**Faculty Senate**

**Clarion University**

The Faculty Senate met on Monday, March 30, 2015 in Room 246 Gemmell. J. Phillips chaired the meeting, with the following senators present: Y. Ayad, D. Clark, J. Croskey, R. Frakes, R. Leary, C. Li, D. Lott, H. Luthin, C. Matthews, L. Occhipinti. J. O’Donnell, J. Overly, S. Prezzano, M. Reef, B. Register, A. Roberts, M. Robinson, E. Sauvage-Callaghan, A. Shannonhouse, L. Smith, B. Sweet, L. Taylor and J. Touster. R. Nowaczyk, L. Cullo, R. Feroz, E. Green, and K. Whitney were also present.

1. **Call to order –** J.Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes**

R. Frakes moved and Y. Ayad seconded a motion to approve the minutes from March 16, 2015. The minutes were approved.

1. **Announcements -** None
2. **President’s report – K. Whitney**

- An email was sent to Senators over the weekend with a *Derrick* article on the upcoming fundraising campaign. J. Geiger will be available to address Senate on this issue. J. Phillips suggested that this could be scheduled for early in the fall. K. Whitney said that the committee is currently looking at the priorities for the campaign, and suggested that faculty can talk to their dean this semester.

- The Chancellor prepared a 60 page legislative briefing book on PASSHE, as well as detailed budget information. K. Whitney asked if Senate want a presentation on this. B. Sweet asked K. Whitney to send out the link for the briefing. There was a discussion.

- An email was sent to Senators about the RC budget meetings on May 4 & 5. Faculty are welcome to attend.

R. Leary asked about the deans’ and chairs’ role in setting the priorities for the capital campaign. K. Whitney said that deans have been participating in these discussions for a while, looking at where academic priorities align with donor interests. J. Touster asked about donor interests. There was a brief discussion.

**V. Student Senate Report – E. Green**

Student Senate is working on the Reinhart awards and many other events in April. The election process is starting this week.

**VI. New Business – Budget Presentation by L. Cullo**

L. Cullo noted that the budget environment statewide is challenging. The university has lower appropriations and static costs. He is expecting a deficit this fiscal year similar to that of the past two 2 years, and roughly on track with the projected deficit. At this point it is early in the budget process, but we are anticipating a similar magnitude of deficit for next year. This is a structural situation, and we need to do our best to look at all costs and increase enrollment. 11 of the PASSHE schools have had an operating deficit over the last couple of years. He said he is looking at instituting monthly budget reports, and would like to simplify the budget process. Clarion is underinvested in its physical plant compared to other universities, with a lot of deferred maintenance. Clarion is the lowest in the system in terms of direct debt.

J. O’Donnell asked many years it will take before the university runs out of reserves if deficits continue. L. Cullo replied that we will cross over to negative this year, but in the short term this is less important than turning the budget around over the longer term. K. Whitney noted that there are issues of paying for retirement, health care, and retiree benefits. There was a discussion.

A. Roberts asked where cuts could come from. L. Cullo said that most expenses are for personnel, and that we need to be judicious about replacing retirements and planning, and that the emphasis should be on raising enrollments to increase revenue. There was a discussion.

**VII. Committee reports**

1. **CCPS – B. Sweet**

Open hearings were held last week. Proposals will come to Senate on 4/13. Some proposals have been sent back to departments to address concerns. Proposals will be updated online by Thursday this week.

1. **Student Affairs – C. Matthews**

The combined Student Affairs and Student Activities committees met 3/27. They are working on scholarships, and the Eagletastic and Who’s Who awards.

K. Whitney said that she met with S. Wilson who reported that 25% of faculty do not send adoption forms to bookstore. S. Wilson will have a focus group with faculty before the semester ends to understand why. There was a brief discussion. Several Senators suggested reasons this number might not be accurate.

1. **CCR – J. Croskey –** No report

1. **Academic Standards – D. Clark**

D. Clark met with B. Dede about changes to the academic suspension policy, particularly to the appeals process. The committee will be discussing this.

1. **Budget – R. Frakes**

Questions on the budget can be sent to the committee.

1. **Faculty Affairs – L. Taylor**

The second mentor dinner was held. The committee is working on the retirement reception.

1. **Institutional Resources – A. Roberts**

P. Gent contacted the committee about 7 week courses. Facilities planning is creating a move-in plan for Becht.

1. **Venango – L. Smith –** No report

**VIII. Old Business**

**a. Senate resolution on promotion and tenure -** K. Whitney distributed a response to the Senate resolution on promotion and tenure. J. Phillips suggested that Senate review it for further discussion.

**b. Presidential evaluation –** This took place 3/27. Senate’s written report was given to the trustees.

**c. Engaged learners –** E. Schuetz will attend Senate 4/13 for further discussion. Documents were sent to Senators. There are no curricular changes proposed at present.

**d. Inquiry seminars –** This will be on Senate’s agenda for 4/27. We are hoping to have specific proposals for Senate approval about the goals of the pilot. There was a brief discussion about fall enrollment in these.

**e. Amendments to constitution and bylaws –** The next Trustees meeting is 4/23. K. Whitney said that the changes are being discussed at meet and discuss and she is hoping it can be on the Trustees April agenda.

**IX. New Business**

**a. CCPS**

1. Read ins

2. An email was sent to Senators about proposal for a BS in sports management. A proposal was presented to Senate last semester as a name change. Senators questioned this, but were told that PASSHE was willing to treat it as a change of name (from the Liberal Studies concentration in sports management), and so Senate gave it a positive recommendation. The proposal has been sent back by PASSHE, on the grounds that it is a new degree and not a name change. The proposals sent to Senate include two new courses for the degree.

(list proposal numbers)

A motion was made by CCPS to approve proposals 2015-S-172, 2015-S-131, and 2015-S-132. This motion comes with a positive recommendation from CCPS.

R. Leary said that Senate raised the question of whether this was a new degree rather than a name change in the fall, and noted a problem with expediting it now.

L. Occhipinti asked when the new courses were proposed. B. Sweet said that they were submitted on time as part of the spring cycle.

A. Roberts asked for a clarification that the fall proposal for name change did not include these two courses. B. Sweet said it did not.

J. O’Donnell noted that the checksheet includes a BUS prefix, which does not exist.

H. Luthin asked about the possible start date. B. Sweet said that spring proposals can start in the fall.

There was a discussion of the timing of the proposal. B. Sweet said that the proposal would have to be to submitted to PASSHE by 4/13 in order to be on the July Board of Governors agenda.

K. Whitney said that this timing is important so that the program can be advertised for fall.

J. Phillips said that if the process had been followed appropriately, this would already have been passed and could be being advertised right now. Senate raised this exact concern in the fall, and passed the name change with some objections to the process by which it was brought forward. Senate emphasizes that we should follow our own procedures accurately and completely, and not try to be gaming the system.

The motion passed.

**b. Academic Affairs and scholarship support –** A document from the provost was distributed outlining support for faculty scholarship.

1. **Adjournment** – B. Sweet moved to adjourn, seconded by R. Frakes. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Occhipinti

Faculty Senate Secretary