

Minutes

January 27, 2020

4:00 PM

University Faculty Senate
Shawnee State University

1. Call to Order

UFS President Tony Ward called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Secretary Jennifer Napper recorded the attendance (as follows):

Sarah Minter, Phil Blau, Eugene Burns, Linda Hunt, Barbara Warnock, Tom Piontek, Georgeann Kamer, Thomas Bunting, Sheena Shifko, Keijing Liu, Ruby Gray, Janet Feight (sub for Dan Johnson), Mich Nyawalo, Isabel Graziani, Cynthia Hermanson, Adam Miller and officers, Tony Ward, Kyle Vick, and Jennifer Napper).

Absent: Mikel Stone, Sarah Clausing, and Jim Reneau.

3. Minutes: Motion to approve November minutes was seconded by Linda Hunt.

4. Agenda: A late item of appointing members to the SEA/UFS annual party planning committee was added to new business (11b). Motion to approve the amended agenda was seconded by Tom Piontek. Approved unanimously.

5. Remarks from President Tony Ward:

Welcome back to a new semester and our first UFS meeting of the new year. While this agenda may seem light in terms of only one (1) curricular item there are a lot of things going on at the University. Since our November meeting, we had our Fall Commencement (143 graduates), Christmas/Holiday Break, we snuck in a Board of Trustees Meeting as well as two Ohio Faculty Senate meetings. In truth, the business of Shawnee State University and Higher Education does not end.

I want to take a few moments to provide some updates from the January 10, BOT meeting. First, we had three former colleagues who were granted Professor Emeritus status:

Karen Crummie, J.D. Karen served SSU for more than 20 years in the Department of Business.

Larry Essman. Larry served SSU for more than 30 years in the Department of Business.

Sharon Scott. Sharon served SSU for more than 30 years in the Department of Nursing.

In other good news it appears that our numbers are up this spring compared to 2019 (I believe we will get the 15-day report numbers today or tomorrow). One area from our enrollment numbers which was presented at the BOT meeting was how College Credit Plus (CCP) fits into our recruiting and admissions strategies. You may have noticed over the past few years that our CCP numbers have increased rather significantly. This can be both positive and something to take into account for our recruitment strategy. Obviously, we do not get the same tuition from these students and our budget will see some impact from this. It is a positive in that we are getting students earlier and hopefully giving them a head start and good experiences with SSU. If we are able to convince these students to continue at SSU, it would be a net positive. I did learn that we could be doing better with CCP students if we are able to increase our reach by expanding our CCP offerings into more schools.

We have begun our Focus Groups (stakeholder engagement) meetings as part of the Strategic Planning update. I encourage all who get invited to please participate if you can.

6. Treasurer's Report: No treasurer's report this month.

7. Administrative Reports:

President Jeff Bauer's report:

- Strategic plan. The administration is in the process of reaching out to 8 or 9 small focus groups. Each group has a set of questions to respond to and they are also looking at the totality of goals and strategies developed at this point. They will summarize the information that comes out of these focus groups and make it available to the university-wide committees. These committees in turn will design action projects based on that information which will be a part of the strategic plan. A rough draft of the updated strategic plan is estimated to be completed by the end of February. This will include the strategic enrollment plan that was designed last year with updates.
 - The President commented that the most important part of this round of strategic planning, is to develop an academic portfolio. Answering the question: what should an academic portfolio look

like for Shawnee State in the next five years and ten years etc. and establishing a pathway to get to there.

- The Vice President searches continue. Candidates for the VP of Finance have interviewed on campus in the last couple of weeks and one more this week. Hopefully, the search committee will be able to make a recommendation soon. The Provost position search is a little slower by design but is still working on shortlisting applicants.
- The Great Colleges to Work for Survey. The time that the survey was administered was not the best time, but it did illicit some visceral responses from faculty, staff, and administration that helps to establish a baseline. It also indicates that this isn't such a great place to be for a lot of the employees that are committed to the university. But working conditions can be made much better. Some projects and tactics of the strategic plan will be devoted to these improvements.
- Smoke free campus. Still working its way through. Feedback from the two unions and other constituent groups have been obtained. The next step is to work on establishing MOUs to soften the transition to a smoke free campus and still meet the needs of the employees. The hope is to bring a revised policy to the BOT's March meeting.
- The new rec center is now open for business. There are still a few more changes to be made. It is for faculty and staff as well as students, so check it out.
- The administration is consulting an architect to create a nice branded gateway to the university. The hope is to share plans by the end of the semester. They are also making a point to be good partners with the community and the city as well. They have an informal agreement with Portsmouth that the master plans of the city and the university will operate in concert to give the best of both groups. We'd like to make the community more a part of the campus and university to be more a part of downtown.
- A very large Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant was received to renovate the Kricker Innovation Hub. That project will move forward in the next year.
- The President encourages everyone to come to the President's Gala on April 25th.

Interim Provost Becky Thiel's report:

- Update on the Academic Resource Management Committee – the Committee met last week and revised the items for the three-year annual monitoring survey. We should have this ready to start through the governance system by next month. In addition, a proposal for a new BS in Geology was unanimously approved. This should be coming through governance very soon.
- Drs. Chris Kacir and Paul Madden along with Ms. Mariah Woodward are scheduled to visit the Medical Education Training Center in San Antonio, TX next week to finalize an articulation agreement with several of their health science programs. This would be the first agreement with an institution of higher education in Ohio. Staff at ODHE are excited to be able to announce this.
- The Program Review process is now 5 years old and will be revisited for edits and tweaks. A six-member group will convene to make suggestions and changes.
- We are still waiting on the final approval from HLC for the OTD Program. The preliminary report was very positive.
- Dr. Barb Warnock has been appointed Interim Chair of the Department of Rehabilitation and Sport Studies. She is also the program director for the MOT program. Dr. Mikel Stone has been appointed the program director for the new OTD program.
- Remind you of Faculty Festival of Achievement and Celebration of Scholarship. Faculty Festival of Achievement submissions due February 21 to TLC. Submissions for Celebration of Scholarship are due March 20. Both Celebrations will be held during the week of April 6 thru 10.

8. Announcements from Senate floor:

- TLC sessions: tomorrow Assessment Workshop I and at 3:30 is a Curriculum refresher. There's another one the following week on February 3 at 2pm. Only need one refresher.

9. Committee and Director Reports

a. UFS Executive Committee: Kyle Vick, Vice President

- December OFC meeting.
 - HB404 allows electronic attendance at board meetings is being fast tracked.
 - SB40 would essentially turn universities into “super free speech” zones making free speech even more protected on campuses. It would also take away university's sovereign immunity, meaning universities could be sued if

someone thought that the university was impeding their free speech. Work is ongoing to soften the language in these portions of the bill.

- Ben Givens became the new chair of OFC.
- TechCred passed between the December and January meeting. It is a program that allows companies to sponsor a student to enroll in a program at a university and obtain a certificate or credential. The program must be a year or less in length. This is something that Shawnee State could potentially benefit from if we look for programs that local companies might find useful. It could also help us politically since the state is interested in seeing universities take advantage of this and will be keeping track.
- From the January meeting: there is going to be a new textbook affordability bill coming soon.

10. Unfinished Business

None.

11. New Business

- A. Teacher Learning Leadership Endorsement. A graduate council proposal to warehouse due to lack of enrollment in the past three years. Georganne Kamer seconded the motion to take up this item. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. UFS/SEA party planning committee (added item). 3 UFS volunteers are needed to help plan the UFS/SEA social gathering. No one volunteered at the meeting so President Ward will solicit nominations via email.

12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Isabel Graziani at 4:38p.m.