



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate

MINUTES

February 2, 2022

3:00 PM – Moot Court Room LB 101

PRESENT: **Faculty Senate Leadership** R. Krebs, A. Kumar, and R. Carnell; **Faculty Senators** J. Ausherman, M. Bayachou, M. Buckley, D. Choi, B. Conti, S. Drcar, B. Ekelman, D. Forte, L. Francis, J. Goodell, S. Gore-Panter, T. Guzman, D. Hamilton, K. Hamlen-Mansour, D. Hubbard, A. Jouan-Westlund, M. Kwiatkowski, J. Marino, B. McClain, B. Mikelbank, A. Price, E. Rauschert, B. Richards, A. Severson, G. Shukla, D. Smith, A. Sonstegard, and A. Su. **Corresponding Members** L. Bloomberg, J. Holcomb, E. McKinney, M. Barnard, and C. Orahoske. **Ex Officio Limited Members** M. Schultz-Bergin.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Zoom indicated a peak of 130 participants.

The February 2, 2022 meeting was time constrained because the University announced evening class cancellations due to weather conditions.

I. Approval of the Agenda for the February 2, 2022 Meeting Robert Krebs

The meeting was called to order at 3:00, The agenda was approved by acclamation with a slight change in the order of the agenda, following a motion by Senator Shukla, which was passed by voice vote.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 1, 2021 Robert Krebs

The minutes were accepted into the record by acclamation.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate President Robert Krebs

Faculty Senate President Krebs welcomed everyone back after the winter break. He reminded us that we have stopped the practice of verbal eulogies since the pandemic (these now are posted to the Senate webpage). However, he did acknowledge former staff member, Valerie Hinton-Hannah, who served as a Judicial Affairs Officer in the Department of Student Life, and modeled how to resolve conflict in a positive way across university constituencies; Ms. Hinton-Hannah passed away on December 23, 2021.

President Krebs pointed out that much has happened since the last Senate meeting, including a special remote meeting of the faculty of Faculty Senate, on January 12. He referenced the joint statement from faculty and administration on efforts to restrict education about racism and American history, which will be voted on officially in this meeting. He also alluded to the discussions about potentially teaching remotely during snow days.

President Krebs then spoke of the administration's response to the open letter/memo sent by the faculty of Faculty Senate on January 20. As he pointed out, the president, the provost, and the board of trustees all acknowledge that university leadership has pledged to address faculty concerns. Speaking to the particular issue of the anticipated new deans, he reiterated the provost's hope that internal Cleveland State candidates should apply for these positions if interested. Dr. Krebs highlighted other faculty concerns including the use of external contracted firms for yet another master plan and now for a new marketing strategy.

- IV. Motion to Approve Drafted Joint Statement/Resolution from Faculty and Administration Robert Krebs

Senator Krebs introduced the following item which was approved by voice vote, with one nay.

Joint Statement on Efforts to Restrict Education about Racism and American History
(Report No. 11, 2021-2022)

- V. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer Laura Bloomberg
(Report No. 18, 2021-2022)

Provost Bloomberg conveyed President Sands' sincere regrets for his absence and read a note from him in response to the "Open Letter" from the faculty of Faculty Senate. He wrote that "we hear you" and that we "remain committed to working together for the best of CSU."

Provost Bloomberg then shared some thoughts on our current situation in light of a 1962 quote from James Baldwin: "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced." She then acknowledged the challenges facing us, even as she insisted on the accomplishments that we should be proud of, including the just-passed Joint Resolution. She is also grateful that the CSU website demonstrates numerous events for Black History month, even as she expressed her recognition of ongoing racial disparities. Provost Bloomberg also congratulated the faculty and the team lead by Dr. Marius Boboc in our newly granted reaccreditation, even as she acknowledged that there are areas in which the university can improve. She also shared good news about the low pandemic numbers (drawn from self-reporting) on the campus dashboard. In addition, she reported the randomized survey showed that as of last semester, 79% of students who completed that survey were vaccinated.

Provost Bloomberg also acknowledged that she wished contract negotiations had proceeded more quickly, but she is optimistic for a positive resolution soon. She also expressed her appreciation for the discussions, still ongoing, about offering remote learning during inclement weather, a decision that she acknowledged would require faculty input. She also alluded to ongoing conversations about improving student mental health in the current pandemic environment. Provost Bloomberg reminded faculty that the spring commencement is scheduled for May 14; Barbara Smith, who coordinated commencement for many years, will return for the spring event and help to create a "playbook" for the future.

