



**CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty Senate**

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**February 3, 2021**

**PRESENT:** **Faculty Senate Leadership** R. Krebs, G. Dyer, and R. Carnell; **Faculty Senators** M. Adams, J. Ausherman, W. Bowen, C.C. Bowen, M. Buckley, B. Conti, D. Davisson, A. Dixit, B. Ekelman, P. Falk, D. Forte, L. Francis, Z. Gao, J. Gatica, D. Geier, S. Gingerich, J. Goodell, D. Hamilton, K. Hamlen-Mansour, C. Hansman, J. Hostutler, Y. Hung, K. Judge, D. Kalir, S. Kaufman, J. Kilbane, A. Kumar, M. Kwiatkowski, J. Marino, B. McClain, K. McIntyre, K. O’Neill, T. Porter, R. Raimer, E. Rauschert, B. Richards, H. Richter, Y. Shen, A. Slifkin, A. Sonstegard, A. Su, R. Tighe, G. Toneff-Cotner, J. Visocky O’Grady, and N. Zingale; **Corresponding Members** A. Ahmetaj, R. Anglin, J. Belovich, R. Betterson, M. Bond, R. Dunn, S. English, L. Fisher, T. Gaspar, E. Grigore, K. Kahn, E. Lehfeldt, S. Nunley, C. Orahoske, A. Robichaud, H. Sands, S. Zachariah, and J. Zhu; **Ex Officio Limited Members** W. Bowen, J. Gatica, J. Goodell, S. Kent, J. Marino, K. McIntyre, B. Mikelbank, S. Patterson, M. Rubado, M. Schultz-Bergin, and A. Smith.

**OTHERS**

**PRESENT:** Zoom indicated a peak of 197 participants.

I. Meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

Agenda was approved (moved by Marino) by acclamation

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of January 13, 2021

Entered in the record by acclamation

III. Report of the Faculty Senate President

Robert Krebs

President Krebs reminded faculty about the upcoming elections for Senate in each college and encouraged faculty to volunteer to serve and for nominating committees to put up a good slate of candidates. He also announced some updates to the Faculty Senate webpage. He complimented the Senate for their input on CSU 2.0 during the January 13 meeting and he acknowledged faculty questions about consultant costs, to which he does not yet have an answer.

Senator Krebs also reminded the group about remote and hybrid “lessons learned” and “best-practices” of which faculty Dr. Molly Buckley-Marudas and Dr. Shelley Rose are involved [the Cleveland Teaching Collaborative (<https://cleteaching.org/>)].

President Krebs asked for input and assistance from anyone who would like to have a dedicated meeting for the backlog of faculty memorial messages; if no one volunteers to take this on, we would not have a zoom meeting for that purpose but instead a website with written eulogies.

IV. Report of the President of the University

Harlan Sands

President Sands spoke about the “momentum” at the end of his third year at Cleveland State, for which he gave credit to the faculty and campus community. He lauded the newly announced Cleveland Innovation District, a joint initiative between the Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth, University Hospitals, CWRU, and CSU. Cleveland state will be the talent pipeline partner. More details are still being negotiated, involving the 19-degree pathways. He also mentioned that this plan will be integrated into CSU 2.0.

President Sands acknowledged that our financial situation is less dire than previously feared because of better enrollment numbers and less severe SSI cuts from the statehouse. Our spring enrollments are better than anticipated because of CSU Global, increasing our graduate enrollment, even as undergraduate enrollment is less than last year.

President Sands received positive feedback from students for flexibility offered in P/F options. He mentioned that 5,400 students have at least some in-person experience on campus. He called attention to CSU Giving Day, February 16. He then introduced VP Forrest Faison to provide a Covid update.

VP Faison reported that CSU has experienced very low numbers of students in quarantine in the residence halls. The student ambassadors report that there is excellent compliance with masking and distancing. Covid testing is being expanded to 20% of students on campus; same-day access is available at Health and Wellness for Covid and mental health related services. Currently, the state government is tightly controlling vaccination distribution and allocations. CSU is working through the logistical details of potentially becoming an eventual vaccination site.

President Sands took questions from faculty, including one from Senator Ausherman about the unexpected alignment of CSU 2.0 Growth and Innovation Task Force and the recent announcement about the Cleveland Innovation District. President Sands acknowledged that it was necessary to be planning for what Jobs Ohio wanted even before any announcement could be made. Senator Zingale asked for more specifics about the 19-degree paths. President Sands suggested looking at Team NEO’s 2018 report on degree-tracks that are needed in Ohio. Senator Visocky-O’Grady asked about lobbying efforts for universities to get college faculty vaccinated, in addition to K-12 teachers. President Sands and VP Faison acknowledged the work being done on this but the difficulty because of vaccine scarcity.

V. University Curriculum Committee

Marcus Schultz-Bergin

UCC chair Dr. Schultz-Bergin introduced the items on the consent agenda, which was approved by voice vote.

