Faculty Senate Meeting held via MS Teams

Mar-15-2021, Started at 11:01am ET.

Senators in attendance: Adam Kubik, Anthony Stinson, Augustine Ayuk, Brian Hunt, Byron Jeff, David Williams (Chair), Deborah Gritzmacher, Erin Nagel, Eugene Ngezem, Gail Barnes, Jelani Favors, Kendolyn Smith (Vice Chair), Larry Menter (Secretary), Mario Norman, Mark Watson, Meribeth Stegall, Rebecca Morgan, Robert Pfeiffer and Scott Bailey

Non-Senators in attendance: Tim Hynes (President), Kevin Demmitt (Provost), Antoinette Miller, Carol White, Christopher Kodani, Eric Bridges, Heather Ruggiero, Joie Hain, Mary Lamb, and Melanie Poudevigne

* Proposed Agenda – No objection to agenda as proposed.
* Approval of Minutes from Mar-01-2021 – Motion to Approve, Seconded, and passed by unanimous vote.
* President’s Report – Attached in Files in MS Teams
  + “Joy as always to join you today”
  + Omitted in Report – Resolution from last meeting on Tenure Track Promotions – President will review and favorably respond. Thanks to Faculty Senate for their thoughtfulness.
  + COVD-19 Vaccine – See the website for additional info – <https://www.clayton.edu/coronavirus/>
  + Stimulus checks for students – Some happy students - Money from December legislation. There may be more under the recently passed American Rescue Plan.
  + Commencement, Spring 2021 plans continue to evolve. Looking at doing it outdoors with social distancing. Faculty may be less involved.
  + Interim Provost Search – Delays caused by need for formal approval from the BoR.
  + Q’s:
    - Details of Revenue Losses from last year – he’ll share links to the material with Senate. Financial concerns – bondholders for property – ok? We are up to date on bond payments. Activities with Foundation to possibly refinance bonds to save $6-7 million over life of the bonds. Finances are in good shape. Sixty percent of last year’s 10% cut has been restored.
    - Graduates – add last year’s? There will be invitations. Waiting on details of commencement.
    - Discussion about the displeasure of full- and part-time faculty to pay for faculty parking when not on campus. Mentioned was the recent email about pay deductions regardless of signing up. Acknowledged could be handled a little better. President asked for written response to forward to Chief Long.
    - Anyone else? No Further Q’s!
  + Provost’s Report (Dr. Jill Lane reporting for Dr. Demmitt) -
* Associate Provost Report:
* Fall Scheduling – Registering starting.
* Meeting with Chancellor on Fall Plans – 35% of schedule fully online, 65% on campus classes and labs. The remainder is internships.
* 7-10 years Comprehensive Program Review – Still waiting to find out what will happen from the Board of Regents.
* Digital Teaching – Quality Matters with CS spin. Digital Teaching Certificate program is being developed. Seeing what standards are and what we need.
* Qs:
* Scholarship of learning – online learning – is there a difference between online asynchronous or synchronous delivery? Limited research per Associate Provost. More to come out. We don’t know what our faculty are doing sync v async. Already trying to get work done. We need to look at. Survey later over summer and into fall. Wait to see how schedules are coming out.
* No other Qs
  + Standing Committee Reports
* APC – Report by Committee Chair Ken Nguyen. Review three options for fall break: No break, 1-day or 2-day fall break. Option with 1 day fall break got the most votes of the Committee. Issue is parity for Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday class schedules if fall break is on a Monday only. The other issue is when finals would fall before or after Thanksgiving. Discussion ensued of the days with the options.
  + Question is whether we adopt Option 3 (one-day break) as recommended by the committee. Vote was called in chat. Motion was defeated.
  + Discussion continued about Option 1 (no fall break) and when this would have classes ending and finals starting.
  + Motion made to postpone this decision till next Senate meeting on April 5th. Issue was raised on the urgency for decision. There was no second so the Motion fails.
  + Motion made to go with Option 1 (No Fall Break), seconded and passed by majority vote.
  + FAC – Update by Senator Larry Menter. Nothing Further to report since the last meeting.
  + SAC – Update by Chris Kodani – getting ready for revisions to handbook. Waiting to start.
  + UCC – Update by Associate Provost Jill Lane as ex-officio – to be meeting on Friday – Curriculum changes will be presented in the next meeting.
  + Discussion
* Any further topics to discuss? None raised.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 12:01pm.

Minutes Recorded by Larry Menter, Secretary