



PRESIDENT: Thompson Mefford

AGENDA

Date: September 14th, 2021

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Edgar A. Brown University Union, Microsoft Teams

Teams: [Digital Meeting Materials](#)

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. Faculty Senate Meeting Tuesday, August 10th, 2021

APPROVED

b. General Faculty Meeting Monday, August 16th, 2021

APPROVED

2. SPECIAL ORDERS

Cross-university, longitudinal data on Undergraduate Student Engagement: Bridget Trogden, Associate Dean for Engagement & General Education, Division of Undergraduate Studies

Prof. Bridget Trogden and Prog. Jennifer Ogle presented a Tableau reporting on a cross-university, longitudinal data of a selected cohort in the participation of undergraduates in student engagement activities. The project started as a research project and it is not an institutional research. The project identified inequities in student engagement practices and those of high impact. Among the student engagement activities are Creative Inquiry, internships, undergraduate research. A publication of the work is in progress and after revision at the Office of Institutional research, the link to the Tableau will be made available to faculty.

Update on Public Citizens Academy: Sgt. Michelle Young, CUPD

Sgt Michelle Young presented the Public Safety academy

(<https://www.clemson.edu/cusafety/cupd/public-safety-academy.html>)

This program is an educational and informative opportunity to learn about the issues impacting public safety, including, the philosophy and operations of CU Public Safety, Police, Fire/EMS, and Emergency Management. It aims at creating engagement opportunities to better understand public safety work in the community and develop stronger ties between our community and public safety departments. The next upcoming

training start on September 28 and it is a seven-session program. The program culminates in a graduation ceremony.

3. REPORT

Robert H. Jones, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost
Provost Jones presented updates on the following topics:

Compensation Plan: The compensation plan, is a merit informed process. Although because of concent with the impact of the pandemic, this year not everything will be based on merit. The strategy is as follows. 2.0% is merit from which 25% of that pool, Deans will use for compression and inversion and merit informed decisions. To accomplish this, there has been many conversations with chairs and Deans. However, there will be differences within department and colleges. Nevertheless, the Provosts is expecting a fair and consistent assessment within each department. If faculty are concern about outcomes, the Provost encourages to first talk with chairs, then Dean, and at last the Provost office.

Dean evaluations: The Provost office selected faculty to establish the committees this semester and gather data. The process is expected to be completed during Spring 2022.

Interim Dean Search: The Provost charged a search and screening committee run the search to replace Dean John Griffin.

COVID-19 updates: The high prevalence in the community impact the decision on the mask mandate. The current community prevalence is high and mask mandates will not change until the community spread has decreased. Provost Jones acknowledge that faculty have ran gone the extra-mile to provide care for our students even in knowing the challenges of face-to-face instruction.

Notifications that faculty are receiving in response to COVID cases: The Provost clarified that there are two different notifications. One is the Notification of Absence (NOA), which is student initiated. The second is the about a faculty opt-in notification acknowledging positive COVID19 cases in instructors classrooms. Faculty must opt-in and will received an automatic notification. However, it was reminded to Faculty that Health professionals will handle the contact tracing.

Update in strategic plan: The University identified three aspects that will drive the institution forward: student experience, doubling research, and rural health. The university established nine research groups (three for each category) to provide recommendations. These groups outlined the big opportunities and how to measure success. The outcome will be presented at the Board of Trustees end of the month meetings, where metrics and costs will be discussed to set up priorities. The next steps will include revision, where faculty will be again engaged and allow every stakeholders to provide feedback.

a. Standing Committees

1. Finance and Infrastructure Committee; Chair Andrew Brown
No Report.
2. Policy Committee; Chair Lauren Duffy
No Report.
3. Research and Scholarship Committee; Chair Brian Powell
The VPR office will send a survey to delineate the definition of centers across the University, which is one of the charges of the committee.
In another standing agenda item, the Provost's office is providing information.
4. Scholastic Policies Committee; Chair Lindsay Shuller-Nickles
No Report.
5. Welfare Committee; Chair Andrew Pyle
No Report.
6. Clemson Experimental Forest Committee; Chair Betty Baldwin
No Report.

b. University Committees/Commissions

1. Committee on Committees; Chair Mary Beth Kurz
The Committee on Committees met last Friday (September 10, 2021) and approved a formation of a task force on "Ad hoc University Council on Assessment and Accreditation". This information will be shared in the shared governance website. The committee also retired the Data Advisory Committee. In response to the interdisciplinary curriculum committees, the committee approved the formation of the s System Engineering (Grad Only) & Wilbur O. and Ann Powers College of Business Leadership Signature Program committees. Curriculog will house the membership of the interdisciplinary curriculum committees.
2. Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees; Brian Powell
Dr. Powell presented at the past Board of Trustees meeting a description on the Tenure and Promotion process and the impact that COVID-19 might have in research productivity.

3. Caregivers Taskforce; Andrew Pyle & Keri Sather-Wagstaff
Andrew Pyle in representation of Keri Sather-Wagstaff shared the process in which the Caregivers Support Task force was created in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The task force has shared additional resources including a canvas page and a Facebook group, to support those facing caregiving challenges.

4. President's Report
ATTACHED

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. NEW BUSINESS

- I. Appoint Jennifer Holland to Welfare Committee
APPROVED

ADJOURN

Hugo Sanabria

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Faculty Senate Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday, September 28, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
2. Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 5, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
3. Faculty Senate Meeting: Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
4. Convention of the Delegates Meeting: Thursday, October 14, 2021, 3:15pm

Good afternoon.

In thinking about my remarks today, I realized that a lot has transpired since we last met on August 10th and passed a joint resolution on following the best available health and safety guidelines. A week later, following a decision by the South Carolina Supreme Court, the University implemented a mask mandate, and classes began the following day. We are now three weeks into the semester, with the Delta variant still raging at our doorstep. The evolution of the pandemic has a direct impact on our day-to-day operations. I realized that many are stretched thin. Please do what you can to look after your mental health and those around you. We are in this for the long haul.

Nonetheless, for those who are able, I would encourage you to spend some time thinking about the critical operations of this University. After all, we should not forget that we represent our fellow faculty members and should be researching and recommending the policies that will help make this a better place to live and work. We have many standing agenda items that we need your help with the necessary research and recommendations.

Next week, both the Faculty and Staff Senate leadership will be traveling to Columbia to meet with our legislative affairs team. As you are probably aware, decisions made in Columbia and DC are having more and more effects on our operations here on campus. I look forward to building these relationships with the legislative affairs office so can be more effective as a body.

Finally, I will be the first to realize that the current hybrid set-up for the meeting is clunky at best. For the next meeting we will be moving back to Zoom in a webinar format, so that Senators can freely vote, and visitors should have a smoother connection to the meetings. Do look forward to a time where we can all get back together.

With that, I conclude my remarks. Thank you.