

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2024

University Center 260 and Microsoft Teams

11:15am to 1pm

**Attendance (representatives denoted in bold):** Kate Cotter-Reilly, Eric Bridges, Larry Menter, J. Celeste Walley-Jean, Cephas Archie, Antoinette Miller, James Pete, **Erin Nagel**, **Sam Maddox**, Corrie Fountain, Georj Lewis, Adam Tate, Ade Thompson, Adel Novin, Alexander Hall, Allie Reece, Aloysius Amin, Amber Bradberry, Amirrah Beeks, Amy Black, Andrea Jacques, Angela Hollis, Anna King, Anthony Hannah, Anthony Stinson, Antoinette France-Harris, Antwan Aiken, Arianne Adams, Ashlee Spearman, Ashley Washington, Aubrey Dyer, Barbara Hennie, Billie May, Brenda Carr, Brian Goldman, Brianna Vick, Bridgette McDonald, Brigitte Byrd, Byron Jeff, Carol White, Caroly Walcott, Cass Parker, Cassandra Parker, Ceimone Henderson-Strickland, Charles Henderson, Charlie Harris, Chen-Miao Lin, Chizara Jones, Christie Burton, Christina Grange, Christopher Kodani, Christopher Stotelmyer, Comfort Obi, Connor Wright, Craig Hill, **Crystal Marchant**, David Brown, David Gilbert, David Greenebaum, David Pena, **David Plaxco**, **David Williams**, Deborah Davis, Denise Allen, Dennis Attick, **Dennis Miller**, Derrick Vanmeter, Devon Ellis-Grant, Diane Day, Don Stansberry, Dwayne Hooks, Ebrahim Khosravi, Eckart Werther, Elicia Collins, Elizabeth Taylor, Elizabeth Tillman, Elizabeth Nancy Highsmith, Elliot Krop, Elnora Farmer, Emanuel Abston, Emily Surber, Erica Dotson, Erica Gannon, Evelyn Blanch-Payne, Everett Sullivan, **Everod Davis**, Feechi Hall, Frederick Bloom, George Nakos, **Hae Ryong Chung**, Heather Hutton, Huyen Nguyen, Jacob Chacko, Jamal El-Amin, Jelinda Spotorno, Jennie Bergen, Jennifer Harris, Jere Boudell, Jesse Zinn, Jessica Conrad, Jilliam Morgan, Joe Johnson, Joey Helton, John Meyers, John Phelps, Jonathan Harris, Joshua Meddaugh, Justin Spurley, Kamran Moghaddam, Keith Driscoll, Keith Miller, Kelli Nipper, **Ken Nguyen**, Kenja McCray, Kevin Demmitt, Kimberley Campbell, Kimberly Campbell, Kimberly Johnson, Kirill Sheynerman, Kitty Deering, LaKeisha Levy, LaSonja Espino, Latasha Adams, Laura Henderson, Leah Pieper, Leon Prieto, Lila Roberts, Linda "Joie" Hain, Lou Orchard, Louisa Catalano, Marcia Bouyea-Hamlet, Marcia Butler, Margaret Thompson, Mario Norman, Mark Watson, Marko Maunula, Marla Cieas, Mary Lamb, Matthew Carter, Matthew Sansbury, Matthew Smith, Md Rokonzaman, Melanie Poudevigne, Meri Stegall, Mesa Davis, **Michal Lindsay**, Michelle Furlong, Miles Thompson, Monay Sanders, Muhammad Rahman, Naquilla Thomas, Narem Reddy Nasser Momayezi, Nichelle Gause, Nick Henry, Pamela Gordon, Patricia Smith, Patrick Coleman, Paul Melvin, Penelope Cliff, Pinar Gurkas, Rebecca Gmeiner, **Rebecca Morgan**, Reginald Porter, Reza Kheirandish, Richard Bell, Robert Vaughan, Ronda Hughes-Oguagha, Rosann O'Neill, Royal Baxter, Sandra Pisen, Sanjay Lal, Sara Harwood, Scott Stegall, Shakil Akhtar, Shannon Cochran, Shannon Montgomery, **Sharon White**, Sharrell Porter, Sheryne Southard, Shontelle Thrash, Shuju Bai, Sonya Gaither, Spenser Emerson, **Stacey Reynolds**, Stephanie Bennett-Walker, Stephen Burnett, Steven Anderson, Taralyn Keese, Tashira Jones, Terence Malloy Terry Appleberry, Thomas McIlwain, Todd Janke, Tomas Merchan Rodriguez, Tuni Acosta, <about a dozen Unknown Users>, Ursula Gordon, Victoria Foster, Vinod Vincent, Vivian Padin-Irizarry, Winifred Nweke Xueyu Cheng, **Augustine Ayuk**