**Consent Agenda (Report No. 38, 2020-2021)**

- A. American Studies Minor Courses
- B. General Business Major, B.B.A.
- C. Global Business Certificate
- D. International Business Minor
- E. International Relations & Global Interactions 4+1 (2 separate but related proposals – same name in curriculog)
- F. Literacy Development and Instruction, M.Ed.
- G. Marketing Major, B.B.A.
- H. Marketing Minor
- I. Operations and Supply Chain Management Major
- J. Professional Sales Certificate
- K. Professional Selling Minor
- L. Theatre Arts, B.A.
- M. Urban Real Estate Development and Finance, Graduate Certificate

VI. Report of Student Government Association Renee Betterson

SGA President Betterson reported that SGA has created a cohort of SGA representatives to work with the CSU Foundation. The SGA is also working with the CSU Foundation for Giving Day. She also announced the State of the SGA Address, which is coming soon. President Betterson further reported on the Arbor Day tree planning project, with a tree dedicated in particular to the Class of 2020 for their resilience in the face of the pandemic.

VII. Admissions and Standards Committee Albert “Fred” Smith

UCC chair Smith described the following change, which was passed by voice vote.

N. MUPD (Urban Planning and Development)

Proposed change to admission requirements (addition of a personal statement)—In Curriculog.

VIII. University Faculty Affairs Committee Joanne Goodell

UFAC chair Goodell called attention to the amalgamation of changes that had not yet gone through the Board of Trustees.

She also offered the first-reading of the items not already approved by Senate.

O. Amalgamation of three rounds of changes requested to 3344-13-03

IX. Budget and Finance Committee Report William Bowen

Senator W. Bowen described the committee’s positive meeting with the interim VP for Budget & Finance Marjorie Spencer. He reported that the state subsidy for university tuition has been in decline since the 1990s, when university education became viewed as no longer a “public good.” Ms. Spencer reported that this attitude towards higher education is not likely to change

any time soon. Senator Bowen also reported that the auditor's report gave us a Moody's score of A+, a high score on financial stability.

Committee Chair Bowen also reported on the historic lack of input requested from faculty in Planning Budget Advisory Committee (PBAC) meetings. He said that his committee is happy to report that there will be now once again regular meetings with the Senate Budget and Finance Committee and members of the administration. He also reported on CSU's strong composite score on House Bill 6 ratios, where we rank 4 out of 13 comprehensive public 4-year universities in Ohio.

Senator Bowen noted that some faculty had asked his committee about the costs of consultants for CSU 2.0.

Finally, he reported that this committee is charged with working with the administration on its various potential contracts to grow online enrollment. The administration is currently in conversation with EdPlus, a group at Arizona State, that has given CSU a draft document of needs assessment for some of our ongoing projects. He thanked Provost Zhu and Dean Zachariah for their openness about these discussions.

X. Electronic Learning Committee Jorge Gatica and Sheila Patterson

Co-chair Patterson reported on the proposal to sign on for five more years of Blackboard, at a discount bundle, in consortium with other Ohio universities. Their committee was not asked to consider switching to a different platform. The committee recommends that we pursue this option, largely for reasons of cost-savings and continuity.

Faculty Senate voted in favor of this motion to recommend (with four abstentions).  
**(Report No. 39, 2020-2021)**

Q. Recommendation for Learning Management System  
Contract Renewal  
(Statewide Agreement with Blackboard)

XI. Report of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer Jianping Zhu

Provost Zhu announced the Board of Trustees approved all the PLOA requests for next academic year.

He reiterated the levels of support his office has offered faculty during the pandemic: altered tenure/promotion timeline (with a 1-year extension); workload assignments including some flexibility; developing online resources and panel discussions to support faculty in remote teaching; and seeking input from both faculty and students in disputes between faculty and students.

He thanked everyone for their ongoing efforts in teaching remotely and asked faculty to reach out individually if they need other types of flexibility from his office.

Senator Dyer asked for further information about the 19-degree pathways alluded to by President Sands, particularly regarding the impact on general education. Provost Zhu responded by saying that faculty participation will be essential as the university develops its plan for these degree paths. He also agreed with Professor Dyer's underlying point, acknowledging that the broad general education offered at American universities was a real attraction for foreign students.

XII. Report of Graduate and Professional Student Assn. Cody Orahoske

GPSA Vice President Orahoske reported that his student organization is planning a charity event for Café A Roma, to help support that valuable local business. He also reported that a survey of graduate students showed that most of them are back doing research in their labs and back into practicums. He mentioned the GPSA is recommending some limited number of events on campus, with appropriate social distancing, in response to a survey from Student Life.

XIII. Question Time

Senator Kumar asked for clarification on the CSU 2.0 timeline; President Sands said he would announce the timeline as soon as possible. Senator Eckelman pointed out the importance of getting vaccines for faculty and students in Health Professions.

Senator Gao asked about whether there are data on the impact on the college graduation rate in Ohio on the ever-decreasing state support of higher education, particularly in light of the need to plan the curriculum, for the different types of jobs projected for the future. President Sands spoke to the constant effort he and other public university presidents are making in lobbying for state support. He also mentioned the ongoing need to evaluate and update the curriculum to keep it relevant in a changing world.

Senator Krebs mentioned that Governor DeWine is a supporter of education, and we don't know if future governors will be as supportive. Senator W. Bowen spoke to the need for faculty to be alert to helping correct misrepresentations of faculty in media and government.

XIV. New Business

There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON MARCH 3, 2021**

Professor Rachel Carnell  
Senate Recording Secretary