

**Faculty Senate
Clarion University**

The Faculty Senate met on Monday, October 6, 2014, in Room 246 Gemmell. J. Phillips chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: Y. Ayad, D. Clark, J. Croskey, R. Frakes, R. Leary, C. Li, D. Lott, H. Luthin, L. Occhipinti, J. O'Donnell, S. Prezzano, M. Reef, B. Register, A. Roberts, M. Robinson, A. Shannonhouse, L. Smith, B. Sweet, and L. Taylor. T. Pfannestiel, P. Gent, E. Green, R. Nowaczyk and K. Whitney were also present.

I. Call to order – J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

R. Frakes moved and D. Clark seconded a motion to approve the minutes from September 22, 2014. The minutes were approved.

III. Announcements

- The 9th annual GIS conference will be held on campus October 16-17.
- The call for proposals for PASSHE faculty development funds went out recently.

IV. President's report – K. Whitney

K. Whitney reported that she will be going to Harrisburg tomorrow to meet with the state auditor general regarding a press conference on campus safety throughout PASSHE, focusing on violence against women. She will be speaking about prevention as well as about dealing with incidents that do happen. There will also be a PASSHE board of governors meeting. K. Whitney went to Dubois last week to meet with the new chancellor there and discussed possible articulations.

R. Nowaczyk reported that ads are out for positions of the School of Education director and the associate vice president for academic affairs. Both searches are underway and planning on a mid-November review of credentials. K. Geiger has been hired as the new grants officer in a part time, grant-funded position. She will be helping with pre-award preparation, and grant and budget preparation, and will also be responsible for coordinating internal grants. D. Behrs has been hired as the interim dean of enrollment management. The provost's office will be funding a student worker position to work with the PR office on getting stories about students to local (hometown) newspapers, featuring student accomplishments such as working on research and receiving awards and scholarships. Deans are currently submitting requests for new tenure track positions, and he should know how many positions will be approved by the next Senate meeting, which will allow departments to place ads earlier than has been the case in the past. He is developing an advertisement template for faculty positions

J. Phillips asked if there was difficulty attracting a director for the School of Education based on salary issues. R. Nowaczyk replied that the salary is competitive. K. Whitney noted that the position does not come with the possibility of tenure, which may be a deterrent to some candidates. J. Phillips asked about the number of tenure track lines. R. Nowaczyk replied that he is expecting there will be more than four.

V. Student Senate Report – E. Green

Student Senate sponsored a successful Wingo night on October 3. Upcoming events include the Social Equity dinner and open houses. There will be one replacement senator due to a resignation.

VI. Committee reports

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

Proposals for major curricular proposals are posted on the webpage. The objection deadline is 10/17, and open hearings will be on 10/31 in 248 Gemmell. There are read ins. B. Sweet attended the meeting of the Council on General Education last week.

B. Student Affairs – C. Matthews – No report

C. CCR – J. Croskey

Nominations for appointments to Senate committees were distributed for a vote as new business.

D. Academic Standards – D. Clark – No report

E. Budget – M. Franchino – No report

F. Faculty Affairs – L. Taylor

Mentors are still needed for new faculty.

G. Institutional Resources – A. Roberts

The first Facilities Planning meeting is scheduled for 1023. A. Roberts asked if K. Whitney could provide an update to Senate. She replied that the new housing buildings are on budget and on schedule; one will open in the fall of 2015 and the other in 2016. The renovation of Becht will be done in July 2015 and is on budget and on schedule. The renovation to Tippin is a complex, multistage project, and planning is underway. The State System will allocate \$5 million for improvements to accessibility, which will include elevators in Stevens and Moore Hall and many smaller projects such as ramps and railings around campus.

J. Phillips asked about the plan for Moore Hall. K. Whitney replied that it is under consideration. There was a brief discussion.

Y. Ayad asked if there has been progress on the sidewalk to Reinhardt. K. Whitney replied that it is underway and the expectation is that it will be completed before winter. There was a brief discussion.

