

## USS Senate Meeting

April 10, 2020

Via Microsoft Teams

Senators present: Debbie Barone, Barb Barto, Carrol Bell, Kathy Benard, Terri Blessent, Brandi Boswell, Kevin Elrod, Michelle Hensley, Tim James, Diane Letner, Jerrica Lair, Jeannice Parker, Terry Pierce, Tish Potter, Stephanie Willis, Mary Wolfe.

Senators absent: Betty Geier, Tina Gregory, Woody Lopez

- I. Meeting was called to order by President, Terry Pierce, at 9:00 a.m.
- II. Dr. Scott – guest speaker, giving USS Senate an update about what is going on since the COVID-19 pandemic
  - a. Federal level – We have to reimburse the students for losses due to this pandemic, PSU was given \$5.2 million, in which half has to go towards reimbursing students, and the other half will provide some relief to PSU for lost revenue. ESU received \$1 million less and FHSU received \$2 million less due to already having a large amount of online students.
  - b. State level – waiting on the Federal Gov't to initiate what they are going to do so that they know what they need to do to help. March revenue down about \$8 billion (2%), but thankfully Kansas has a rainy day fund so will not be completely in the hole. Looking, possibly, at a 15% cut in allocations to KS institutions.
  - c. Campus level – Send emails to Dr. Scott @ [sascott@pittstate.edu](mailto:sascott@pittstate.edu) if you have questions, concerns or ideas. Dr. Scott mentioned we will not be able to continue to pay everyone for working from home, some areas simply cannot do their work from home, but because of the nature of this incident, Dr. Scott (and other University Presidents) decided this was the right thing to do, and thought it was going to be a few weeks. With that being said, do YOUR part and WASH your hands and DISTANCE yourself from others so that we may be able to get back to work...on campus.
- III. Review of March minutes....slight hiccup in the system, several people didn't think they had been sent out so we tabled approval of the March minutes until May meeting. (The minutes were emailed out on March 13<sup>th</sup>) and Terri Blessent re-sent them again right after the meeting.
- IV. Treasurer's Report:
- V. Regular account: Beginning balance \$2,103.21, expenditures of \$5.13 – group photo, \$50.00 – Voya award, ending balance \$2,048.08 Foundation account: \$57.04
- VI. Faculty Senate: Kevin Bracker, President, called for a special meeting for approving the pass/fail for grades this semester. Registrar will change class by class if student chooses to go that direction. Online teaching: surveyed his professors last week, all responses have been all positive ones so far.
- VII. Committee Reports:
  1. Elections: Nothing to report at this time
  2. Public Relations: Nothing to report at this time

3. Welcoming Committee: No new hires, now have a hiring freeze, so won't be any for a while.
4. Parking: next meeting 4/17/2020
5. Board of Governance: Nothing at this time, canceled until the fall
6. Strategic Planning: last meeting canceled, probably on hold until back on campus
7. ITS: Nothing to report at this time
8. Campus Safety: Betty absent so nothing to report at this time
9. USLCC: S. Naccarato and R. Scott spoke at last meeting but nothing significant taken from that meeting.
10. Outstanding Senior: Voting closed, hope everyone took their opportunity to go out and vote. Meeting at 10:00 a.m. today (4/10/2020) to go over results.

Old Business: none

New Business: Dr. Scott touched on the Families First policy, it is new and complicated and convoluted. There is a summary page and a leave form on the HRS website. This policy allows you to be off and paid while taking care of a family member with COVID-19, but under different circumstances.

The Group meeting to Emporia State University has been canceled.

As of right now, our May meeting will take place on Teams as this meeting did, unless something changes.

There was a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn meeting: Meeting adjourned 9:49 a.m. by President, Terry Pierce