In addressing college realignment, Provost Bloomberg presented slides representing the shape of the new colleges' organizational structures; as she explained, the documents were not intended to be confidential but were retained before being released to make sure they contained no errors. She also

explained that these are not finalized, and may be developed or amended with faculty and staff input. The provost acknowledged that every financial detail of the college reorganization process will not be fully in place before next fall.

She ended with a “Food for Thought” slide about “Zones of Disequilibrium” as we adapt and change. She pointed out the need to avoid the anxiety of “Limits of Tolerance” and the “Threshold of Change.”

VI. University Faculty Affairs Committee

Joanne Goodell

Motion – first reading

A. Populating the New Senate Structure based on CSU 2.0 Reorganization

Senator Goodell, chair of UFAC, referred to the attachment introducing a motion as the first reading of this proposed change in the bylaws, which describes the mechanism for populating Senate after college reorganization. Discussion ensued, and a clarification was offered about the two senators from the Graduate College, inadvertently left off the attachment. A vote on this motion will occur at the next Senate meeting in early March.

(Report No. 12, 2021-2022)

Reports:

B. Senate Review of Proposal to Alter College and Departmental Structures

C. 3344-13-01 (E) College Faculty Bylaws

D. 3344-13-02 (N) Faculty Senate Attendance

Senator Goodell next reported on the Senate role in the review of proposals to alter college and departmental structures, spelling out the Senate and bylaw process, including the UFAC suggested timeline that will likely be followed for all.

She also pointed out, referencing the policy regarding college faculty bylaws, the required, but not hitherto always adhered to, requirement for all approved college bylaws to be maintained in updated form on the Faculty Senate website.

She respectfully reminded senators of the longstanding Senate attendance policy, which requires notifying the Senate Recording Secretary, and/or the administrative assistant, of planned absences, and pointed out the consequences for two or more unexcused absences.

VII. University Curriculum Committee
(Report No. 13, 2021-2022)

Marcus Schultz-Bergin

Discussion Agenda

F. Business Economics Major, BBA

Dr. Schultz-Bergin introduced item F. for discussion; it then passed by voice vote

G. Ad Hoc Committee to Review Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Policy & Implementation

Dr. Schultz-Bergin then introduced item G for discussion, “The UCC moves that the Faculty Senate convene an Ad Hoc Committee to provide a robust review of the existing WAC policy and its implementation as well as propose revisions to the policy.” The motion passed by voice vote.

VIII. Admissions and Standards Committee
(Report No. 14, 2021-2022)

John Holcomb

H. COB Undergraduate Admission and Major Declaration Standards -
General Business College Admission Requirement Updates Only
(no curricular content)

Dean Holcomb reported on behalf of the Committee, and introduced the item, which passed by voice vote.

IX. Budget and Finance Committee Report

Brooke Conti

Senator Conti (on behalf of committee chair Bill Bowen) reported on a recent PFAC meeting, the first in some time. As of January 11, enrollments were down by 1,100 students overall, although graduate enrollment is up, in large part due to new CSU Global students. According to her report, the financial year AY 21-22 looks positive partly due to CARES Act funds. The long-term financial health, according to VP Jewell, is strong for the next few years but is unknown to some extent after that.

X. Undergraduate Student Success Committee

Brian Mikelbank

Committee chair Mikelbank introduced Samantha Philips to encourage faculty to teach the First Year Experience course:

I. First Year Experience at CSU, Samantha Philips, Program Manager
(Report No. 15, 2021-2022)

XI. Student Government Association Report

Martin Barnard

SGA President Barnard read a communication prepared by officers of the student government. Due to time constraints, he did not address activity planning for mental health month.

J. Proposal for Stronger CSU COVID-19 Guidelines and
Upcoming Activity Planning for “Mental Health Month”
(Report No. 16, 2021-2022)

XII. Graduate and Professional Student Association Report

Cody Orahoske

GPSA president Orahoske briefly spoke, due to time constraints, on the update that was included with the meeting materials.

K. GPSA Update and Minutes of their January 24, 2022 Meeting
(Report No. 17, 2021-2022)

XIII. Question Time – a student was given permission (as a non Senator) to ask a question of SGA leadership, which was not answered.

A senator asked a question about the CSU 2.0 “pictograms,” regarding proportional differences in college size and student credit hours; Provost Bloomberg acknowledged that those place holder green squares are meant to be understood as proportional.

XIV. New Business

President Krebs mentioned that the election of Senate leadership positions will be occurring.

XV. Adjournment – 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED MARCH 2, 2022

Professor Rachel Carnell
Senate Recording Secretary