

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE FACULTY SENATE
JULY 15, 2020**

PRESENT: J. Ausherman, C. C. Bowen, W. Bowen, M. Buckley, B. Conti, G. Dyer, B. Ekelman, D. Elkins, P. Falk, D. Forte, V. C. Gallagher, D. Geier, J. Goodell, C. Hansman, M. Kalafatis, J. Kilbane, R. Krebs, A. Kumar, M. Kwiatkowski, J. Marino, B. Mikelbank, G. Pettey, T. Porter, R. Raimer, A. Slifkin, J. Visocky-O'Grady, J. Holcomb, H. Sands, J. Zhu, C. Heyward, S. Kent, M. Thrash.

OTHERS

PRESENT: S. Adluri, C. Bracken, E. Domholdt, F. Faison, R. Kleidman, I. Koukhanova, E. Kullman, R. Lustig, K. McNamara, M. Rodriguez, F. Roncagli, X. Sun, J. Vitali, C. Wheeler, J. Wolin, V. Wright.

I. Approval of the Agenda for the July 15, 2020 Meeting

Faculty Senate President William Bowen called the meeting to order. He noted that the first item on the Agenda is approval of the Agenda. He then asked for a motion to approve today's agenda. It was moved, seconded and the Agenda was unanimously approved by voice vote.

II. Report of the Faculty Senate President

Dr. Bowen noted that it is great to see so many people logged on for this meeting! Before the pandemic, people used to stay away from Faculty Senate meetings in droves.

DHS International Student Guidance Statement (Report No. 114, 2019-2020)

Dr. W. Bowen: You may have seen last week a message about our international students that was drafted and signed by President Sands and endorsed by the Provost and the Faculty Senate President. The message responded to the recent Department of Homeland Security guidance that forced the international students into a situation in which even during COVID-19 they had a choice between either taking classes on campus or getting deported. A draft of that message was considered at the Academic Steering Committee last week, and the vote there was unanimous in favor of the Senate President signing it on behalf of the Senate. The idea was to make sure that our international students have our full institutional support and commitment. The message made this perfectly clear. Thank you, President Sands for taking such prompt initiatives on that very important matter. Now, thankfully, the news says that Homeland Security has backed off and possibly even reversed itself, perhaps something President Sands will address in his report.

In terms of recent goings-on at Ohio Faculty Council, more than a few of Ohio's public colleges and universities are undertaking large scale reorganization efforts such as the one we seem about to undertake. In response, the Ohio Faculty Council this month will consider

alteration that applies whenever units are merged, abolished, or suspended. You can find it on the Senate website. The Senate Presidents and representatives from the various universities at OFC have reported being under the impression that at least several of the university reorganization efforts are ostensibly being undertaken to reduce the respective university's budget, though it has not been made clear how or in what amount. Recognizing the financial stressors that most Ohio public universities are facing, the OFC is considering the option of making a formal call on our administrative leaders to be transparent about our institutions' finances and to share with the faculty the actual expected budgetary reductions that reorganization will provide. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of making a formal call to consistently place the academic mission of our colleges and universities above all other priorities, and to take every reasonable precaution to ensure that proposals to reorganize will be effective and successful, for example through stipulating explicit goals along with measurable objectives and expected outcomes. Universities need to be careful not to value inchoate objectives or perceived efficiencies above all else, while also acting as stewards of important (and limited) public resources.

On Monday, President Sands announced CSU's Police Review Task Force. Speaking for myself and for the several Col. W. Ajax Peris, a former U.S. other people I've spoken with about this, the task force is a tremendously positive, introspective response to some of the persistent institutionalized inequality that more than a few of our students and potential students, faculty, staff and community members face due to their race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, age, or sexual orientation, sometimes on a daily basis. Hopefully, we'll learn more about this during the University President's report.

Several of you, as well as the President, have asked for the Faculty Senate leadership to step up and consider the many issues of discrimination and injustice within our own academic domain. So, I've had numerous conversations with a number of you, as well as with others around the university about what the Senate might say and/or do. As it turns out, the matter is nuanced and complicated. Let me explain by way of an example.

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and offices. Last month during the Senate President's report, I invited expressions of interest in forming such a group and getting together to write a statement for the Senate to consider endorsing. Since then, several members of Senate have contacted me and expressed interest and willingness to participate. I've also invited the Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee who agreed to participate, and Dean Anglin, who is a corresponding member of Senate by virtue of the fact that he is a dean, and who thinks very deeply and clearly about these matters. One goal will be to get a conversation started and possibly to have a statement for Senate to consider by early in the fall semester.

These are exceedingly difficult, hard, and sensitive issues to begin with and we are considering them during extraordinary

The CSU 2.0 process and five sub-groups. The President acknowledged the need for faculty participation and that there are 20 involved, beyond chairs and deans.

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for years for other viruses, but this virus does not seem to be behaving in this manner. We will work with authorities to get our share when it is available.

IV. Admissions and Standards Committee

Dr. Marvin Thrash, chair of the Admissions and Standards Committee, presented two proposals.

A. Waiver of the ACT and SAT for another academic year (**Report No. 115, 2019-2020**)

“Request to extend the existing waiver for the ACT/SAT requirement for undergraduate admission to the spring 2021, summer 2021, and fall 2021 terms.”
Most major institutions in Ohio have already made the test optional.

There were no questions. The proposal was approved unanimously by voice vote.

B. Waiver of the GRE and GMAT for one additional semester

Revised Proposal:

The COVID-19 pandemic is still present and serious. Before entering class, you should have completed your daily health assessment. While you are in class on campus, you are required to sit in your **designated assigned** seat, maintain physical distance, wear your facial covering (e.g., masks or face shields), always cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue, use the materials provided to clean your desk and chair before and after use, and adhere to other public safety protocols and directives for your specific classroom/lab/studio.

Students who do not follow these health and safety requirements will be **instructed asked** to leave class immediately. Students who violate this protocol will need to leave the classroom and MAY be marked absent. Repeated violations of these health-saving protocols may lead to sanctions under the **Student Code of Conduct** up to and including suspension or expulsion. The CSU community thanks you for your cooperation!

As a corresponding member of Faculty Senate, Provost Zhu moved formal endorsement of the proposed Health and Safety Statement for syllabus.

Senator Gary Pettey seconded the motion.

Senate Vice President Gary Dyer asked for clarification. Are we mandating or are we endorsing the proposal? Provost Zhu replied that we require you to.1(mateafety Pre tives) Tc17.155 -1.15 TD

Beth Ekelman: Change assigned seat to designated seat. Add Student Conduct Code up to and including ...

Senator David Elkins: How will the logistics work with regard to cleaning before class? Is the cleaning to take place in that 15 minutes time between classes?

Senator Bob Krebs: Looking at more remote, how can we supervise and make sure the students are participating? Is the university going to have a source for students?

Provost Zhu: We have some cameras for faculty. For students, starting in past spring, we had resources and will continue.

Senator David Forte: Is this the last meeting chaired by Bill? Thank you for an extraordinary set of years. We are grateful to be faculty with you.

Senate President Bill Bowen: Thank you, it has been an honor.

VII. New Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Coleman Gallagher
Faculty Senate Secretary

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