

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 11, 2023

University Center 260 and Microsoft Teams

11:15am to 1pm

Attendees: J Celeste Walley-Jean, Erin Nagel, Antoinette Miller, Eugene Ngezem, Adam Kubik, Michael Lindsay, Pinar Gurkas, Samuel Maddox, Adam Tate, Ade Thompson, Alexander Hall, Allie Reece, Aloysius Amin, Amber Bradberry, Amirrah Beeks, Amy Black, Andrea Jacques, Angela Hollis, Anna King, Anthony Hannah, Anthony Stinson, Antoinett France-Harris, Antwan Aiken, Ashlee Spearman, Ashley Washington, Aubrey, Dyer, Barbara Hennie, Bennett Nworie, Billie, May, Brandi Werther, Brenda Carr, Branna Vick, Bridgette McDonald, Brigitte Byrd, Byron Jeff, Carol White, Carolyn Walcott, Cassandra Parker, Ceimone Henderson-Strickland, Cephas Archie, Charles Henderson, Charlies Harris, Chen-Miao Lin, Chizara Jones, Christie Burton, Christina Grange, Christopher Stotelmyer, Comfort Obi, Connor Wright, Craig Hill, Crystal Marchant, David Brown, David Gilbert, David Greenebaum, David Pena, David Plaxco, David Williams, Deborah Davis, Deborah Deckner Davis, Denise Allen, Dennis Attick, Dennis Miller, Derrick Vanmeter, Devon Ellis-Grant, Diane Day, Dmitriy Beznosko, Don Stansberry, Dwayne Hooks, Ebrahim Khosravi, Eckart Werther, Elicia Collins Elizabeth Taylor, Elizabeth Tillman, Elliot Krop, Elnora Farmer, Emanuel Abston, Emily Suber, Eric Bridges, Eric McBeth, Erica Dotson, Erica Gannon, Evylyn Blanch-Payne, Everette Sullivan, Everod Davis, Feechi Hall, Fredrick Bloom, George Nakos, Hae Ryong Chung, Heather Hutton, Jada Mitchell, Jamal El-Amin, James Pete, Jason Davis, Jelinda Spotorno, Jennifer Harris, Here Boudell, Jesse Zinn, Jessica Conrad, Jillian Morgan, Joe Johnson, Joey Helton, John Meyers, John Phelps, Jonathan Harris, Joshua Meddaugh, Justin Spurley, Kamran Moghaddam, Kate Cotter-Reilly, Keira Davis, Keith Driscoll, Keith Miller, Kelli Nipper, Ken Nguyen, Kenja McCray, Kevin Demmit, Khamis Bilbeisi, Kimberley Campbell, Kimberly Campbell, Kirill Sheynerman, Kitty Deering, Kristina Graves, LaKeisha Levy, LaSonia Espino, Larry Menter, Latasha Adams, Latoya Devezin, Lila Roberts, Linda Hain, Louis Orchard, Louisa Catalano, Marica Bouyea-Hamlet, Marica Butler, Margaret Thompson, Mario Norman, Marko Maunula, Marla Cineas, Mary Lamb, Matthew Carter, Matthew Sansbury, Matthew Smith, Matthieu Clave, Md Rokonuzzaman, Melanie Poudevigne, Mesa Davis, Michael Dalmat, Michelle Furlong, Michelle Nelson, Monay Sanders, Muhammad Rahman, Naquilla Thomas, Narem Reddy, Nasser Momayezi, Nayab Hakim, Nichelle Gause, Nick Henry, Pamela Gordon, Patricia Smith, Patrick Coleman, Paul Melvin, Rebecca Gmeiner, Rebecca Morgan, Regnilad Porter, Reza Kheirandish, Richard Bell, Robert Vaughn, Ronda Hughes-Oguagha, Rosann O'Neill, Salvatore Lucido, Sandra Pisen, Sanjay Lal, Shannon Cochran, Shannon Montgomery, Sharon White, Sharrell Porter, Shontelle Thrash, Shuju Bai, Sonya Gaither, Stacey Houghton, Stacey Reynolds, Stephanie Bennett-Walker, Steven Anderson, Taralyn Keese, Tashira Jones, Terence Malloy, Terri Summers, Terry Applyberry, Todd Janke, Tuni Acosta, Ursula Gordon, Victoria Foster, William Hill, Xueyu Cheng, Kimberly McLeod, Georj Lewis

1. **Introduction of senators** –Online and in person.
2. **Approval of minutes**—for 11/13 and 11/27. Approved.

