

MINUTES
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY
GENERAL FACULTY MEETING
August 20, 2018

1. Call to Order: The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Robert Jones, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, who introduced the presenters, James Clements, Clemson University president; Jan Holmevik, Faculty Senate president, Joe Ryan, faculty representative to the Board of Trustees, and Chelsea Waugaman, university faculty governance coordinator and secretary/note-taker for the General Faculty Meeting.

2. Board Representative Report:

Thompson Mefford, outgoing faculty representative to the Board of Trustees reflected on his time advocating for faculty to the Board of Trustees. Through his experiences meeting regularly with Clemson's Executive Leadership Team, meeting with the Board of Trustees, and attending various meetings he said he gained an appreciation for the complexity of Clemson University. He reiterated the important role faculty play in this educational enterprise, especially with regard to curriculum and requirements of Clemson degrees, since faculty who take a personal interest in students help preserve the Clemson experience. He asked those in attendance to continue their commitment to research and scholarship, which is the brand of Clemson University.

Joe Ryan, the newly appointed faculty representative to the Board of Trustees, spoke to attendees about his vision for this position as a liaison for building faculty/trustee relationships. He reinforced his commitment to represent the faculty and communicate to the Board of Trustees about the value and prestige of the faculty. Through his work with the board, he plans to present the most accurate information about faculty situations to help the Board of Trustees with their decision-making.

3. Faculty Senate Report:

Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to stand before you today as the Clemson University Faculty Senate President for the 2018-2019 academic year. For 62 years, the Faculty Senate has represented faculty voices and faculty concerns in our capacity as the official representative body of the faculty and the link between faculty and administration.

The Senate's chief responsibility is to create, review, and recommend policies and procedures, which are then compiled in the *Faculty Manual*. I want to thank our Faculty Manual Consultant Dr. Mary Beth Kurz and Director of Faculty Governance William Everroad, for their work on producing and publishing this year's edition of the manual. You can download the *Faculty Manual* from our website, and I encourage everyone to review the new changes and additions. Questions you have concerning your faculty role at the university should be answered there, but if you cannot find an answer to your question, please do not hesitate to reach out to us and we'll be happy to help you. As your president, I want to specifically invite you to reach out to me at any time. My door is always open to you. We cannot address or solve every question that is brought before us, but I will make it my priority to meet with you and listen to what you have to say.

For many years now the Faculty Senate's Executive and Advisory Committees have met as one. However, in response to the growing workload taken on by the Senate, this year we have split the committees into separate bodies the way it was originally written in the constitution.

The Executive Committee, which is responsible for conducting the senate's business, now consists of the senate officers plus the chairs of our five standing sub committees; Policy, Research, Scholastic Policies, Welfare, and Finance. Just as the senate vice president and I meet monthly with the University's provost, the chairs of our subcommittees now meet regularly with the executive leaders in their respective areas, which allows for important communication to flow between faculty and administration.

The Advisory Committee now focuses wholly on the university's business and is comprised of senate officers, two senators from each College and the Library as well as a few other representatives such as the faculty manual editorial consultant, and the faculty representative to the Board of Trustees. I am pleased to welcome and acknowledge the faculty's new Board of Trustees representative, Dr. Joseph Ryan from the College of Education. He and I will work closely this year to represent your interests with the university's Board of Trustees.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our officers, committee chairs, lead senators, senators, delegates, and alternates for all the hard and important work you do on behalf of all the faculty at Clemson University.

In the same vein I also want to acknowledge the work that our Senate Office staff do on a daily basis. Without their dedication, professionalism, and hard work we would not be able to do what we do.

A heartfelt thank you to all!

As a university we are all concerned with student success, but it is important to acknowledge that student success begins with faculty success. As the faculty, you represent a core asset of this university, and you have played a pivotal role in advancing Clemson University into the coveted Carnegie R1 Highest Research classification. Clemson's strategic plan is a bold and ambitious endeavor that must have active faculty participation and involvement behind it. I am grateful that we have academic leaders who take a keen interest in shared governance, and when I took over the Faculty Senate in April, I pledged that we would continue to work closely with them to deliver on these ambitious goals.

I want to take a few minutes now to talk about some of the other priorities that the Faculty Senate will focus on this academic year.

A top priority for me as president is to ensure that all our faculty have equal opportunities to be successful, contribute productively, and realize their career goals at an inclusive Clemson University. To this end I have charged a special Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women Faculty. This committee is chaired by Dr. Karen High. The committee will work with the ADVANCE project, the President's Commission on Women, and other relevant groups and initiatives to investigate how we are doing in the areas of tenure and promotion for women, salary equality for women, retention of women faculty, and the climate for women faculty at this institution. I want to thank Dr. High and the members of this committee for taking on this important work and I look forward to presenting the committee's findings and recommendations to the leadership of the university next April.

The senate is currently preparing two resolutions for amendments to our constitution. The first proposes to reduce the number of general faculty meetings from three to one per year, and the other proposes new measures to allow for absentee and remote balloting. When the Constitution was first written the university had one campus and the number of faculty was much smaller than it is today.

Today we have over 1,200 faculty working at many locations around the state. We aim to bring these proposed amendments before the general faculty later this year so please keep an eye out for more information about this.

