*
- *Employees who test positive for COVID or are required to quarantine or isolate due to exposure should notify their supervisor or human resources as quickly as possible. Information will be kept confidential but it is important for case tracking and contact tracing.*
- *For students, all members of the classes they have attended are notified of the possible exposure and instructions on what the students should do is provided.*
- *Each faculty member for the classes attended by the student testing positive is also notified and provided instructions on monitoring their health.*
- *The Provost's Office and Student Affairs are continuing to address issues regarding students who fail to wear a mask or fail to wear a mask properly.*