

Clayton State University – Faculty Senate Minutes

Monday October 6, 2014 (11:00 am-12:15 pm)

University Center Board Room U260

Called to order: 11:02am

Members Present: B. Musolf (Chair), K. Pratt-Russell, K. Kemp, R. Gooden, M. Grant, J. Mascaritolo, D. Cody, X. Zornosa, K. Nguyen, C. Matos, C. Raridan, J. Qu, L. Herndon, E. Nagel

Non-Members Present: President T. Hynes, K. Demmitt, B. Jeff, T. Lake

- **Approval of Minutes from the September 8, 2014 meeting.** John Mascaritolo moved to accept the minutes, Debra Cody seconded. Minutes were approved.
- **Reports:**
- **President:** Dr. Hynes thanked Eric Bridges and Pat Barton for chairing the Faculty/Staff Fund Drive. Because this is an election year, there has been silence on a lot of state higher education issues, particularly performance-based funding. The Board of Regents' asked colleges this year to develop budgets based on enrollment-based funding. The narrative for the budget will be made available on his website. Dr. Hynes asked to talk with the Senate at some point in time about Title IX and other emerging issues.
- **Provost:** Dr. Demmitt updated the Senate about the Advising Task Force's preliminary report. He commented that a decentralized organization is more complicated than a centralized one. The task force's recommendations were given as: (1) Hire a Director of Advising, who will report directly to the Provost for at least a year or two. (2) Keep current job descriptions for the remainder of the year, with the exception that advisors will report to the new Director of Advising. This will most likely be fully implemented in September. (3) Make use of SSC immediately. One faculty member in each department/major will be trained in using SSC by January, who would then run reports and share with faculty. Eventually, students will be advised by an advisor full time. (4) Develop ways that faculty can be involved with students and mentor them. Dr. Demmitt stated that hiring the Director is a critical move for the university. He added that for every 1% increase in retention, it generates about \$350k in revenue. Through pro-active advising and early intervention, he believes we can increase retention by more than 1%. Dr. Demmitt was asked where the money for the new director was coming from, and answered that it is coming from academic affairs, and not coming out of any one college's budget. He has delayed action on hiring a Director of International Programs, but believes we should be able to hire by end of the year. He stated that Paul Melvin is doing a good job for now with the Study Abroad program. Barbara Musolf asked if all faculty would be trained on SSC? Dr. Demmitt encouraged all faculty to learn it, as it will be beneficial.
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- **New Business**
 - **Presentation on Veterans' Resource Center:** Tina Lake presented information about the Veteran's Resource Center, located in Edgewater Hall. We have a large population of veteran's in the area. 414 are enrolled at CSU. The mission of the Veterans' Resource Center is to help veterans make the transition from military life to campus life. They are now working on how to evaluate military training and if credit can be awarded. The Center offers one-on-one Academic coaching, Veteran's Honor Society, and many other services and activities. It hosts the Student Veteran's Association. Tina also discussed what faculty can do to ease the transition of veterans in the classroom. Ximena Zornosa asked if there were any scholarships for veterans. There are several that are available depending on the branch served in and the student's major. Tina encouraged faculty that are veterans to send a picture to her for the Veteran's Day celebration.
 - **Senate Statement on Summer School Salaries:** Kathryn Pratt Russell drafted a document to summarize what Senate has discussed. It is designed to be edited and amended by FS members. This document will be given to the Summer School committee, to use when writing up their report. Several faculty members commented on the draft. Barbara stated that we want to be sure to

encourage increasing enrollment in both online and on campus classes. Kathryn Pratt Russell added that her concern was the suggestion to decrease the cost for online courses. The document was amended to state the Senate's objection to lowering the cost of online courses. Debra Cody made the motion to approve the document with necessary corrections, motion seconded by Micah Grant. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Vote on UCC Approved Courses:** Deferred to next meeting because had not received all the documents. The UCC will be meeting on Friday.
- **Electronic Voting:** The document was revised based on comments received from the online discussion. Discussion ensued. Byron Jeff commented that the biggest issue is not the implication of faculty not bothering to vote, but the lack of a good mechanism to establish quorum. His suggestion would be to establish an actual quorum for the vote, such as 50%+1. Then if 50% +1 of the faculty vote, no matter how they vote, there is a quorum. He also felt that an abstention option should be added, as we are trying to model the physical meeting. Laura Herndon suggested changing the language to state that a quorum is whoever responds. Randall Gooden stated that when convening a meeting online, whoever receives the email is included in that convening. Kay Kemp added that that language should be put in the email- We are officially calling a meeting with discussions for 5 days, and voting period of 5 days. John Mascaritolo added that since we know how many faculty don't vote, we can count those as abstentions. Barbara Musolf stated that the language in item #4 implies that. Language was added to clarify that failure to respond would be considered an abstention. Randall Gooden moved to approve the revised version, with the motion seconded by Kay Kemp. Motion was approved.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:17pm