

Clayton State University – Faculty Senate Minutes
Monday November 19, 2012 (11:00 am-12:15 pm)
University Center Board Room UC260

Members Present: Scott Butterfield, Jennell Charles, Randall Gooden, Todd Janke, Jim Keebler, Kathryn Kemp, Barbara Musolf, Erin Nagel, Ken Nguyen, Katherine Ott, Muhammad Rahman, Terri Summers, J. Celeste Walley-Jean, Ximena Zornosa

Non-Members Present: Tim Hynes, Mark May, Susan McFarlane-Alvares, Antoinette Miller, Lila Roberts, Robert Vaughn

Meeting Called to Order: 11:08

- ✓ Senate members finalized a discussion of a new meeting time for spring semester. It was voted to move to 2nd and 4th Mondays, 11-12:15.
- ✓ **Approval of Minutes**
 - The minutes from the November 5, 2012 meeting were accepted and approved.
- ✓ **President's Report**
 - President Hynes provided the following link to the IT Strategic Planning Report: <http://www.clayton.edu/Portals/1/president/IT-Strategic-Plan-Phase2-Final-Report.pdf>. President Hynes indicated that he would be sending out a general campus missive driving people to the site. He highlighted that the most important piece of the document is the recommendation and likely acceptance of the development of an IT Council charged with helping us discover how we can best use technology and make investments in beneficial ways to support our core mission of learning. This council will meet periodically to discuss and inform the campus community of potential beneficial technology. As an example of how a council such as this can help the campus community, President Hynes estimated that we've saved one-third to a half of a million dollars each year because of not having standing computer laboratories. Finally, President Hynes indicated that some of the membership of the council may in part come from Faculty Senate.
 - President Hynes encouraged members of the senate and our colleagues to support the efforts of Drs. Jill Land and Antoinette Miller, who head the SACS work for compliance, as well as for the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).
 - President Hynes provided the following link (<http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/remarks-us-secretary-education-arne-duncan-time-higher-education-summit>) to a report by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan at a TIME summit on Education. He noted that the report emphasizes a growing consensus of points of concern from the outside world of what we do in higher education. He stated that the report is a quick read that is a reflection of what many decision-makers, including those at Clayton State, are thinking about. He stated that the report helps to frame our own efforts at Clayton State. He encourages all of us to visit the site and read the report.
 - President Hynes announced that he will be chairing a USG committee charged with developing strategies for transition of the State Archives from the Department of State to the University System of Georgia. He indicated that he

will keep the campus posted on the progress of these efforts that he hopes to draw on the valuable resources in our library staff and Professor Pierce-Moses to aid in this effort. Dr. Keebler inquired if President Hynes thinks the Archives will become part of Clayton State University. President Hynes responded that having an additional annual payment for the building does not seem prudent, especially given the specialized building specs (e.g., climate-controlled floors).

- Dr. Keebler also asked whether the Science building is still in on-deck status. President Hynes responded that either he or Jim Flowers has met with numerous entities and has received cautiously positive responses. He also reported that the Chancellor supports it, which is a good sign.
- Finally, President Hynes thanked the senate and announced that senators will be receiving an invitation for a gathering on December 13th.

✓ **Provost's Report**

- Due to a doctor's appointment, Provost Crafton was not present to make a report at today's meeting. Dr. Vaughn joined the meeting at noon after teaching his class.

✓ **Returning Business**

✓ SEI recommendations for student evaluations

- Dr. Keebler recapped that he introduced the SEI's recommendations to the Senate and discussed the recommendations with the SAC and most recently the FAC. Dr. Keebler also indicated that he has agreed to talk with the SAC at their next meeting. He reiterated that the SEI provided a lot of good recommendations, including reducing the number of questions and the evaluation to one document. He voiced, however, that questions remain about the purpose of the instrument, what questions should be asked, and how it will be shared. He would like ask departments if there are additional questions that could be included and then re-involve the SAC and FAC. He emphasized that the senate appreciates the SEI's work. Dr. Musolf commented that we need to know what is technologically possible. Dr. Keebler agreed that Jill Lane will need to be consulted on how best to implement the new instrumentation. Dr. Musolf also suggested that making data available to faculty without going through the Department Chair would be a valued addition. Dr. Keebler questioned whether we would want the information to be available to students and the public. Dr. Kemp responded that because there are still questions about the reliability of student evaluations she would object to having them publicized. President Hynes commented that there is a really good body of evidence that cumulatively student evaluations are valuable for providing evidence for how faculty are performing. He urged the senate to continue the discussion with colleagues of how these instruments can be used to inform us about student learning. He encouraged departments to be constantly vigilant in helping the information be used for improvement and feedback. Dr. Keebler added that he is also invested in widespread involvement to get agreement on the construction and usefulness of the student evaluation instrument.

✓ APC recommendations for Academic Calendar

- ✓ Scott Butterfield reported that additional faculty concerns were raised similar to Dr. Zornosa's around what these recommended changes will mean for classes that

meet on Thursday/Friday only. He indicated that he needs to meet with the Calendar Committee again and he will report back to the senate in January. Dr. Musolf asked if there were also specific questions about the recommended changes to the summer schedule. Dr. Butterfield responded that the only thing remaining is the facilities question raised by Dr. Williams.

- ✓ Next steps for revised P&T section of Faculty Handbook
 - Dr. Keebler provided a handout with recent input from faculty on P&T revisions. He will incorporate these changes into the current P&T document and the senate will vote at the next senate meeting (Dec. 3rd). Dr. Vaughn voiced that he is concerned that people are proceeding as if all changes will be approved whereas there may be changes that impact these practices and suggested that we have an All Faculty electronic vote before the spring semester. Dr. Zornosa also added and it was confirmed by Dr. Keebler that there should be a transition period in which faculty who are going forward for promotion and tenure can choose which standards they'd prefer to use.

- ✓ **New Business**
 - ✓ Emergency Preparedness – Faculty responsibilities
 - President Hynes suggested that the senate consider inviting Chief Hamil to visit to discuss this issue.

- ✓ **Updates from Subcommittees**
 - Academic Policy Committee
 - No Update
 - Faculty Affairs Committee
 - Meet Nov. 29th
 - Graduate Affairs Committee
 - Met and discussed non-thesis option and standards for tuition waivers
 - Student Affairs Committee
 - Met and continued to discuss course evaluations
 - Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
 - Senate approved UCC recommendation to accept new minor in Corporate Communications.

- ✓ **Suggestions for New Business at next meeting**
 - Update on QEP for SACs – Antoinette Miller
 - Will discuss at meeting on Dec. 3rd

Meeting Adjourned: 12:25pm