

Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda
11am, Zoom meeting
10/28/2021

Present: Robin Weaver, Bob Mehalik, JP Staszal, Mark Lennon, Candice Riley, Carolyn Wass, Carrie Elkin, Cassandra Kuba, Emily Sweitzer, Jeanne Fazekas, Jesse Eiben, Jim Hoover, Kristen Schaffner, Libby Larsen, Peter Cormas, Paul Sible, Stephanie Stern, Jeffrey Giovannucci, Brenton Wilburn, Wendy Batts, Andrea Cencich, Clover Wright, Brian Oddi, Todd Pinkham (*Please let me know if I missed anyone*)

Guest: Scott Miller, Senior VP of Academic Affairs and Provost for Penn West

Call to Order (19)- 22

1. **Review/Approval** of 9/9/2021 Summary Notes
2. **Elected position-** JP Staszal congratulations for be elected to serve as Vice President for Senate

Old Business

3. **Faculty Senate Administration Evaluations Subcommittee**
4. **Shared Governance Issues – Strategic Plans**
5. **Shared Governance Evaluation (Middle States, Standard VII)**
6. **Student Government Representation**
7. **Zoom meetings**
8. ***By-Law update/Senate Membership – Revisit***

New Business

9. **Introduction of Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost for Penn West University - Dr. Scott Miller**
 - Scott Miller, expressed gratitude to all faculty for the work they are doing in teaching, advising students, and assisting in the integration process
 - Q: Home campus? Mainly in Edinboro because live in Erie but no home base as we are all one faculty/university
 - Q: Meeting Format? Zoom helps to facilitate meetings and communications but back-to-back can be challenging when F2F (need to build in travel time when transitioning back to campus)

- Q: When will dean for department of health sciences be selected? Within next day or 2 for dean for letters of interest. There will be a call for letters by November 8th, CV and letter of interest
- Committee of Provosts and Scott Miller, and representative from each college will review applications.
- Interview recommendations will be sent to the president
- Dean will be a 2-year appointment, possible extension of one year, interim, didn't want to commit to national search at this time. Faculty interested in this position would be able to migrate back to faculty at the end of the interim appoints if necessary.
- There will be two Associate Provost positions. One deals primarily with curricular matters. The other will deal with faculty relations (promotion, tenure, student issues, grad piece), graduate studies, coordinate grad council, deal with allocation of GAs, scheduling of faculty, and work with the honors program. Assist Provost will be responsible for attending meetings as needed. Provost stepping in as needed.
- The new organization chart still needs to be finalized
- Will be addressing Registrar and Librarian appointments
- The Associate Provosts will be assigned around the same time line as the Dean of Health Sciences
- The Lead role (described in the side letters) is to a resource for students, they will not have to be physical all the time
- Q: What is your vision of top priorities in your new role? Synthesis through graduation, undergrad and gen ed array. Anticipate gen ed and grad programs should be completed at the time S. Miller take the lead. Need to establish a good working relationship with all to ensure working as a team. Want to encourage dialogue: One team at one university. Each campus will have their own athletics and branding but everything else should be Penn West.
- Interim curriculum committee should be in place soon
- Integrated faculty senate would like to adopt the inclusion of a curricular piece w/i faculty senate
- S. Miller states senate will be whatever you envision by the faculty, it is a faculty senate. Explain Edinboro's senate was young in the curriculum process.
- What is the role of senate? Better communication, Broad representation would make sense. Would make sense to keep a piece of curriculum. Anticipate engaging admin to move university moving forward
- UCC, once the program array is set the UCC will start. Negotiations continue with program array. Program array will always be a fluid document.
- Q: What are thought about vaccine requirement? Can't have an opinion; by standards of commonwealth, we aren't allowed to take a position. K-12 schools are not part of the commonwealth so they have more flexibility; can't even ask if they are vaccinated
- Q: What amount of work release (WKE) would you expect to be approved for the Penn West? S. Miller would like to approach from a structured-systems prospective
- Q: What is your perspective about Penn West? Will offer high-quality academic programs.

- **Q:** When students express concern and/or upset about integration losing identity faculty have been referring students to FAQ page. Do you have any suggestions for students to have more of a voice? Been having meetings, speak in one voice in support of integration. This is a good thing. Penn West will be a powerhouse university which will be a positive for students graduating from the system. Plan to keep athletics and mascots. Plan to keep continuity as much as possible. It is a positive that Penn West will have support from other faculty across the campuses.
- Susan Fenski, institutional research leading development/maintenance of co-curricular activities. She will be establishing a way to document participation. Participation in co-curricular activities will help to expand resume,
- S. Miller, everyone has worked hard over past few years to be transparent, like to bring people in

10. Faculty Senate Integration Subgroup Update

Update on Integration for faculty senate: The group will be again meeting at noon today. At today's meeting, representatives from Baker Tilly will join to discuss laying out flow of integration. The group is addressing how best to establish representation for the new integrated senate. Tentatively, it has been agreed there will be a representative from each new department; 4 at-large members (one from CalU, Clarion, Edinboro and the Online branch) during transition. Originally wanted elections in spring for start-up in fall. The group is leaning toward establishing an interim group for a year until the integration can progress and new departments can start to work together. Leadership on the interim senate would come from members of the integrated senate committee for the first year. Senate will add a curricular component to its bylaws. There is a desire to streamline the curriculum piece. The new senate will maintain the opportunity for any faculty to raise issues, questions, or concerns with the new senate.

11. University Senate Discussion - deferred

12. Completion/Removal of Old Business Items- Items listed under old business have been addressed and will be removed from future agendas.

13. Next meetings Fall 2021 – November 18th, and December 2nd (tentative)

Announcements/Open Forum

- **Q: How will the promotion process work this year?** Who will be the provost making promotion decisions? R. Weaver shared, at meet and discuss, Provost Engstrom has made it clear, he will remain Provost until June 30th. The promotion process is to occur as it has in prior years. Anticipate, since the decision to approve or not approve promotion are required to be completed by July but can be completed prior to July, it is expected that decisions will be made prior to the changeover in provosts.

Adjournment