Two years ago, then Faculty Senate President Dr. Mary Beth Kurz charged another ad hoc committee on the status of lecturers and senior lecturers. Among the committee's recommendations was a call for improved long-term career opportunities for this group of faculty. Last year the question of adding a third lecturer rank worked its way through several of our sub committees and a resolution asking for this to be implemented will be on our agenda this fall. When we retain and support our best teaching faculty we also have an opportunity to improve the productivity of our tenure track research faculty, which is going to be necessary to remain an R1 university going forward.

Last year Senate President Dr. Amy Lawton-Rauh initiated efforts to secure a permanent shared-governance space for both Faculty, Staff and Student Senates. Currently we do not have facilities that can adequately support these organizations under one roof. I will be reaching out to the leadership of the Staff and Student Senates this fall to begin coordinating our efforts. I firmly believe that a joint office and meeting space, as well as senate chambers, will further strengthen our shared-governance bodies so that we might become even stronger partners in the University's future endeavors.

Another issue that I am making a priority this year is the question of a Faculty Club. Those of you who have been faculty at Clemson University for more than a few years will remember that this question has come up many times before, but nothing permanent has ever been created. Many of our peer institutions have spaces like this for their faculty, and I believe it is high time we do, too. I see it not only as a general space for faculty welfare, social events and activities, but even more importantly, I believe such a space can play an important role as a collision space for researchers, and as a place to meet colleagues from departments and colleges that you don't normally have interactions with. In our mission to firmly establish Clemson as an R1 university, a multipurpose facility such as this can also help with the all-important recruitment and retention of faculty. Thus, I have specifically charged the chairs of the Senate's Finance, Research, and Welfare committees to lead the efforts this year to work toward the establishment of a permanent university Faculty Club.

These are just a few of the initiatives that the Faculty Senate will be working on this coming academic year. Each of our sub committees have many more priorities that they will be focusing on, as well as taking up and handling new questions as they come up throughout the year. Again, if you have concerns or issues that you wish to bring to our attention, do not hesitate to contact your college senators, or anyone in the senate leadership directly. We're here for you.

In closing I want to wish all of you a great and fulfilling academic year. I do believe that we as faculty are indeed fortunate to have the best job in the world. When you work with your students you get to influence lives, realize dreams and help launch successful careers. Through your research you get to create or discover new knowledge and new ways of looking at the world and its problems and opportunities. All of this amazing work that you do every day comes together to make Clemson the top university in the state, an institution that more than delivers on its land grant mission, and is now taking its place among the top universities in the nation, and indeed the world. You are change agents in the truest sense of the word! I hope you will make everything of your talents and skills as educators and researchers this year.

Thank you!

4. President's Report:

President Jim Clements addressed the faculty and reiterated the important mentorship role that faculty play in acclimating the over 5,000 new undergraduate freshmen and transfer students and 1,800 new graduate students.

His remarks were focused on highlighting several key news items for the fall semester. Of note:

- He mentioned the Erwin Center Summer Scholars Program, led by Dr. Lori Pindar, lecturer in the Department of Communications. In that program two dozen students from North Carolina and South Carolina colleges, mostly historically black colleges and universities, participated in an immersion workshop on corporate branding and marketing.
- He highlighted a new dual degree physics program with South Carolina State University, where students complete a 3-2 program, earning a bachelor's degree from SC State and a master's degree from Clemson.
- Clemson has welcomed several key administrators to the university this summer, including Leslie Hossfeld (dean of the College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences), Wendy York (dean of the College of Business), Keith Belli (dean of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences), Chris Cox (dean of the Libraries), Steven Crump (interim vice president and chief financial officer), and Greg Mullen (chief of police).
- The Douthit Hills residential community opened this fall.
- Research funding has increased by 35% to \$148 million, double the level of research funding garnered five years ago.
- In May, at the University Research, Scholarship and Artistic Achievement Awards, faculty received national and international awards.
- The university raised \$157 million last year, an increase of 65% over the previous year.

He concluded his remarks with a student story of Sarah Waldvogel, a 2018 graduate who received the prestigious Phi Kappa Phi fellowship to attend Baylor College of Medicine's M.D./Ph.D. program. Her story can be found here: <http://newsstand.clemson.edu/clemson-graduate-waldvogel-awarded-15k-phi-kappa-phi-fellowship/>

5. Provost's Report:

Provost Jones recognized Victor Hurst, the late namesake faculty member of that day's Convocation, acknowledging his role as vice president for academic affairs and dean and his work to improve Clemson's university rankings and research classification status.

He noted that 200 new tenure track, lecturer, postdoc, and extension faculty have recently joined the university.

He also introduced several new academic administrators in the provost's office: Amy Lawton-Rauh, professor of genetics and biochemistry, now associate provost in faculty affairs; Constancio Nakuma, professor of French, now acting associate provost for academic affairs; and Cole Smith, professor of industrial engineering, now acting associate provost for academic initiatives.

He reiterated what President Clements shared about the new academic facility construction efforts.

6. Unfinished Business:

None

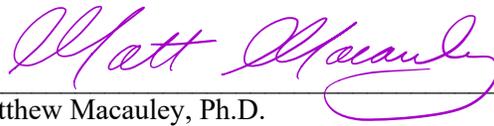
7. New Business:

None

8. Adjournment: Provost Jones adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.



Chelsea Waugaman, Ph.D.
University Faculty Governance Coordinator and Meeting Secretary



Matthew Macauley, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Secretary