

Clayton State University – [Faculty Senate Agenda](#)

Monday December 3, 2012 (11:00 am-12:15 pm)

University Center Board Room UC260

Call to Order: 11:04am

Members Present: Qui Fang, Randall Gooden, Todd Janke, Jim Keebler, Kathryn Kemp, Barbara Musolf, Ken Nguyen, Muhammad Rahman, Terri Summers, Joan Taylor (proxy for Erin Nagel), J. Celeste Walley-Jean, David Williams, Ximena Zornosa

Non-Members Present: Jim Braun, John Campbell, Michael Crafton, Mark Daddona, Rebecca Gmeiner, Tim Hynes, Samuel Maddox, Antoinette Miller, Nasser Momayezi, Lila Roberts, Robert Vaughn

- ✓ **Approval of Minutes from the November 19, 2012 meeting**
 - Minutes were approved.

Reports

- ✓ **President**
 - The President's [report](#) provided a statement addressing the recent issue with Captain Rex Duke's controversial posting to Facebook. President Hynes wanted to verify that everyone received his report to the campus. A powerful discussion between Senate members, visitors, and President Hynes ensued. Samuel Maddox made the point that there seemed to be a lack of acknowledgment that the content of Captain Duke's post was offensive. President Hynes responded that he made a concrete decision to refrain from a statement of offensiveness. He voiced that up until 2002 a facsimile of the confederate flag was part of the state flag. He also pointed out that the statement "time for a second revolution" is open to interpretation. He affirmed that he has had conversations with representatives from Student Government. Celeste Walley-Jean added that it isn't simply students who were offended by the image and statement but that faculty members were also offended. President Hynes replied that he did not want to prejudice due process. David Williams asked would it be appropriate to have students in a public forum acknowledge their feelings to which President Hynes indicated that the situation is far more complex. He stated that the image is associated with individuals' roles/traditions in this part of the world and that he is trying to strike a delicate balance. He reiterated that, in case it was unclear, it is not the institution's goal to abstain from making a statement but that he wants to wait until due process is exercised. He also voiced that he anticipated a number of forums and opportunities for expression for the campus community and that finding ways to have hard conversations is good for the long-term health of the university. Kay Kemp expressed that it seems that the fact that we're having this conversation shows the depth of the issue. President Hynes asserted that he intends, in the very near future, to post guidelines on the use of social media for students, faculty, and staff. Randall Gooden inquired if there is any institutional rule about the display of the Confederate flag? Celeste added whether there should be a rule? President Hynes answered that he did not know. Todd Janke wondered if the hesitation to make a statement was related to legal ramifications. He added that the issue seems to be a moral issue rather than an employment issue. Samuel Maddox added that it seems that one part of the debate (ie., free

speech) was brought up without the other part being acknowledged (ie., offensiveness of the content of that speech). President Hynes subsequently apologized that his prose was unclear and asserted that this was not intentional but reflective of his effort NOT to be prejudicial. He also reported that Captain Duke has been on administrative leave since the situation became public. Kay Kemp articulated the question that if a person uses an “offensive” symbol even if they don’t agree that the symbol is offensive, is that person culpable? She further questioned whether this is something that the President needs to evaluate. President Hynes indicated that he hears the consensus that it would be for the best if he looks into this in more depth. He indicated that he will be asking the Senate to engage in sessions next semester to work through these issues. Kay Kemp also asked if it is appropriate for the Senate to adopt a resolution condemning the content of the post. Jim Keebler agreed that as an advisory body to the President, it seemed appropriate that the Senate should provide the President with our position.

- President Hynes also reported that the Planning and Budget Advisory Committee met on Friday. He also stated that he hoped Senate members would be able to join him at his holiday party on December 13th. David Williams raised the issue of the rising healthcare costs in Georgia. He stated that the last time we had a discussion of this, faculty benefits were reduced. He inquired if there have been similar discussions this time? President Hynes responded that most of state burden will be related to Medicaid and that costs will remain for January.

