



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE

March 30, 2022, 3:00 PM – Moot Court Room LB 101

PRESENT: **Faculty Senate Officers** R. Krebs, and A. Kumar; **Faculty Senators** M. Adams, J. Ausherman, M. Bayachou, B. Browning, B. Cavender, D. Choi, D. Davisson, B. Ekelman, P. Falk, L. Francis, S. Gore-Panter; D. Hamilton, J. Hostutler, D. Hubbard, A. Jouan-Westlund, C. Kothapalli, M. Kwiatkowski, J. Marino, B. McClain, T. Medley, B. Mikelbank, T. Porter, A. Price, R. Raimer, E. Rauschert, B. Richards, A. Severson, G. Shukla, D. Smith, A. Sonstegard, G. Toneff-Cotner, R. Whitbread, N. Zingale; **Corresponding Members** H. Sands, L. Bloomberg, M. Bond, J. Holcomb, D. Jewell, E. McKinney, M. Barnard, E. Palmer, C. Orahoske; **Ex Officio Limited Members** W. Bowen, M. Schultz-Bergin, and J. Sola.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 87 participants.

I. The Agenda for the March 30, 2022 Meeting was approved, without amendments.

II. The Minutes of the Meeting of March 2, 2022 were approved.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate President

Robert Krebs

President Krebs noted that Senator A. Sonstegard was the acting Secretary for the meeting. Krebs mentioned the memo Senate leadership composed in January to push against administration, but then touched on recent experiences with CSU 2.0 implementation, acknowledging his role on the academic reorganization working group with Provost Zhu last year. He then referenced recent controversies in UFAC, and suggested some faculty unfairly vilify others who are pushing for progress. Krebs summarized the recent challenges with the surveys in the Teams site and ongoing UFAC and UCC deliberations on how to coordinate university wide versus college decision making. Krebs also noted challenges to be part of Senate leadership and advocate as a member of an individual college caucus at one time, and referenced meetings with CFO Jewell with respect to 2.0 implementation of on-line systems. Krebs suggested actions Senate may need to take in summer, 2022, acknowledging needs to transition portions of the former colleges with operational units of the “forming” ones within Senate. Leadership elections are imminent, and Senate would need to consider suspending bylaws for voting on officers and populating committees as colleges form and merge. Magnus Mart remains “tough” and daunting to use; commencement ceremonies will have music performed; international programs need structuring for credit for incoming students; and President Krebs is working with other Ohio faculty leaders to oppose HB 327 on the teaching of “divisive issues.” A new version of Adobe, enabling the handling of PDFs, will become available to faculty Friday, April 1.

IV. Report of the President of the University

Harlan Sands

President Sands commented on gradual policies of “unmasking” and said he was sensing optimism in Ohio’s responses to Covid recovery. Our University is positioned for greater success with Columbus legislators, who perceive positive things in students’ experiences in our classrooms. Students show signs of struggling with hardships, and a conversation with them and about them can help identify their struggles and stresses, if we “leave no stone unturned.”

V. University Curriculum Committee

Marcus Schultz-Bergin

A. Program Approval and Newly Forming Colleges:

The comments in Teams are to be summarized by the college caucuses, as UCC is to consider the new units to be created and the departments to be split and not merely moved—ten units total are affected.

B. **Consent Agenda (Report No. 24, 2021-2022)**

- a. Culture, Communication, and Health Certificate
- b. Environmental Science, BS
- c. Mechanical Engineering, BS
- d. Psychological Science, Accelerated 4+1 BA/MA (Grad)
- e. Psychological Science, Accelerated 4+1 BA/MA (UGRD)
- f. Real Estate and Property Management Certificate
- g. Sport and Entertainment Management Minor
- h. Sport and Entertainment Management, BA
- i. Theatre Arts Minor
- j. Urban Education, PhD
- k. Women’s and Gender Studies Minor
- l. Women’s and Gender Studies, BA

The Sports and Entertainment Management Certificate and Minor (g. and h. above) will be housed in the College of Business. Faculty in that college, and those switching colleges, were consulted and asked to write letters of support. The consent agenda was approved without dissent.

