**Faculty Senate**

**Clarion University**

Faculty Senate met on November 7, 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, J. May, J. McCullough, K. McIntyre, J. Overly, S. Prezzano, A. Roberts, L. Taylor, J. Touster, P. Woodburne. P. Gent, T. Pfannestiel, R. Skunda, B. Smith, and K. Whitney was also present.

I. Call to Order – J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:29

II. Approval of the Minutes (October 10, 2016) – B. Frakes motioned (A. Roberts seconded) approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Announcements

Social Equity Week – Multiple people noted that it was Social Equity week and identified several speakers that would be on campus.

English Club Book/Bake Sale – E. Foster noted that it would occur on Wednesday on the 1st floor of Davis.

Chirac – R. Leary alerted people to the showing of the film in the Suites on Main theatre and added that he would be speaking at the showing.

Provost Search Update – J. Phillips indicated that there will be search related business in new business. E. Foster said that if you go to the website and review the timeline it is clear that the committee is progressing on schedule; she added that the committee met last week and would be meeting next week. E. Foster noted that the committee was beginning to identify candidates.

IV. President’s Report – K. Whitney/T. Pfannestiel/P. Gent

K. Whitney began by indicating that she wished to make some remarks and asked people to know that the remarks were based on serious reflection. She said that she has been attending Senate for the last six years until now in spite of the fact that most PASSHE presidents do not. She said that she has met with the chairs of Senate over the years and attempted to work with the body over that period of time. Despite this, she said she does not feel welcome, that she is treated with contempt, and that she feels like some people ridicule her and the administration when given the opportunity. She said she has tried to rise above the petty politics but given this, and in particular the actions of the current chair, she is calling for a change given the intent to create a hostile working environment that inhibits her ability to contribute to shared civility. She noted that the university signed a commitment to reject bullying and that she is responsible for setting a tone on that front. K. Whitney asked for a restoration of decorum and order and called on the Senate to exemplify the best in terms of civility. She said that when this happens she would return to shared governance. She said these words were hard to speak but that she felt silence was agreement. K. Whitney then indicated that she moved the remainder of her time to T. Pfannestiel and took her leave.

T. Pfannestiel asked if people wanted to move to a discussion of Q-Flags and turned the floor over to P. Gent as she was handing out a pair of documents to the body. T. Pfannestiel noted that the hand-outs were based on work conducted over the summer.

P. Gent asked if everyone had received a copy of the thicker document. She then noted that last spring she got together with folks who teach Q-flag courses to do assessment of those courses. They assessed both at the faculty and student level. She said what was clear was that no one really knew what occurred in Q-flag courses in terms of outcomes (she said this was true with both faculty and students). This led to an effort to propose new Q-flag outcomes; P. Gent was therefore recommending new outcomes.

T. Pfannestiel said that given the lack of a General Education Council he knows we need an ad hoc solution for now to bring this recommendation to Senate. He said he knows this ties into old business relating to the GEEC; he wants to develop a permanent pathway for curricular reform.

J. Phillips asked A. Roberts if he wanted the Q-Flag proposal to come to CCPS or go thru an ad hoc solution. A. Roberts indicated that he was fine with the recommendations, presuming they are final, being sent to CCPS. P. Woodburne then motioned, with J. Croskey seconding, that the recommendations be sent to CCPS. J. Phillips then asked folks if they wished to discuss the motion.

D. Lott indicated that the was not sure how to quantify the desired outcomes and asked if that is all that they would be based on. P. Gent said that the outcomes are not quantified now and noted that they did not do that here. T. Pfannestiel said he was not sure the outcomes were quantifiable. D. Lott then asked how much math is key in the proposed outcomes. T. Pfannestiel then said that he did not want to get ahead of Senate’s role and added that he hates to say it’s more of an art than science but the idea would be that the committee thru the Senate would make that determination. He said he would not presume to make that recommendation here.

A Roberts noted that currently there is a form to apply for flag status and suggested that there would need to be changes to that form.

J. Touster asked would this impact current Q-flag status. T. Pfannestiel said he would trust the committee on this but that he would have a suggestion to grandfather in current courses. T. Pfannestiel then added that all of them would go thru a regular assessment cycle.

D. Clark asked if the one page of recommendations goes to CCPS or both documents and then asked if it wasn’t true that the pending by-law changes would have created a mechanism to solve the process issues. R. Leary noted that it should be pointed out that the recommendations would have to go to CCPS at some point even if they didn’t go to CCPS now. J. Phillips added that this action doesn’t create a precedent against use of an ad hoc committee in the future.

R. Leary then posed a question for P. Gent. He said he was not sure of the context for the change (current course didn’t meet outcomes, they interpret them differently, etc). P. Gent said that context was the need to show that we are doing assessment. She added that we brought people together, did an indirect assessment, and the result was that everyone didn’t know what the specific outcomes looked like. She noted that the documents show similar responses to all of the questions. The results show that people has thoughtful responses but that they weren’t sure of what was occurring. She said the conclusion was that simplification of the outcomes was necessary. R. Leary asked if it was possible that people were learning now but doing a bad job of describing that learning; P. Gent said that could be the case.

C. Childers noted that we’ve already been asked to assess these outcomes even though they are not approved. T. Pfannestiel conceded that timing could be better.

J. Phillips then called for a vote on the motion. It passed with unanimous approval. J. Phillips said he appreciates CCPS taking a look at the recommendations.

