



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate

MINUTES

December 1, 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. Buckley, D. Choi, D. Davisson, S. Dracar, B. Ekelman, P. Falk, D. Forte, L. Francis, J. Gatica, D. Geier, J. Goodell, S. Gore-Panter, T. Guzman, D. Hamilton, K. Hamlen-Mansour, J. Hostutler, D. Hubbard, Y. Hung, A. Jouan-Westlund, D. Kalir, W. Kellogg, C. Kothapalli, M. Kwiatkowski, J. Marino, W. Matcham, B. McClain, P. McGinty, B. Mikelbank, R. Raimer, E. Rauschert, A. Resnick, B. Richards, A. Severson, G. Shukla, D. Smith, A. Sonstegard, A. Su, G. Toneff-Cotner, W. Zhao, and N. Zingale; **Corresponding Members** R. Anglin, M. Barnard, J. Belovich, L. Bloomberg, M. Bond, L. Fisher, E. Grigore, J. Holcomb, K. Kahn, E. Lehfeldt, E. McKinney, C. Orahoske, E. Palmer, A. Robichaud, H. Sands, C. Wheeler, S. Zachariah. **Ex Officio Limited Members** W. Bowen, M. Schultz-Bergin, and J. Solá.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 92 participants.

I. Approval of the Agenda for the December 1, 2021 Meeting Robert Krebs
The meeting was called to order at 3:03; the agenda was approved by acclamation.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 3, 2021 Robert Krebs
The minutes were accepted by acclamation.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate President Robert Krebs

President Krebs reminded Senators to contact him with any urgent matters for Senate with as much advance notice as possible. He also asked faculty to self-nominate themselves for the at-large faculty representative position on the University Peer Review Committee. President Krebs noted that he is receiving feedback about the working groups involved in college mergers; he urged the working groups to avoid formal majority voting but to work towards consensus that would be acceptable to the larger majority among the disparate departments represented. His preference for working groups would be that they try to identify what would work for the whole rather than what passes a majority vote and that any vote be framed as a “recommendation” only, since new requirements must pass through relevant curricular, college, and Senate committees.

President Krebs offered the following updates: campus facilities challenges include malfunctioning heating systems (space heaters for offices are available from FAST). Health Services is working on a better email notification system as part of contact tracing. Current efforts are underway to resolve issues from staffing shortages in the HR department.

He urged faculty members who are struggling with the work, family, life, pandemic balance to speak to their department chair and seek the necessary support to address the issues. President Krebs reminded

faculty that in case of an emergency, after calling 911, to also notify the CSU Campus Police so that they can assist.

IV. Report of the President of the University

Harlan Sands

President Sands began by announcing the tragic death of an international graduate student, Chiru Sal, and a moment of silence was observed. He thanked the faculty and students for their support of the student's friends and family. He suggested that future orientation efforts for international students include regional topics, such as weather conditions and urban driving.

President Sands then urged us, in this Season of Thanks, to be thankful that Cleveland State is in a solid financial position, with an expanding student enrollment, rather than in the more difficult situation of some other universities. He also thanked the faculty for regularly going the extra mile and making a difference in the lives of students.

President Sands announced two major gifts to the University: the Gund Foundation committed \$5 million to the Parker Hannifin Living Learning Community (PH LLC) and Key Bank donated \$1 million to establish the Beth E. Mooney Center for Transformative Leadership, in honor of her service as former KeyCorp C.E.O. President Sands also gave a shout out to Nicholas Petty, director, PH LLC and graduation success coach programs, who was named one of the 2021-2022 Outstanding First-Year Student Advocates by the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition.

President Sands also acknowledged the faculty research team, led by Dr. Barsanjit Mazumder, and including Dr. Basu and Dr. Komar, for new research that could lead to improved antiviral treatments and vaccines for COVID-19 and similar viruses, according to an article published in the American Society of Microbiology's *Journal of Virology*.

The governor and lieutenant governor visited Cleveland State University recently, in conjunction with the JOBS OHIO partnership, for which we will increase our graduates in key fields. President Sands also recounted a tour of campus for the Board of Trustees who were able to see the programs they have helped support in action. He also referred to a productive meeting with the mayor-elect Justin Bibb and the presidents of CSU, CWRU, and CCC.

President Sands concluded by announcing the upcoming double commencement on December 12, with the morning commencement address by Mayor Frank Jackson and the afternoon address by CSU Board Chair, David Reynolds.

V. University Curriculum Committee

Marcus Schultz-Bergin

Dr. Schultz-Bergin introduced the consent agenda which passed by voice vote:

Consent Agenda

- A. Chemistry, Accelerated 4+1 BS/MS
 - B. Counseling, Clinical Mental Health, M.Ed.
 - C. Counseling, School, M.Ed.
- (Report No. 6, 2021-2022)**

Dr. Schultz-Bergin then introduced the following item for the Discussion agenda:

A motion from Academic Steering to recommend for the Academic Calendar:
Cancel classes Wednesday before Thanksgiving; celebrate Veterans' Day but do not cancel classes; and celebrate Indigenous People's Day on Tuesday.

