**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**Monday, April 19, 2021**

**via Zoom**

Faculty Council Web site: <http://behrend.psu.edu/for-faculty-staff/committees/faculty-senate-and-council>

1. Call to Order – Emily Cassano, Faculty Senate Chair
2. Approval of minutes from February Faculty Senate Meeting
   1. Eva Kuttenberg and Jeffrey M
3. Ralph Ford, Chancellor
   1. It has been a historic and difficult year. Thank you to Emily and welcome to Ed Evans and Lisa Elliot for next year.
   2. Commencement will be held in person and outside this year at the soccer stadium with 2 ceremonies. Please RSVP if you would like to attend, but you will need a ticket.
   3. Vaccines
      1. Over 70% of faculty and staff have started vaccinations.
      2. Faculty are recommended to encourage students to sign up
   4. Fall 2021 to return to “normal”, but we will wait to see what that entails. We will be following all guidelines.
   5. Sports camps and college for kids will return this summer.
   6. First year applications. The numbers are up 1%, but students are applying to far more institutions. We are exactly equal to where we were last year, but there are several weeks left.
4. Pam Silver, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
   1. Reminder that this fall we can do remote asynchronous or in-person classes. We are not accommodating synchronous online teaching. The reasoning is due to accreditation. Students may need to go fully remote; if so advise them to transfer to World Campus. They may also use DLC, Digital Learning Courses or may request a leave of absence. As an advisor, reach out to them. The Keep Teaching website has more information.
   2. We will not be teaching in 2 modes at once.
   3. If a faculty member or a member of their family has a health reason, please reach out to Kim Paris.
   4. Behrend procedural guideline updates
      1. ECF 23 Supplemental Compensation
      2. BCF 22 Development of online courses compensation
   5. Thank you to faculty for all that you have done
   6. Question to Pam – Can we accommodate students in quarantine with remote teaching methods? Her answer – Help that student as you would any other type of absence from class. Be aware that you cannot request proof of a medical excuse.
5. Ivor Knight, Research
   1. Preparing for summer research
      1. 30 undergrad research grants at about $97,000 total
      2. 7 students will be housed on campus
      3. 7 faculty seed grant awards made
      4. Masking and social distancing plans are in place for faculty doing research this summer
   2. Requests for proposal for U.C. research for next year to go out soon
6. Matthew Swinarski gave updates from the March 16 Senate meeting
   1. Salary Report – OPAIR on their website
   2. Ken Davis – report on grad council
      1. Updating academic policies
   3. President Baron gave comments
      1. Still looking forward
   4. Vice President Jones
      1. Possibility we will have salary increases
   5. Ombudsmen reports were given
   6. Curriculum system
   7. New policy on consensual relationships
   8. A comment was made from a faculty member that Faculty Affairs to take a charge for gender pay inequities as well as pay inequities between the schools
7. Old business – Rod Troester
   1. Task force on student life and undergraduate studies to evaluate first year seminars and develop a model syllabus
   2. Rod reported on how they examined the past policies, the recommendations they are making, and the next steps for this process to move forward
8. New business – none
9. Announcements - none
10. Motion to adjourn
    1. Luciana Arone and Carol Lee Putman