



# CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

## Faculty Senate

### MINUTES

November 3, 2021

3:00 P.M. – Moot Court Room LB 101

**PRESENT:** **Faculty Senate Leadership** R. Krebs, A. Kumar, and R. Carnell; **Faculty Senators** M. Adams, J. Ausherman, M. Bayachou, B. Browning, M. Buckley, B. Conti, D. Davisson, S. Dracar, B. Ekelman, P. Falk, D. Forte, L. Francis, J. Gatica, D. Geier, S. Gore-Panter, T. Guzman, K. Hamlen-Mansour, Y. Hung, A. Jouan-Westlund, D. Kalir, W. Kellogg, C. Kothapalli, M. Kwiatkowski, J. Marino, W. Matcham, B. McClain, P. McGinty, B. Mikelbank, T. Porter, A. Price, R. Raimer, E. Rauschert, A. Resnick, B. Richards, J. Sawicki, A. Severson, G. Shukla, D. Smith, A. Sonstegard, A. Su, G. Toneff-Cotner (G. Stead), and N. Zingale; **Corresponding Members** R. Anglin, M. Barnard, J.L. Bloomberg, M. Bond, L. Fisher, E. Grigore, J. Holcomb, K. Kahn, E. Lehfeldt, C. Orahoske, E. Palmer, A. Robichaud, H. Sands, S. Zachariah. **Ex Officio Limited Members** W. Bowen, M. Schultz-Bergin, and J. Sola.

### OTHERS

**PRESENT:** Zoom indicated a peak of 78 participants.

I. Approval of the Agenda for the November 3, 2021 Meeting Robert Krebs

Meeting was called to order at 3:03 and the agenda was approved by acclamation.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 6, 2021 Robert Krebs

The minutes were approved by acclamation.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate President Robert Krebs

President Krebs began by encouraging senators to participate actively during Senate meetings. He also pointed out that Senate may want to examine the 5-year academic calendar more thoroughly than usual, and that we will do so following the UCC presentation today. He further encouraged all faculty and administrators with faculty status to activate and update their Faculty Profile pages, which are helpful to other faculty and the larger community.

President Krebs mentioned that “outsourcing” has been an issue not just for IT (as reported in previous Senate meetings) but for a variety of areas, including plumbing – although there are no complaints about the contracted plumbers. He encouraged faculty to ask questions and investigate rumors before echoing them.

IV. Report of the President of the University Harlan Sands

President Sands reported that in meeting with other university presidents in Ohio, they all recognized the challenges facing universities and particularly expressed concerns about mental health. He spoke of faculty and staff service award celebrations, where faculty and staff were honored for their long service. President Sands mentioned the successful Evening with the Stars, involving NASA. He also touted our close and collaborative ties with CWRU. He then introduced Dr. Tachelle Banks as the inaugural Presidential Faculty Fellow. President Sands also gave a shout out to the men's basketball team and Coach Dennis Gates's commitment to the 3Cs: culture, classroom, and court.

V. University Curriculum Committee

Marcus Schultz-Bergin

**(Report No. 4, 2021-2022)**

Dr. Schultz-Bergin, chair of UCC, introduced the Consent agenda, which passed by voice vote:

Consent Agenda

- A. Biology, Accelerated 4+1 BS/MS
- B. Physics, Accelerated 4+1 BS/MS
- C. Nursing/Business Administration, MSN/MBA

Discussion Agenda

Dr. Schultz-Bergin then introduced the discussion agenda. The following items passed by separate voice votes:

- D. Doctor of Nursing Practice, DNP
- E. Business, MBA

**(Report No. 4, 2021-2022)**

F. 5-Year Academic Calendar Review (for AY 2023-2028) **(Report No. 4, 2021-2022)**

Dr. Schultz-Bergin explained that several modifications were suggested by UCC and reviewed by Steering (involving urgent changes Juneteenth and Columbus Day, made without Senate approval, which now require retroactive approval). This detail was approved by voice vote

Dr. Schultz-Bergin then referred to other changes still being discussed by UCC and Steering involving Columbus Day and the day before Thanksgiving, sought by students as a day off. He also raised the possibility of changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. He also referred to the imbalance between number of teaching days in Fall and Spring (which could possibly be balanced out by snow days or a reading days).

Faculty from different departments and colleges spoke about various contingent circumstances based on their curricula that would impact the discussion. Following this discussion, two motions were introduced:

UCC introduced a Motion to recommend a change in the Calendar to rename "Columbus Day" to Indigenous People's Day. This motion passed by voice vote

UCC introduced a Motion that Indigenous People’s Day should alternate with Veteran’s Day (Tu/Th / MWF), so that 2025 would echo 2021 in this detail on the 5-year calendar attached with the Senate agenda.