Discussion ensued as to the pros and cons, as well as the feasibility of these changes under state law. A voice vote indicated that a majority of senators recommended that we continue pursuing this option as we explore its feasibility.

VI. Admissions and Standards Committee José Solá

Professor Sola introduced the following items, each of which passed separately by voice vote:

- D. Memo from School Social Work on required number of letters for admission to MSW
(Report No. 7, 2021-2022)
- E. 3 + 3 agreement between Law School and Oakwood University
(Report No. 8, 2021-2022)
- F. Statement of purpose as New Admissions Requirements MPA & MNAL programs in Urban
(Report No. 9, 2021-2022)

VII. Budget and Finance Committee Report William Bowen

G. Financial Update **(Report No. 10, 2021-2022)**

Committee Chair Bowen offered an update about the university financial situation, referring to the slides in the attached packet. He invited CFO David Jewell to address questions about the budget forecasts beyond Year 2 and whether PFAC meetings would resume.

Mr. Jewell reported that university financial situation is currently strong; he pointed to the out years as potentially positive, depending on how well we do with enrollment going forward. He suggested that we will need to make prudent and thoughtful investments (in new faculty, for new enrollment initiatives and marketing), given the continued uncertainty, about enrollment and inflation.

Mr. Jewell also announced that the Planning and Financial Advisory Committee (PFAC) will be scheduled to meet in December, a meeting that will include all members of the Senate Budget Committee. He also highlighted some items of importance in the attached slides, touching on the retention rate decline during Covid, which was across the board, rather than specific to one demographic group. He also underscored the costs associated with maintaining infrastructure, given CSU's somewhat advanced "average age of plant." A major research institution needs to invest both in spaces, infrastructure, and personnel, he observed. He also pointed out that our current capital requests are in line with maintaining current infrastructure.

VIII. Academic Technology Committee Report William Matcham

H. Email address: academictechcommittee@csuohio.edu

Senator Matcham thanked everyone involved in helping faculty voices get heard in the process of regular computer replacements. He also gave an update on the faculty requests for administrator status, which proceeded efficiently. Additionally, he urged faculty to reach out to his committee at the above email address to let them know about future-looking requests and challenges for technology. He provided an update about the forthcoming license for Adobe Creative Suites.

IX. Student Government Association Report

Martin Barnard

SGA president Barnard began by asking senators to think back on how different the world felt two years ago, in December 2019. He also asked us to start looking ahead to December 1, 2022. He reported on the ongoing concerns about students and the P/F option. SGA has been helping to educate students about their usual options for Incompletes or late Withdrawals. He warned faculty that more students than usual may request Incompletes or late Withdrawals. He reported that SGA will make February the month to educate students further about these options.

X. Graduate and Professional Student Association Report

Cody Orahoske

GPSA president Orahoske reported that GPSA just went through its internal review to evaluate what it has done well and what it could improve.

XI. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Laura Bloomberg

Provost Bloomberg began by speaking about CSU 2.0, stressing that the plan is not merely about college realignment, but also about enrollment and campus facilities. She noted that there are currently searches underway for two deans, and encouraged participation in the listening sessions facilitated by the search firm.

Provost Bloomberg mentioned the challenges of electing new faculty senators representing the new colleges before the new colleges are created. She also acknowledged the challenges of crafting new by-laws for colleges that do not yet exist. She offered her sincere thanks to the faculty working on these challenges. She also described the process for naming the colleges—a process that includes SGA and student input.

The provost included the CSU 2.0 goal of increasing online enrollment significantly by 2025 and the ambitious goal of increasing co-op and internships for CSU students. In response to a question from the floor, she spoke to the connection between these online programs and Jobs Ohio.

In response to another senator's question about likely consistency of structure between the new colleges—in terms of schools within colleges, departments etc., Provost Bloomberg pointed out that consistency is not necessarily an important goal here but that equity in distributing resources between colleges is crucial.

In response to a senator's question about naming the new colleges (innovative rather than traditional), both President Sands and Provost Bloomberg spoke to the need to be descriptive as well as attractive and inclusive.

Provost Bloomberg then spoke about the ongoing pandemic, pointing out that masks are here to stay for some time, as we learn to live with what will soon be called an endemic rather a pandemic. She noted that

faculty travel is still on-hold for countries rated at level 4 on a Covid metric, and will be reviewed as more information becomes available, hopefully by early in the spring semester.

She acknowledged how difficult this semester has been for faculty, with the ongoing accommodations and adaptations necessary during the pandemic.

XII. Question Time

A faculty member asked about Vike Health in light of ongoing concerns about faculty and staff health, as well as about the severing of the long-term relationship with Health and Human Performance, which was responsible for initiating and running Vike Health for the last few decades. The Provost reported that health and wellness programs are under review right now in HR and that announcements will be made by the start of next semester about the shape of those programs going forward.

A senator from Urban asked for more information about the Key Bank donation for the Center for Transformative Leadership; President Sands pointed out that no earmarks could be identified without a fuller discussion about the potential of such a large gift.

XIII. New Business

There being none, Senator Marino moved that the meeting be adjourned; President Krebs adjourned the meeting at 4:44.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON FEBRUARY 2, 2022

Professor Rachel Carnell
Senate Recording Secretary