**Faculty Senate**

**Clarion University**

Faculty Senate met on September 26, 2016 in 246 Gemmell. J Phillips chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: Y. Ayad, C. Childers, D. Clark, J. Croskey, D. Farnsworth, E. Foster, B. Frakes, D. Knepp, R. Leary, M. Lepore, A. Lockwood, D. Lott, J. Lyle, C. Matthews, J. May, J. McCullough, K. McIntyre, J. Overly, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, L. Taylor, J. Touster, P. Woodburne. L. Chambers, T. Pfannestiel, and R. Skunda was also present.

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

II. Approval of the Minutes (September 26, 2016) – B. Frakes motioned (E. Foster seconded) approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Announcements

Provost Search Update – J. Phillips asked people on the committee if they had any updates; no one spoke. J. Phillips reminded people to check for updates from K. Whitney who he indicated sent out an email on the subject.

Harrisburg Rally – J. Phillips spoke to the rally that occurred on October 6th in Harrisburg. He indicated that there were hundreds of faculty from across the state system in attendance, including many who were able to speak during the open comments section of the Board of Governors meeting. He noted that the media was there, along with supporters from the AFL-CIO, and that it was a good experience.

GIS Conference – Y. Ayad reminded everyone that the conference is slated for 10/13-14.

Undergrad Research – S. Prezzano informed the members of the senate that research grant applications for undergrads are due today.

6th Week Attendance – J. Touster reminded folks that attendance rosters for the 6th week mark are due tonite.

Seifert Movies – K. McIntyre provided an update for movies and speakers scheduled as part of the Seifert series including the viewing of Trapped.

IV. President’s Report – T. Pfannestiel

T. Pfannestiel began by distributing hand-outs addressing Clarion, and state system, enrollment numbers. He noted that the numbers are good relative to projections and clarified that we are down 140 students not 144 as indicated on the hand-out. He highlighted the fact that first year enrollment is flat and that graduate students are up. He spoke to the point that this year’s class is the largest bachelor’s seeking cohort in years.

J. Touster asked why grad numbers are up. T. Pfannestiel pointed to increases in the education and business programs as the biggest drivers. He also noted that enrollment in nursing is up too.

T. Pfannestiel noted that FTE data is a little better. He also stated that our numbers are better relative to other schools.

He stated that Slippery Rock is up, and that we are trying to figure out if they have secrets to share. T. Pfanestiel noted that Slippery Rock’s retention is 80-81% while we are at 74%. The provost suggested that if retention is the same then we are probably doing as well as they are.

T. Pfannestiel said that it is the position of the administration that they think Clarion will see a turnaround in numbers in fall 2018 and added that it is not out of the realm of possibility for growth in the fall of 2017.

J. Phillips noted that in 03-04 (or some point around there) we required students to live in dorms as freshman, and that we now do that for sophomores as well. He was curious if data spoke to enrollment relative to those requirements. T. Pfannestiel stated that there is a discussion of how housing costs/options impact retention.

C. Childers asked if a few of the schools went to per credit pricing. T. Pfannestiel said IUP did and he thought Millersville, but that the PASSHE now has a moratorium on the policy so that there will be no additions in the short-term. C. Childers asked if we knew the impact of the decisions; T. Pfannestiel said he too would like to see data.

J. Touster said that he knows some students are unhappy with lab fees because they are not stable across programs.

J. Lyle asked if there are hard numbers of where we need/expect to be and what we cannot drop below going forward. T. Pfannestiel said that there is not such numbers.

J. Lyle asked how we factor marketing benefits into spending not directly marketing. He cited the marketing value of face-to-face summer classes as an example where maybe we accept a degree of financial loss because the long-term benefits in terms of marketing the school to prospective students was greater. T. Pfannestiel said this is something he would like to look into.

V. Student Senate – R. Skunda

R. Skunda said that Student Senate has a conference at Slippery Rock this weekend and that most of the student governments from the state system will have representation.

VI. Committee Reports.

1. CCPS – A. Roberts

A Roberts began by stating that the major deadline had passed and that all of the proposals are online. He then moved to reminding people that the objection deadline is 10/21 and that hearings will be held on 11/9. He indicated he has read-ins. R. Leary asked if there has been discussion of deadline date changes if there is a job action; it was said that dates would move as part of an agreement.

 B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

M. Lepore said the committee would meet on the 19th at 11:30.

 C. CCR – E. Foster

E. Foster brought a motion from committee to replace person on the institutional resources committee and put D. Lott on instead. The motion was passed unanimously.