H. Venango – L. Smith – No report

VII. New Business

A. CCPS – B. Sweet

Read Ins

B. CCR – J. Croskey

A motion was made by the CCR committee to approve the list of appointments to Senate committees. A couple of errors of department names were noted, and will be corrected. The motion passed.

VIII. Old Business

A. BRIC

The president's response to the BRIC recommendations was distributed.

R. Leary noted that a number of items say that consideration is deferred for further study, and asked what the plans are for those studies. K. Whitney replied that P. Fackler will be meeting with BRIC to discuss the status of each of those items.

R. Leary asked why sabbaticals are not budgeted out of the central fund. R. Nowaczyk replied that the deans did not want it centralized. There was a brief discussion. K. Whitney said that the deans and committee can look at this further.

J. Phillips asked about the status of the "tax" on courses offered during the winter and summer sessions. K. Whitney replied that they are editing the next version of the BRIC manual now, want to ensure that it is clear and being followed, and that this issue can be discussed with the committee. J. Phillips suggested that P. Fackler and the committee could come to Senate.

B. General Education committee restructuring

J. Phillips summarized two proposals being considered by Senate and distributed draft documents. Either of these proposals requires a change to the by-laws. (1) Restructuring the membership of the Council on General Education to better correspond with current institutional structures. (2) Reconstituting the committee as a standing committee of Senate that would focus on the assessment of the general education curriculum; Senate could then appoint an ad hoc committee to consider any significant changes to the general education curriculum.

There was a discussion of both proposals. D. Lott asked if these proposals should be brought to the faculty. J. Phillips replied that faculty would be invited to come to Senate to discuss the issue.

A. Roberts made a motion, seconded by H. Luthin, to approve the recommendation to reconstitute the committee to focus on assessment.

There was a discussion of this motion. D. Lott expressed concern that appointing an ad hoc committee would be ineffective. D. Clark suggested that an ad hoc committee would be more accountable to Senate. There was a discussion of the open forums held by the current General Education committee. B. Sweet noted that any recommendations made by Senate would have to go through APSCUF. There was a brief discussion of this process. This was followed by a discussion of the process through which committee members would be selected and its relationship to other committees that work on assessment.

R. Leary made a motion, seconded by S. Prezzano, to specify that the membership of the committee would reflect the structure described in the alternative motion to change committee membership (to include at least one member from disciplines in the arts and

humanities, one member from social sciences, and one member from physical and biological sciences).

There was further discussion of the wording of this membership structure.

J.Phillips called for a vote on this motion; the motion did not pass.

D.Clark made a motion, seconded by R. Frakes, that the committee shall have at least one member from disciplines in the physical and biological sciences, one member from the social and behavioral sciences, and one member from the arts and humanities; in addition, it will be desirable to have the other three committee members represent a diversity of academic disciplines.

The motion passed.

J.Phillips summarized the proposal before Senate: that Senate will create a new standing committee with a new charge that will focus on the assessment of the general education curriculum and flags, reporting to faculty senate. Any reform of the general education curriculum would have to be done by an ad hoc committee. Curricular issues, such as the approval of courses for flags, would go through CCPS. There was additional discussion of the possible composition of an ad hoc committee and the process of getting proposals through under this proposed new structure. J.Phillips will send out this summary to all faculty and invite them to come to a future Senate meeting to discuss the proposal.

C. Reduction of standing subcommittees

J.Phillips noted that some Senate committees have noted that the subcommittee structure may need to be addressed, as there are fewer faculty and some subcommittees no longer have a clear task, since there have been other institutional changes. This will be an issue for Senate to think about since the by-laws are open.

D. Summer theater

J.Phillips asked for a status update. K.Whitney replied that there will be a summer theater program in 2015

IX. Adjournment – L. Smith moved to adjourn, seconded by B. Sweet. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Occhipinti
Faculty Senate Secretary