3. Remarks and Q & A, Dr. Georj Lewis, President of Clayton State University:

Cabinet's task to figure out these 4 areas because they are foundational. He has had a meeting and will meet again tomorrow about that. University town hall 12/14 at noon in UC 272 in person with a Teams option to participate (can use chat, but not talk/interact). At that we will be talking about what we've done and what's coming. Spring enrollment is at 5,012 (up a few percentage points). It is early, but we are moving in the right direction. There is a big group working on enrollment. Banner—old banner retires on 12/16 and new banner starts. Just a reminder. Last Thursday had a meeting with Senator Ossoff and his staff and several local leaders: Delta, GA power, Southern Regional, all talking about work force development and how we can work together. What comes out of this meeting depends on us following up, but it was a great event.

Thank you to everyone who was here in-person and online for the 415-ish students that crossed the stage this past weekend. Thank you for what you do for our students. It's really special to be able to be president and participate in the graduations as such. Academic career pathways, student success and social mobility <and 2 others> We have to own whatever we put down, whatever we decide on.

4. Remarks and Q& A, Dr. Kimberly McLeod, Provost, and Vice President of Academic Affairs:

It felt so good to watch those students walk across that stage, but their families were electrified—thank you for what you do for our students!

This has been a very busy season.

She went to a SACS conference, met the SACS VP and put together 2 aggressive timelines to get everything completed. One date in December and one January 5, 2024. Everyone keeps talking about “ya’ll” working on stuff, but they haven’t defined the “ya’ll” to get these things done. It’s important to know who the “ya’ll” is throughout the process. Communicating expectations for the visit, etc is key. The VP of SACS is willing to work with us and she is willing to come on campus and walk through with us and review the official materials before we submit them—that doesn’t happen to everyone. Dr. Williams and Dr. Bridges are co-leads to organize from each college the flexibility of the core classes and where those credits go. How many apples go into a bucket?

Dr. Williams—11/10 the provost charged us with figuring out the size of the buckets. We have historical information and BOR direction for the future and what they want. The committee includes a student rep. Nobody got 100% of what they wanted, so it’s hopefully a good compromise. There was energetic discussion during the committee meeting, but in the end all of these amounts were voted on unanimously. New core is about getting things done AND flexibility. We want our students to achieve understanding, but also measurable skills towards high paying careers. Soft launch is the spring.

Dr. McLeod—thank you for your work and thank the committee from me. We have been talking a lot about flexibility. This was a faculty led committee with the SGA president. The president and I have reviewed the comments and will go through to approve these decisions.

There is still an opportunity to add new courses by January 18th.

When will we find out about our submission to the board—no indication of when we would hear from them but will ask.

Dr. Walley-Jean just mentioned evaluating current courses. A faculty committee is reviewing the existing core classes to make sure core classes are still core ok. The deadline is 12/22. 74 courses need to be reviewed. There are 2 faculty looking at each course--looking at the syllabi. The system office will let us know what “career competency” should look like, so we’re not evaluating that at the moment.

We have currently received all of the tenure and promotion portfolios and will be looking at those to send recommendations to the president.

COB & Health pinning ceremonies were amazing, so please keep celebrating our students.

Audit with minors—results back: there are some areas that we’re going to have to address.

Semester credit hour production: success from Next Wave—added nearly 3,000 financial credit hours because of that. So, we’d like to expand it since it worked so well. Asking the deans to think of 10 classes that could promote enrollment and give me recommendations.

We want to increase our credit hour production. The things that are looked at are enrollment, but also credit hour production—and we’re trying to increase both. Credit hour production increases the money we have to do what we need to do. We are doing a survey to make sure we know the type of students that did Next Wave and make sure we are targeting those kinds of students for Next Waves going forward.

