

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

September 27, 2021

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2021, with Shawnee Hendershot, President, presiding.

Past Minutes

Minutes from the May 3, 2021 meeting were approved.

Guests

Dr. Dellasega, Director of Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology, introduced a new professional development opportunity made available by the CTLT. Next Monday a new online workshop series from Online Learning Consortium will be made available to full-time faculty. Eligible faculty will receive an email and will be enrolled in the workshop CANVAS course which includes additional details and instructions for registering. Faculty who complete the series will receive a stipend made possible from the Provost's Office (CARES funding). Each series includes a \$1,000 stipend with a maximum of \$2,000. The deadline for completion of the series is March 27th. The workshop is self-paced and has received high marks from the faculty consultants currently participating. Direct questions to the CTLT.

Dr. Chung and Ms. Roelfs provided an update on the KBOR working group for General Education. It was shared that the committee is currently discussing a tentative General Education framework that was developed after discussing learning outcomes. If the current framework being discussed is adopted, then there will need to be changes to the Pitt State Pathway. At this point, the most notable difference is in the number of Science hours required. The framework being discussed would require 7-9 hours of Science in two different subject areas. The General Education framework once adopted by KBOR must be followed by KBOR institutions. Institutions will determine which of their courses to include in the framework according to stated learning outcomes. Dr. Smith noted that a systemwide General Education package in addition to the state's desire for high school graduates to leave high school with a significant number of college hours could greatly diminish the freshmen year and subsequently tuition revenues.

Announcements

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Howard Smith

Dr. Smith shared the following topics currently on KBOR's agenda: 1) the adopted policy to allow up to 75 credit hours from a community college (2-yr school) to apply towards a Baccalaureate degree, 2) the creation of a Student Health task force to review efficiency, 3) the achievement of enrollment targets for new programs, and 4) the program review process on each campus. Each institution will determine their degrees where the new 75-hour rule would be possible. At this point, the BS in General Studies may be our only applicable degree. In regards to the creation of a Student Health task force only one Student Health staff member will be chosen to represent all campuses. Low enrollment and the program review process continue to be hot topics. Information was recently shared by KBOR regarding program counts. Of the regionals, PSU has the highest number of undergraduate programs. There continues to be questions regarding the addition of new programs at a time when enrollment continues to dip. Fall enrollment is down overall and for both undergraduate and graduate. There was a slight uptick with new freshmen and international students. Rick Webb has been chosen to chair the Presidential Search committee. Two KBOR members will serve as co-chairs. It was also announced that the ESU President has resigned.

PSU/KNEA –Khamis Siam, President

Dr. Siam shared that negotiations have continued and have included the Professional Development opportunity through the CTLT and vaccination incentives. Some timelines and language on the contract are still being reviewed. In addition, a \$1,000 per faculty enrollment incentive has been discussed. PSU KNEA has confirmed a \$500 promotion for faculty at all levels for the next contract.

Student Senate – Kaedra Brenner, Representative

No report.

Unclassified Professional Senate – Mary Jo Meier, President

Ms. Meier announced that UPS had their first meeting on September 1st with Dr. Scott as guest speaker.

University Support Staff – Jeannice Parker, President

Ms. Parker noted the committee met in August to review by-laws and committees. In addition, the committee is assisting with the upcoming satisfaction survey. Also an incentive committee was created to review the additional employee benefits from Student Life that were added in 2017 (i.e. Student Recreation Center limited access).

Faculty Senate President – Shawnee Hendershot, President

Dr. Hendershot reported the following discussions taking place at KBOR: 1) the KBOR working group discussing systemwide General Education package, 2) the proposal to allow up to 75 credit hours from a community college (2-yr school) to apply towards a Baccalaureate degree, and 3) a review of the Credit for Prior Learning policy. If you are interested in reviewing the Credit for Prior Learning document, please contact Dr. Hendershot.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – Mike Carper, Chair

No report.

Undergraduate Curriculum – Mary Jo Goedeke, Chair

It was reported that there were 15 submissions up for review (13 Arts & Sciences; 2 Technology). The BS in Computer Science along with the corresponding new courses and the revision to the Justice Studies minor to Public Policy were sent back requesting clarification. The clarification has been received for both, but there was not time for the committee to vote prior to the Faculty Senate meeting. The committee will meet next week to review the clarifications received.

All other curriculum items were approved by the committee and were recommended for approval by Faculty Senate.

All curriculum items recommended by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee were approved.

Library Services/Learning Resources – TBD, Chair

No report.

Online and Distance Learning – TBD, Chair

No report.

Academic Honors – Matthew Lunde, Chair

No report.

Honors College – Michelle Hudiburg, Chair

No report.

Writing Across the Curriculum – Alex Binder, Chair

No report.

Diversity and Multicultural Affairs – Eric Rojas, Chair

No report.

Student-Faculty – Tracy Stahl, Chair

Committee met on September 7th. It was suggested at the meeting that the committee may want to review the Academic Misconduct policy during the year.

All University Committee – John Daley, Chair

No report.

Faculty Affairs – Jennifer Harris, Chair

It was reported that the request to the PSU Foundation to provide \$100,000 for professional development travel was approved. To date, six requests have been submitted.

Constitution Committee –Norman Philipp, Chair

Committee met on September 2nd. No business to report at this time.

Pitt State Pathway Committee – Bob Kehle, Chair

No report.

Budget Committee – Chris Childers, Chair

No report.

Academic Honesty – Karen Johnson, Chair

It was reported that there is one case involving two students being reviewed. The faculty has requested that the grades be changed to an “XF” on the students’ transcripts.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

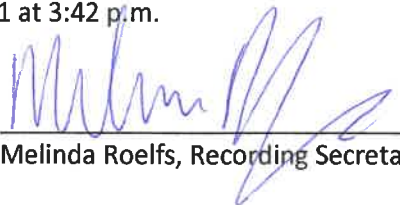
A question was raised regarding the need for the chair of a committee to be a Faculty Senate member. This is currently not a requirement. It was suggested to make sure that the person secured as the reporter is a Faculty Senate member; the chair does not have to be.

Open Forum

None.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned Monday, September 27, 2021 at 3:42 p.m.



Melinda Roelfs, Recording Secretary