E. Foster said she will send the university committee information out now that all positions are filled.

 D. Academic Standards – J. Phillips

J. Phillips said he will serve as de facto chair. He indicated that he met w P. Gent to discuss AIPs. He said he was not calling meetings yet but wants to wait til 10/19 passes.

It was asked how R Radaker’s list of names are determined because people would like to add names requiring academic assistance. C. Childers indicated that the names people received electronically are just replacements for what would have been sent on pink and yellow paper previously. (CC) – I’d like to add names to report on as need assistance

J. Lyle said that he has an advisee who has a hold on their account due an outstanding balance with the Clarion Free Library. He said he did not know how the university could have a could for a CFL obligation. A. Roberts added that he has seen a similar hold in the past. Discussion ensued about how we need to remedy and eliminate this possibility.

 E. Budget – C. Childers

C. Childers said she met with L. Cullo. At this point he is waiting for the budget to be approved at the state level.

 F. Faculty Affairs – D. Knepp

The faculty mentor dinner is scheduled for 10/25. D. Knepp said he is collecting RSVPs and appreciates the willingness of folks to sign up as mentors.

 G. Institutional Resources – A. Roberts

Facilities Planning has scheduled a meeting for 10/20. A. Roberts will be taking credit card and signing concerns to the meeting. J. Touster indicated that there is a Trump sign attached to our welcome sign out by the radio station. E. Foster said that T. Latour is interested in talking with the library subcommittee; A. Roberts said he would push them to meet.

 H. Venango – J. May

No report

VII. Old Business

1. By-Laws Status Update – J. Phillips asked if we could keep this tabled until S. Montgomery comes on the 24th; everyone agreed with this course of action.
2. Clarion Chamber Singers – J. Phillips asked if they were commended at ALF. T. Pfannestiel said yes.

VIII. New Business

1. ISLAC, Leah Chambers

L. Chambers began by noting that ISLAC voted to restructure in the spring and established an effectiveness committee as we move in efficiently meeting the standards for the Middle States self-study. She noted that our progress report is due 6/1/17.

J. Phillips asked what the focus for assessment will be. L. Chambers said it will not just be general education and noted that Sharon Montgomery will speak about assessment relative to gen ed.

J. Phillips asked how big the report needs to be; L. Chambers indicated the narrative should be 50-80 pages plus evidence.

R. Leary said he recalls that we need to report not just on general education but on all of the recs that were imposed as well as the self-recs. L. Chambers said that was correct and that some things there are done and just need reporting whereas other things still need completed.

J. Phillips indicated that social sciences had a meeting with L. Chambers and that his department had some issues with the process and meta-reviews. He said there was a general question about the negative implications of meta-reviews and wondered why we use a meta-review process in the 1st place (he suggest that meta-review is hard, not sure people are qualified to do it, not sure of the purpose) and said there may be a need to consider a different approach. R. Leary asked what J. Phillips meant by “meta-review.” J. Phillips said that “meta-review” is just his characterization of assessing assessment. L. Chambers spoke to the matter indicating that ISLAC is asking people to assess one outcome associated with each program, submit data to an online platform and then have summary teams of three people score those reports based on a standard methodology. She added that the point is to not only meet accreditation requirements but to improve the school. R. Leary asked if it would be possible that an English professor evaluated work from Chemistry; L. Chambers said yes. J. Phillips said there is a question about the value of expertise and said he fears people will project one’s own discipline onto others. S. Prezzano suggested that the in the status quo the question of commonality is forced into being superficial (for example, did you use action verbs) which means it is not very helpful. J. Phillips added that it’s also a cold process where it is hard to get people to see the point. He said that ISLAC needs to be active and see people to ensure they understand assessment and how actions fit it. P. Woodburne said he agrees with lots of this commentary but added that he thinks the goal is to get at are we doing versus what we say we are doing. J. Phillips agreed that everyone can do better programmatically. P. Woodburne said though that there is value in having people outside the department look and see if we what people are doing is good. J. Phillips agreed but stated that there needs to be dialogue to ensure that people are on the same page. S. Prezzano said that the status quo also assumes that all people look at things the same way regarding assessment as they translate jargon. E. Foster asked if development of a collaboratively developed rubric may be what people are shooting for? L. Chambers said it is her job to support the process and aim to improve it. She suggested that they (ISLAC) are trying to improve the rubric and guides and ensure people have the tools to succeed. She stated that she did see value in some level of common criteria for evaluation. J. Phillips said he appreciates that and thanks her for taking all of this into consideration.

1. CCR – see above
2. CCPS read-ins – A. Roberts made read-ins.
3. GEEC – Sharon Montgomery is coming on the 24th.

IX. Adjournment – J. Croskey moved (B. Frakes seconded). Unanimous passage.