C. **Discussion Agenda**

- a. Master of Science in Statistics and Analytics
- b. Minor in American Sign Language

No one commented or queried when they were invited to discuss these two items. The discussion agenda items were approved.

VI. Admissions and Standards Committee

José Solá

Decision Item (Report No. 25, 2021-2022)

- D. Extending waiver of ACT/SAT requirement for the 23-24 academic year

Senate discussed how this waiver compares with peer institutions and clarified that it applies to undergraduates, excluding the GRE. Senate voted to extend the waiver.

VII. University Faculty Affairs Committee

Patricia Falk

Motion-Second Reading (Report No. 26, 2021-2022)

E. Second reading and summary of changes to the following articles:

3344-11-06, 3344-11-07, 3344-11-08, 3344-11-09, 3344-11-11, 3344-11-12

Patricia Falk read the bylaw changes in the UFAC chairperson's absence. Discussion of the motion itself was minimal, but several Senators in Law, Urban Studies, and Health Professions questioned processes in decision making. A point of order was raised that broad question of bylaws processes could be debated as relevant to the motion, which the Senate Chair permitted. Comments followed made that three new colleges had appointed deans or commenced dean searches by methods contrary to Senate bylaws. Comments also related to a memo, which was composed and issued by UFAC members, sans chairperson, that was intended for the Steering committee but unofficially reached the rest of Senate and many faculty at large. The importance of following bylaws was affirmed for legitimacy and accountability. Senate then discussed what to do with a UFAC that is now two members short, how to address in the future such contingencies, and how bylaw suspension can preserve integrity if it is done ahead of time. Senate returned to the motion, and voted to approve these revisions, with one dissenting vote.

VIII. Budget and Finance Committee Report

William Bowen

Committee Chair Bowen said the University budget was the same as last month, when it was reported. Advisory committees have resumed regular meetings, and PFAC meetings have signaled an unusual transparency and openness in which PFAC can function as more than a forum, but also as an institutional mechanism for mutual trust and collaboration. If administration brings out the voices of senators in resource-allocation decisions and gains the Budget and Finance committee's input into budget decisions, the Budget and Finance Committee can let them know their views, and be mutually repositioned to strategize with respect to CSU 2.0 priorities and the global partnership agreement.

CFO Jewell and two senators discussed CSU 2.0 timing, budgeting, and funding allocation. The specific amount for 2.0 could not be identified, but CSU 2.0 and VSIP have brought about "iterative" stages or phases; funding is already going into units that are still "forming"; a budget for CSU 2.0 is not a range of money, a blank check, or a black hole. Considerable frustration with this situation, these responses, and the students and schools suffering through them, was expressed and heartily applauded.

IX. Student Government Association Report

Martin Barnard

- Thursday, April 14th to increase awareness about the Refugee Crisis in the Cleveland community
- SGA Resolution Calling for the Adoption of Open Education Resources (OERs) (Attached is a rough draft, SGA Senate votes to revise/approve this Friday, March 25th)
- SGA Elections - Candidates finalized on Friday, April 8th (Informational)
- Supporting Women's History Month (Informational)

Mr. Barnard and senators in CLASS, COSHP and CoB referenced a town-hall event for refugee advocacy on April 14; discussed how to encourage turn-out in SGA elections; inquired about feedback for tutoring support services on campus; and estimated the impact of the Ukrainian invasion on Ukrainian-Americans in Cleveland. A coming town hall will address the Ukrainian crisis.

X. Graduate and Professional Student Association Report Cody Orahoske

- GA/RA/TA efforts
- Highlight - Graduate appreciation week of events.

Mr. Orahoske specified students' median stipend per semester and compared it with fast-food and Amazon-delivery wages. Solid research demands good pay, he asserted, as he specified that he works more than full time in his lab. Graduate Student Appreciation Week will feature a Monday picnic to bring students together to celebrate spring. CSU Global has given workshops on teaching, presenting, and public speaking. As to CSU 2.0 debates, "change is good," Orahoske said; embrace the change.