Brian Mickelbank made a motion for the academic calendar, going forward, seconded by Jim Marino:

Eliminate “midterm week” designation; rename “midterm grading deadline” as “midsemester grading deadline”; and rename “final exam week” as “exam week.”

This motion passed by voice vote

Bob Krebs then articulated the concluding motion from UCC to approved the calendar as modified and presented. This consolidated motion passed by voice vote.

VI. Admissions and Standards Committee

José Sola

Prof. Sola, chair of Admissions and Standards, introduced two separate items, each of which passed by voice vote:

G. The College of Business made a proposal to waive the GMAT requirement for students who satisfy certain requirements

H. Extension of the waiver for GRE/GMAT: Fall 22 to Spring 23  
**(Report No. 5, 2021-2022)**

VII. University Faculty Affairs Committee

This committee is still finalizing items listed as “tentative” on today’s Senate agenda and will bring them to the December Senate meeting

VIII. Student Government Association Report

Martin Barnard

SGA chair Barnard spoke of plans for International Student Week. He also mentioned student concerns about the cost of books and eBooks; they are preparing a set of recommendations to bring forward. As a GA in TASC, he noted that there has been a surge, after midterms week, in recommendations from faculty for students needing academic help and mental health counseling. He asked faculty to be aware of the difficulty for students of returning to “normal” class formats, after over a year of remote teaching and generous P/F options and mentioned that SGA is actively seeking faculty input on how to address the unusual stress levels this year. He spoke as well of student concerns about rigid “participation” grade policies on some faculty syllabi—policies that do not always seem fair to students under ongoing pandemic conditions.

In response to these comments, President Krebs pointed out the inconsistency between faculty who require ODS paperwork to excuse Covid absences and those who take a more flexible approach. Given how overwhelmed ODS is, President Krebs encouraged faculty to be flexible. Several other senators also spoke to student stress, made worse by poor prior content mastery, in some instances because of P/F options over the last few semesters.

IX. Graduate and Professional Student Association Report Cody Orahoske  
GPSA president Orahoske responded to the last conversation by warning against the dangers of excessive flexibility and lenient policies. He also mentioned the collaborative events of International Student Week and announced the upcoming graduate-student awards for which faculty can nominate worthy students. Finally, he mentioned that GPSA is planning a bi-weekly open forum and requested that faculty might have ideas for presentations.

X. Budget and Finance Committee Report William Bowen  
David Jewell

Senator Bowen, chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, introduced David Jewell, Senior Vice President of Business Affairs & Chief Financial Officer, who gave a report on the team his unit is building and the current budget situation. He pointed out that the positive current budget is partially the result of one-time federal money. He also noted that the budget model takes into account anticipated increases in graduate enrollment and campus activities, but he pointed as well to some disturbing downward trends in undergraduate enrollment (below the budgeted downturn), in part due to retention problems, possibly related to student mental health issues. VP Jewell further commented on the high average age of campus infrastructure and associated expenses for maintenance repair. He acknowledged student concerns about textbook costs and ongoing concerns about parking tickets issued for permit holders with reverse parked cars.

XI. Undergraduate Student Success Committee Report Brian Mikelbank

Senator Mikelbank introduced and demonstrated the newly installed

A. [Student Success Dashboard](#)

He asked senators to explore the dashboard and contact their committee with feedback and questions

XII. Academic Technology Committee Report William Matcham

Senator Matcham introduced and gave a shout out to Wesam Helou from IS&T and to Chris Rennison from Institutional Technology & Distance Learning. He referred to the upcoming installation of Wordpress and the centralized license for Adobe Pro software, arriving soon. He mentioned a forthcoming recommendation for faculty computer renewal cycles. He also encouraged faculty to continue offering feedback to his committee.

XIII. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer Laura Bloomberg

Provost Bloomberg recognized Dr. Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell, Vice President for Campus Engagement, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, for his efforts for student success. She also reminded faculty of the need for flexibility in allowing students to show they have mastered essential learning objectives for their courses. She thanked faculty ahead of time for those who are able to participate in the double graduation ceremony on December 12<sup>th</sup>. She referred to the emerging shape and details of the new academic units under CSU 2.0, for which a hyperlink provides the most updated information, <https://csu2.0.csuohio.edu/college-realignment>

She also reported that booster vaccines will be available on campus soon.

XIV. Question Time – there were no further questions.

XV. New Business – there being none, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON DECEMBER 1, 2021**

Professor Rachel Carnell  
Senate Recording Secretary