This will also help our students to get closer to graduation.

Some parts of applying to CSU is confusing and hopefully we can make some choices to make things go more smoothly. If it was confusing for someone who has several degrees, it will be 10 times more so for students who might be the first in their family to go through this process.

Will share with Dr. Spearman. Could CELT help us make videos to help walk students through that? Maybe include the links to the videos in enrollment material?

Dual enrollment application here was not as clear as some other institutions. There was a video to help, but further guidance was still needed for students to understand the process.

Feedback will really help us fix these things because we are still fairly new here—haven’t been here long.

SGA president Laz has been very involved, and we had lots of community leaders over the weekend. These voices are heard more than just at the president and provost. Creating relationships with the community has been thriving. We need to keep reaching out and connecting. These are important to the strategic plan and moving forward. Students have access to community and community will have access to the amazing students we have.

Took a student to a national conference. Jazmine Harris went to New Orleans for a national conference. How can we create more study away/abroad for students to study

outside of their culture/community.

5. Sub-committee reports, as needed.

a. University Curriculum Committee

No reports. Nothing new to report. Next meeting is January 26th.

b. Academic Policy Committee

Calendar Recommendations: Looked at different university calendars. We have the highest number of days without breaks. Looked at alignment with school districts' fall breaks. The recommendations are: to remove fall break and make Thanksgiving one week.

Concerns about dual enrollment students having a fall break in HS, but no fall break with us. Hoping that students won't check out for Thanksgiving, and not check back in until January.

USG is not consistent with how many days should be in a semester. Is there a way to check and see how these breaks negatively affect students?

Fall usually has 5 days off, but they were scheduled differently at every institution.

Have we considered a later start date? So, that there is a full week of classes after Thanksgiving, so students won't be completely checked out.

Attendance is usually very low on the days during the Thanksgiving break week.

Students often miss assignments because it's an oddly shorter week. Since students already aren't attending, we thought why not make it a break?

Usually spring and fall break happen after midterm. Would it not still be good to keep a little small break after the midterm since we're all so busy and burned out.

This Thanksgiving was early and so we had a week of classes afterwards. During COVID students had the break to study for exams and that worked well.

Maybe look at some older calendars where there were more instructional days after the Thanksgiving break.

Talk of implementing a reading day? Reading week was a thing that was appreciated back in the day.

COB Graduate calendar requests graduate calendar gets broken down into 3 terms instead of 2 (3 short sessions per semester). Semester must end the same day as classes end so it wouldn't affect financial aid.

Can new students start in each session? Are we suggesting a third enrollment period? Yes, we are looking at adding an extra intake in both the fall and the spring. If approved, we'll have to create the infrastructure, etc. to make it work.

Will the new banner support grade entry for this? It's been discussed, but we haven't figured out how to do it yet. But we just need to figure out that how.

Fall break—is helpful for students and instructors who are teaching/learning in short terms.

Have we considered starting on a Wednesday instead of a Saturday?

Our summer schedule is much longer than other institutions have we considered working with that? Want to create a think tank to create something more agile

to student needs in the summer.

The COB's schedule is innovative. If successful, maybe this is something we can learn from. Out of the box thinking is ok. Calculated risks that will further the institution are important for us to explore and consider helping us grow in relevancy and outcomes.

The committee will be meeting again this week.

We have had many conversations about dates and calendars, etc. but dates and deadlines out of our control need to be considered as we have these conversations and make these decisions.

c. **Faculty Affairs Committee**

Hosted a live demo of SEI technology and collected survey responses from those who attended and/or later viewed the presentation. Hoping to have this for spring semester.

Recording of demo is in Teams, etc. so that faculty can access it.

d. **Student Affairs Committee**

No updates. Will resume again in Jan.

6. **Old business, as needed.**—Faculty frustrated with access to Qualtrics. Can we get this expedited and fixed? Dr.Pete will be contacted about that.

7. **Adjourn**—12:24pm