

**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>

- I. Call to Order – Emily Cassano, Faculty Senate Chair
- II. Approval of minutes from February Faculty Senate Meeting
  - a. Eva Kuttentberg and Jeffrey M
- III. Ralph Ford, Chancellor
  - a. It has been a historic and difficult year. Thank you to Emily and welcome to Ed Evans and Lisa Elliot for next year.
  - b. 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.
  - c. Vaccines
    - i. Over 70% of faculty and staff have started vaccinations.
    - ii. Faculty are recommended to encourage students to sign up
  - d. Fall 2021 to return to “normal”, but we will wait to see what that entails. We will be following all guidelines.
  - e. Sports camps and college for kids will return this summer.
  - f. 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.
- IV. Pam Silver, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
  - a. 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.
  - b. We will not be teaching in 2 modes at once.
  - c. If a faculty member or a member of their family has a health reason, please reach out to Kim Paris.
  - d. Behrend procedural guideline updates
    - i. ECF 23 Supplemental Compensation
    - ii. BCF 22 Development of online courses compensation
  - e. Thank you to faculty for all that you have done
  - f. 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.
- V. Ivor Knight, Research
  - a. Preparing for summer research
    - i. 30 undergrad research grants at about \$97,000 total
    - ii. 7 students will be housed on campus
    - iii. 7 faculty seed grant awards made
    - iv. Masking and social distancing plans are in place for faculty doing research this summer
  - b. Requests for proposal for U.C. research for next year to go out soon

- VI. Matthew Swinarski gave updates from the March 16 Senate meeting
  - a. Salary Report – OPAIR on their website
  - b. Ken Davis – report on grad council
    - i. Updating academic policies
  - c. President Baron gave comments
    - i. Still looking forward
  - d. Vice President Jones
    - i. Possibility we will have salary increases
  - e. Ombudsmen reports were given
  - f. Curriculum system
  - g. New policy on consensual relationships
  - h. 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
  
- VII. Old business – Rod Troester
  - a. Task force on student life and undergraduate studies to evaluate first year seminars and develop a model syllabus
  - b. Rod reported on how they examined the past policies, the recommendations they are making, and the next steps for this process to move forward
  
- VIII. New business – none
  
- IX. Announcements - none
  
- X. Motion to adjourn
  - a. Luciana Arone and Carol Lee Putman