✓ Provost

- Provost Crafton began his report by affirming that he not only thinks the Senate can adopt a resolution but that he thinks they should. He also proposed that the Senate could also empower a group to look at these issues and that he would applaud those efforts. Provost Crafton referred to his email announcement of December 1st informing the campus community of the merging of the department of Health Care Management and the Health Fitness Management program with the College of Health. Provost Crafton indicated that right now it’s primarily an administrative move and that the College of Business and the College of Health welcome the change. Dr. Keebler indicated that Dr. Fang will now move to the College of Health and that this would mean a change to the Senate membership. Provost Crafton indicated that the changes are effective in Spring with relocations to be made by Fall semester. Finally, he wished everyone a great grading and holiday period.

Returning Business

✓ SEI recommendations for student evaluations

- Dr. Keebler reported that he has been working with 14 department chairs across campus. He stated that chairs are in agreement that we should have one form. He indicated, however, that the recommendation to allow selection of specific sections to be evaluated (as opposed to all sections) is very controversial and that there is concern about assurance that there is adequate coverage for all instructors and sections. He indicated that there was agreement that faculty should have direct access to their evaluations rather than having to receive them from department chairs. At this time there is disagreement that evaluations should be

available to the public. Dr. Keebler informed the Senate that he is continuing to gather input and that he will develop a matrix and send out to the department chairs. He hopes that we will have chairs' input at the next Senate meeting. He also voiced that he wants to get input from the SGA. Finally, he asserted that he appreciates everyone's hard work on this important task.

- ✓ APC recommendations for Academic Calendar
 - Dr. Keebler reminded the Senate that the major issue is the fall break because of Thursday-Friday classes. Dr. Campbell provided a report as a member of the Calendar Committee, chaired by Rebecca Gmeiner. He voiced that there is pressure to get the academic calendar posted as soon as possible. Dr. Campbell presented five options. The pros and cons of the various options were discussed and the Senate recommended the following, subject to approval by the President:
 - ✓ Classes begin August 12th
 - ✓ Fall Break: October 14-15
 - ✓ Thanksgiving Break: November 27-29
 - ✓ Classes End: December 2nd
 - ✓ Finals: December 3rd-9th
 - ✓ Grades Due: December 12th
 - Provost Crafton indicated that he would like to set the fall 2014 schedule up in the same pattern. Dr. Keebler stated that the issue of the summer 2014 will stay on the APC agenda.
- ✓ Discussion and vote on revised P&T section of Faculty Handbook
 - Dr. Keebler asked for a vote on accepting changes that we received from faculty.
 - Ximena Zornosa raised the question of what constitutes allowing people to put things in the portfolio after the due date. She voiced that she would like to see a clear statement that committee can't ask for additional materials to be added after the portfolio has been submitted.
 - Senate approved the changes and they will now go to faculty.

New Business

- Update on QEP for SACs – Antoinette Miller
 - Overview of QEP
 - Parallel efforts: Compliance certification and QEP
 - Compliance looks back to what we've been doing
 - QEP is meant to look forward to next five years
 - In line with mission and current strategic plan
 - Assessable in terms of student learning outcomes
 - Produce measurable results within time frame
 - QEP due February 11, 2014
 - Dr. Miller provided an update on the committee's current and future activities. Dr. Keebler asked if we are going to go with one topic and if it is "Connections through Engagement?" If so, what does this mean and how do we evidence it? Dr. Miller responded that this question is one of the things the committee seeks to address. She provided a link (www.clayton.edu/sacs/qep) where you can read all the minutes from the committee. She also indicated that on this website there are some examples for stuff that evidences engagement but the committee also wants to develop more.

Updates from Subcommittees (Tabled)

1. Academic Policy Committee
2. Faculty Affairs Committee
3. Graduate Affairs Committee
4. Student Affairs Committee
5. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Suggestions for New Business at next meeting

1. Emergency Preparedness – Faculty responsibilities
2. Discussion of use of Social Media – Faculty responsibilities

Adjourned: 12:22pm