**President’s Report**

**Faculty Senate**

**October 12, 2016**

* **Budget Discussions** We introduced a discussion at the administrative council on long term financial resources, financial ratios as a required means of estimating long term financial security of the university, and strategies to improve those ratios over the next three years. For example, it has only been in the last 2 years that government related institutions <http://www.gasb.org/resources/ccurl/988/315/GASBS%2068.pdf> have been required to carry on their books long term retirement liability for guaranteed benefit retirement plans (such as TRS). The addition of such a liability dramatically modifies financial assessment of the institution, required to be reviewed as a required demonstration of institutional soundness in our SACS review. That 5 year review is scheduled for 2019. We will share with the campus (and of course the senate) the university budget request narrative as we send it to the university system office.
* **Tree Campus USA** [**https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa/campuses.cfm**](https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa/campuses.cfm)the university was named once again as a national tree campus—one of 15 in Georgia. Institutions are required to meet five standards to be eligible for such a designation, reflecting the shared work of faculty and staff in planning and supporting the attractiveness of our campus
* **Additional recognition** [**http://buccareer.com/30-best-colleges-and-universities-in-georgia/30/**](http://buccareer.com/30-best-colleges-and-universities-in-georgia/30/)A colleague at Wake Forest sharedwith me the following site, designating Clayton State as 4th best among Georgia Universities. Others outside Georgia are beginning to recognize the exceptional value students receive from interactions and learning with our faculty and staff.
* **Apologies** I am attending the USG Board of Regents meeting today, and am unable to attend the senate—I will share any information I receive at the board meeting later this week.
* **Strategic planning roll out** Announcement of formal activities will be made soon. <http://www.clayton.edu/portals/1/strategic-plan/CSU-Strategic-Plan.pdf> A number of colleagues in this senate have worked very hard to create a document that will reinforce our focus on dramatic improvements in student success, and focus on student’s ability to identify through learning ways in which they can engage their communities, and understand how what they learn can be understood to bring value to the outside community. It will commit us to invest in student success, and resources that can support that success. My thanks!!
* **Questions?** Please send me an e-mail if there are items you wish for me to address before the next session.