

# FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 10, 2020

1:00 PM – 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 April Faculty Senate Meeting
  - a. Carol Putnam and Lisa Eliot
- III. Welcome and Comments from the Chair
- IV. Chancellor's Report – Ralph Ford
  - a. Welcome, things are going well
  - b. Thank you to Emily for taking the role of Faculty Senate Chair
  - c. Update on operations
    - i. Residence halls have around 1100 students, this is usually around 1900
    - ii. Masking compliance is very good
    - iii. Student activities are ongoing, many are either remote or outdoors
  - d. Covid-19 Processes
    - i. 6 cases on Covid-19 positives so far, 2 are active with students in isolation
    - ii. 2.1% positivity rate
    - iii. Largely off-campus, small gatherings, roommates
    - iv. No evidence of any large events
    - v. No evidence of transmission to faculty
    - vi. Masking is important
    - vii. There are 2 types of testing
      1. Symptomatic Testing
        - a. Treated by the health and Wellness Center
        - b. Student taken to isolation for 10 days
        - c. Contacts are quarantined
        - d. Notification sent to faculty members
      2. Surveillance Testing
        - a. Testing performed by an outside service provider, Vault
        - b. For example
          - i. Student takes test, 3 day wait for results
          - ii. Vault notifies student, then PSU
          - iii. Faculty is notified (could be up to 4 days later)
          - iv. Students will notify contacts and faculty
          - v. Multi-layered approach, including masking and distancing
    - viii. C. Payne mentioned that students have concerns about the dashboard and other information. They would like to know how they can support other students in quarantine. P. Silver suggests she contact Kelly Shrout or Jill Fox.
    - ix. There is a new version of the dashboard coming out soon. It is updated twice per week.
      - x. Students need to know that if they feel sick, they should get tested.
      - xi. Students and employees should get flu shots.
      - xii. If UP goes to remote learning, it does not mean that Behrend will go remote.

- e. Enrollment at Behrend
  - i. Residential enrollment is down 11.5%
  - ii. World Campus is up 14%
  
- V. Pam Silver, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
  - a. Guidance is coming soon on peer reviews.
  - b. If you are teaching in mixed mode, please do not just stop without talking to your school director
  - c. Please do your early progress reporting
  - d. Strategic planning is ramping back up
  - e. Gathering data to form goals and objectives
  - f. “Belonging at Behrend” includes
    - i. Peer mentored small groups of students
    - ii. Behrend Sync pass
    - iii. Still possible for students to sign up (Maggie Eimers)
  
- VI. Research, Ivor Knight, , Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
  - i. All research must be approved
  - ii. Around 30 faculty members are doing approved research
  - iii. Around 75 undergraduate students are doing approved research
  - iv. Prioritization was given to seniors and to students required to do research
  - v. Human subject research is going through another layer of approval
  - vi. Summer grants for research were transferred to fall
  - vii. Staff are overwhelmed right now, please be considerate and realize that because of approvals and hiring time, grants will start at the beginning of the spring semester. An email will be issued tomorrow.
  
- VII. Waiting for a representative for University Faculty Senate.
  
- VIII. Upcoming changes for committees.
  - a. Will be posted on Teams
  - b. Need to add committee members
  
- IX. Old Business – P Silver covered Strategic Planning
- X. New Business – Emily Cassano
  - a. Discussed the need for deadlines vs. general requirement of 2 meetings in the fall and 2 in the spring. Decided to leave them as a general requirement
  - b. Changes to Faculty Senate meetings
    - i. We would like to focus on specific topics, such as advising or how to increase diversity. Let Emily know.
  - c. Question was asked as to what happens to the surveillance testing data? Who has access to the data? Chancellor Ford responded:
    - i. Pre-arrival testing was prioritized by the severity of infection rate based on where the students were coming from.
    - ii. After pre-arrival testing, the student goes back into the pool for random testing
    - iii. Penn State is only notified if there is a positive.
    - iv. If you are selected for testing, your supervisor is notified
    - v. The information stays with the third party testing service
    - vi. RF to follow up as to where the medical information will be stored
    - vii. If a remote student or faculty never goes to campus, they should never be tested. If so, let us know.

- viii. The duration for quarantine is 14 days, and for isolation it is 10 days.
- ix. Isolation is required if a person tests positive
  - x. Quarantine is required if a person is exposed to someone who tested positive, or if a person has been tested and is awaiting results
  - xi. Faculty should be notified by email if a student is in isolation or in quarantine.
  - xii. Faculty may not be notified if the student is self-isolating
  - xiii. Student health information is confidential, and faculty is not to mention the student's name.

XI. SGA President, Chris Butler, was introduced

- a. Chris will work with C. Payne to put something together for students in isolation

XII. Motion to adjourn

- a. Lisa Eliot and Melanie Hetzel-Riggin