R. Leary said he feels the need to address the president’s comments from earlier in the meeting. He said that he does not think anyone at this table has been here, or on Senate, as long as him. He remarked that he has been here with three different presidents and that what K. Whitney has decided to do is absolutely unprecedented at this university. R. Leary said that while it has been true that there had been meetings in the past when the president couldn’t come but D. Reinhart and J. Grunenwald didn’t shirk their responsibility. He said that he can assure everyone that difficult questions have always been asked and answered. He said that yes we argued between Senate and the presidents but always developed answers and respect for one another. R. Leary said that K. Whitney has addressed the notion of civility and bullying before and added that he voted against those proposals because he feared that they can be used in a power grid. R. Leary said he has not seen bullying, and that he is not sure anything was outside civility. He said that refusing to participate because one doesn’t like the way they are treated is not definitionally sufficient. R. Leary said he is upset and disheartened by what he has seen and heard here today.

J. Phillips then moved to the subject of the resolution to the students. He said that he sent it to the Announce listserv and it was denied. He said that the resolution has now been posted by the Clarion Call. T. Pfannestiel said that he appreciates that J. Phillips has asked for clarification regarding why the resolution was not approved for dissemination. He said that the university recognizes the right of Faculty Senate to pass resolutions, and added that many have published in the past. In this instance however there was concern that the resolution implicated the CBA in a way that took a side where publishing the document put university within the position of APSCUF. He added that he thought it was fine to publish the resolution. elsewhere

J. Lyle asked if this is this unique to CBA-related communication. J. Lyle asked a resolution thanking the administration for securing funding for Clarion against other parts of the PASSHE and/or interests of parts of the Board of Governors would be rejected as well. T. Pfannestiel said he would not engage in hypotheticals but said that the issue was unique to the CBA.

J. May said that she thought that the university sent emails to students during and after the strike that that took a side for the state system. She said that if it is wrong to post the Senate resolution then there should be retractions regarding those posts as well. J. Phillips agreed that the texts alerts, the reactivation of D2L, and so forth look like the university using communication technology to advance its own positions.

J. Phillips said his question is whether a Faculty Senate resolution on a vote of no confidence in the president would be allowed. D. Knepp said that this is not a CBA issue.

T. Pfannestiel asked if the goal of the resolution was for the students to know how Senate felt. He said that the place to disseminate that would be the student announce listservs (s\_all-l & s\_announce). Members of the Senate indicated that they did not know that the announce listserv did not go to the students.

C. Childers then thanked the administration for their efforts to get people a full paycheck. L. Taylor added that she didn’t get a full check. T. Pfannestiel said that faculty had until 11/4 to submit a request for recovery and that because of the nature of paychecks if the school had that request in by a certain time then people got paid in full. If not, but if the documents were in by the 4th, then they will be paid in full for next pay period.

J. Touster asked for a need to try and find way to lose the thanksgiving week because it is increasingly hard to get students to show up. He added that he thinks this is more important than strike time issues in terms of lost days. T. Pfannestiel said that folks are having discussions right now on this subject.

J. Phillips thanks T. Pfannestiel and P. Gent for their time.

V. Student Senate – R. Skunda

R. Skunda reminded people about the Social Equity Dinner on Wednesday. He also stated that members of the Senate were conducting a fundraiser selling Yankee Candles until next Wednesday. P. Woodburne asked where the sale was occurring; R. Skunda indicated that individual student senators were selling the candles.

VI. Committee Reports.

1. CCPS – A. Roberts

A Roberts reminded people that the open hearings would occur Wednesday at 2PM.

B. Student Affairs – M. Lepore

M. Lepore said the committee met. He added that S. Fenske and S. Hoke attended. He said that Who’s Who information is coming but it got held up due to a server issue. He indicated that there were a few Who’s Who applications in but that they may need to be a way to revisit how this occurs. He said that S. Fenske and M. Shaffer planned on coming to Senate on the 20th to discuss Title IX.

C. CCR – E. Foster

No report

D. Academic Standards – J. Phillips

No report

E. Budget – C. Childers

No report

F. Faculty Affairs – D. Knepp

The faculty mentor dinner occurred. D. Knepp noted that there were seven mentors. He thanked the speakers for speaking.

G. Institutional Resources – A. Roberts

Facilities Planning meets this Thursday.

H. Venango – J. May

J. May had no report but used the time to implore people to take note of events at Venango and to encourage attendance at those events. She identified a recent music event featuring a great soul singer that failed to attract more than 20 people and remarked that this was a shame. E. Foster seconded the request and noted that there is a publicity issue because things end up on a Venango-only listserv. D. Lott added Venango events seem to be hit or miss as the prior event was well attended.

VII. Old Business

1. By-Laws Status Update – Remains tabled.
2. Resolution Thanking Students – See above.

VIII. New Business

1. CCPS Read-ins – Read-in.
2. CCR – J. Phillips and E. Foster discussed the status of the provost search committee, which was assembled in the spring. It was noted that M. Brigida was not attending the meetings and that the search committee and CCR was recommending his removal from the committee. J. Phillips indicated that he may need to send a sharply-worded email to M. Brigida on the subject. E. Foster said that CCR recommends M. Lepore as a replacement. R. Leary asked if this action required presidential approval. J. Phillips noted that she would be notified and could veto it but felt that was unlikely. A. Roberts asked if we need to vote to remove M. Brigida. E. Foster said that she thinks he has been removed from the committee. Senate voted unanimously to approve the appointment of M. Lepore.
3. Board of Governor’s General Education Policy – J. Phillips noted that he included a copy of the document in the packet of information for people to review as this is likely to be a subject in the future.

IX. Adjournment – B. Frakes moved (R. Leary seconded). Unanimous passage.