1. **Introduction of senators.**—In person then online.
2. **Approval of minutes.**—Minutes need to denote who is a representative and who is not. Augustine Ayuk missing from 3/11 minutes. No quorum so cannot be approved. Also, several names misspelled and need to be corrected.
3. **Remarks and Q & A, Dr. Georj Lewis, President of Clayton State University.**—Just a couple of updates. Updates from the capitol: We are just waiting for the governor to put his signature on the FY 24 and HSD money. So, that's good news. Campus budget—final decisions will be made by mid-April and everyone is still working on the FY 25 reductions.

Academic Affairs update: New interim provost. She taught K-12 in Clayton County, so knows our community well. Extensive experience overall. An ELI scholar. Part of the Women's Leadership Academy at KSU. She is being fully engaged in everything that we are doing and input as we look at the deactivation items. Transitions in the colleges, she will have input in. We've learned through the process. Assessment is one of those things that are important and perhaps we need help there and she can possibly help. Again, a search for a permanent provost will launch in July. We hope to have a new permanent provost by January.

Strategic planning update—Thursday at 11am at Spivey Hall is the launch. Please RSVP and there will be a small reception afterwards. Enrollment management and student success—we are trending down for summer and fall—current students are not registering. We need to talk to our students about what they're doing and help them persist to graduation. Dual enrollment and new students are trending fine. Returning undergraduates is where the biggest gap is. Orientation sessions will start for the summer and fall in June.

IT updates—mandatory cyber security training and banner training needs to be completed by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Only 29% of us are complete on the cyber security. 46% on the banner so far.

College of Business had a successful launch of the innovations Center and entrepreneur expo.

CIMS had a successful symposium.

We will have our first social mobility symposium June 17<sup>th</sup>. This is our message and so it would be great to have a lot of attendance.

SACS visit was positive. They didn't leave us with any recommendations. Thank you to Dr. Mary Lamb and the provost's office. Dr. Walley-Jean stepped up while we were in transition provost wise. People might not be here today for this meeting because they sat in this room so much last week for the SACS visit. No announcements in writing until the president has been given permission to let the word out.

We can be happy, but there is a remote chance that someone might have issues with us not having any recommendations. It still has to go through several steps. 800 attendees at the math symposium.

With respect to retention there has been some turn over in Center for Advising and Retention and so our returning students might be bottlenecking as they try to register. Our online classes particularly in summer are nearly at capacity.

4. **Welcoming remarks from Dr. Corrie Fountain, Interim Provost of Clayton State University.**—Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome. Thank you to the provost team—although she wasn't here, she was kept abreast of everything going on for the SACS COC. Thank you to everyone that had anything to do with the reaffirmation last week. Faculty senate is her happy place and working with faculty is her passion. Book: Provost Larry Nelson--#1 Provost need to love faculty. #2 The faculty deserve the love that we give them. Out of 24 reasons a provost can be successful those are the top 2. Over the next 8 months we're going to get to know each other. She is an informed decision maker—she will listen to you and read what you write and read what you are not writing. She will try to understand the culture, the aspects, and everything that makes us great before making a decision. Integrity—decisions need to be made with humanistic ideas. Everyone makes mistakes. What matters is what you do next? How do you correct and move forward? Giving each other grace and having mentorship is important. We want to have leadership growth opportunities for faculty. She understands all the facets of us and what she is walking into. Academic Affairs will work with integrity as we move forward. I'm here with you. Let's do this.
  