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

Provost Bloomberg gave the timing of the new contract's signing and publication (soon); of the across-the-board salary increases (April 15); and of the lump-sum retroactive salary payments (May 15). As "pandemic" transitions to "endemic," the Provost's office is considering approving travel again for restricted airspaces. Students who are having trouble adjusting to the pandemic and the endemic are not a surprise; they are asking, as are we, "what do you do with the river while you build the dam?" An advising structure that is worthy of the students we're supporting was one of the original priorities of CSU 2.0. The Provost apologized and said *mea culpa* as to launched deans' searches; only senate leaders were consulted and not all senators from the colleges. She also referenced transitions in Library and Honors College leadership, discussed the restructuring of athletics, admissions, and diversity and excellence; and said academic research centers would be established across campus. Forty-seven searches for new faculty have launched for this year, most of the pools for which have "wowed" the search committee members. A ceremony will soon celebrate faculty excellence, from promotion and tenure recipients to distinguished faculty award winners. She noted that she and a senator in Music briefly discussed live music performance at future commencements.

XII. Question Time

Via cell-phone relay, a senator asked if administrators were always free to apologize if they repeatedly broke the bylaws. It was pointed out that the surveys in Teams did not allow for votes on individual, unit-level changes, rendering "low data" that was unlikely to help UCC; and this technical issue with Teams will be pointed out to Vice Provost for Academic Planning, Marius Boboc. International travel funds, Article-26 funding, and funds redistributed to others after international-travel requests were denied, all resurfaced as questions. Senate discussed the progress of budget allocations, interdisciplinary projects, and inspirations for innovation, with some concern that approval processes are arbitrary.

A senator asked whether faculty-led study abroad programs were resuming along with rebooted international travel. The UFAC representative reminded the senate membership that policies and bylaws at all of the Ohio's public universities are part of the Ohio Code, and thus have the status of administrative rules, and if any rules were broken the only remedy available to anyone is to approach the court. Senate again discussed the Provost's timing, compatriots, prior knowledge, apology, and *mea culpa* for improperly launched deans' searches. Comments related to recent events, the distribution of the UFAC memo, and the resignation in UFAC, including discipline that falls outside of a senate president's purview and including a remedy "to fix a broken process." The senate president said individuals deserve due process and was critical of memos that emanate outside of defined rules. He said he would solicit volunteers for committees and chair positions. *U.S. News and World Report* has recently reviewed and positively reported on several of CSU's programs.

XIII. New Business

President Krebs introduced a motion to suspend the bylaws to populate Standing committees and senate membership until after the colleges are formed or reorganized under 2.0.

Motion: Through AY2021/2022, Faculty senate will suspend all sections within our bylaws (3344-13-01) related to the election and appointment of senators and committee members who will begin their terms of service on Sept. 1, 2022 in order to create a structure of membership where the apportionment and distribution of positions comports with the new forming colleges that will total just the 6 colleges in Fall 2022 as described by the motion from UFAC that passed senate by vote March 2, 2022: Populating the New Senate Structure based on CSU 2.0 Reorganization. Committee volunteers shall be solicited, and assignments made as described in the Senate bylaws except that where membership is one faculty member per college, the large forming A&S college will be asked to contribute 1 member from the remaining departments listed under Arts and a second member from the remaining departments categorized as Science.

He and several senators from COSHP, Urban and CLASS, other faculty, and a Dean from Science, discussed, at considerable length, details, contingencies, representation, timing, alternatives, and expedients for the motion. Upon a motion, Senate took a quorum call, since some senators had been departing piecemeal, but 30 senators, an adequate quorum, were still present. Three dissented, two abstained, and the remaining 25 of the 30 senators physically present (e.g., not including ones virtually present on zoom) voted to approve the motion.

XIV. Senate adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON APRIL 27, 2022

Professor Rachel Carnell
Senate Recording Secretary