5. **New Graduation Format- Dr. Cephas Archie, Associate Vice Provost.**—Finding the faculty marshal for commencement. He meets with all of the stakeholders of commencement so that he knows what is needed. There are 28 members of the committee. He has met with the committee all together, but also in groups to hear the needs of each part of campus. Historically the faculty marshal was a faculty member who has been here the longest. So, he met with others for opportunities for enhancement. For the current spring 2024 the current marshal is unable to be the marshal. Dr. Bridges was available and has agreed to be marshal for the May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> ceremonies. There are multiple recommendations for how the marshal is chosen and these recommendations are being considered and looked at. We are not getting rid of history; we are working with it. Working with faculty, including faculty senate. Deputy marshal for this spring will be Dr. Fountain.  
Having faculty as part of the process of choosing, might be worthwhile. We are considering every request, but vetting the ideas through those closest to this is still what they are doing. We don't want to choose someone based on one criteria, but multiple criteria.  
Currently there are multiple strategies—what faculty has the highest award? Could that faculty member participate in commencement? Elected by the faculty is the faculty senate leader. There are opportunities where it could be rotated every year—longest faculty here, faculty senate, etc.  
When changes are made for graduation, these decisions seem to be made behind a veil. A suggestion for operating more openly, but maybe connect with some of the faculty senate subcommittees? Putting something forward towards the entire faculty might be an idea. The platform party recommendations are submitted to the provost and president for their approval. We have only meet with faculty in discussion the expansion of this.  
Are commencement responsibilities down to faculty at other institutions? No, he has

not seen that, but faculty should be part of the process for him. When he found out that there was only one criteria, he wanted to broaden that (historically, it has been the faculty member who has been here the longest and tenured).

Shouldn't the deputy do it? The deputies were spoken too and they agreed that Dr. Bridges doing this was a good idea.

The chair over this committee is to make sure that there is a member of faculty to give input on this.

Faculty choose the senators, but then senators choose the senate chair—not all faculty. Could we have a Smith award winner on the platform. They are not involved in the platform party now, but the deputies heavily leaned into the idea of using this to choose who is part of the platform party.

We should be following the rules. The associate provost position was created to work with faculty, can we see those items since the budget is coming up? Yes, he can share those but not today as there's so much information.

Could look at the Smith Award rubric if you are interested. Yes, please!

## **6. Sub-committee reports, as needed.**

### **a. University Curriculum Committee**

There is a meeting this Friday.

There are items that were emailed out to vote on items already approved by the UCC—Approved Unanimously.

### **b. Academic Policy Committee**

Cancelled meeting last week because of the SACS visit. So, there is nothing to report right now.

### **c. Faculty Affairs Committee**

Hope to give an update on SEI—data from the questions that we created last academic year are being looked at and are currently looking at summer courses to pilot the new survey.

Summer classes are smaller and often in nonregular modalities. Originally was supposed to be piloted for the spring, but because of budget, etc. things fell behind. Good comment, and we will continue to tweak as needed.

### **d. Student Affairs Committee**

We did meet March 28<sup>th</sup> and we were part of the student commencement speaker and submitted recommendations. Discussion the student affairs committee structure to have 2-3 student from the different areas as committee members going forward.

Written language please and needs to be alerted to senators at least 3 days ahead of time and on the agenda. So, we will vote on this next meeting.

Syllabi statements are still be worked on and honors program. Will faculty bylaws need to be amended by these changes of the committee? We will look

into the procedure for that.

Dr. Antoinette Miller is at every senate meeting and we should recognize her devotions and dedication.

Concerns about whether or not the commencement process should be changed.

Questions about tightening up the bylaws. There needs to be discussion about this. Composition of senate needs to change because of college changes—this is already covered in our bylaws.

7. **Old business.**—N/A

8. **Adjourn.**—12:25pm