

## University Senate Minutes

September 18, 2020, 2:00-3:15, Webex

### 2:00-2:30

1. Approval of agenda-**Motioned, Seconded, Approved**
2. Introduction of visitors-**No Visitors**
3. Approval of minutes from May meeting-**Motioned, Approved**
4. President's report
  1. Introduction of Senate officers: DeMond Miller (Vice President), Christine Larsen-Britt (Secretary)
  2. Calendar for 2020-2021 (separate file)
  3. Dates T&R files are due to departmental committees:

Applying for tenure: October 2

Applying for Fifth and/or Sixth Year contracts: September 11

Applying for Third and/or Fourth Year contracts: November 15

Lecturers: March 1

**Note:** Those are suggested dates, since candidates should provide their packet to the Departmental committee approximately two weeks before that committee must transmit the packet and their recommendation to the Senate and Dean.

Letter for Files for COVID hardships and impact on T & R. The Provost has drafted this, and it is now with the AFT for review. There is some confusion with Dean's and how this information should be included in the packet.

Candidates are asked for an indexed and searchable PDF of packet. Cristina (Chair of T & R Committee) met with Mariano Salveski and he said these packets must be indexed and searchable for the Provost's Office (clickable Table of Contents). Please pass this along to your departments. Candidates using a Banner student evaluation, can put these into a Google Drive and hyperlink these to your packet so they can be viewed this way.

*Q-Can we be sent written guidance on this?*

*A-Yes, we will put something together.*

*Q- How should depts proceed if their dean said not to include mention of COVID?*

*A-Start talking to your Dean about this right now.*

*Comment-There are so many effects. The Departments and the Candidates need to start drafting how this time has impacted all of their activities.*

*Q-Do we know when the MOA will be ratified?*

*A-Not yet.*

4. COVID updates:

- Number of infections; lag time in reporting

Dashboard has been updated and expanded. Significant lag time in reporting of cases for off campus testing. If a student does not disclose they are a Rowan student to a testing site, we do not get the info.

Off Campus means students who have not come to campus.

Comment- I have heard that ALL the students who have been exposed but not feeling sick are going off campus for tests because Rowan will only test them if they are symptomatic

We are seeing the price of testing climb over the past week or so.

- Sentinel testing to include students living off campus

This will be voluntary

- Dashboard to probably include positivity rate, other data
- Inform Scott Woodside if students tell you they're positive. **Do not inform the class.**
- Remote instruction
- Spring semester

Deans were asked to talk to their faculty if they were willing to start in March. There was not support for this. There seems to be agreement upon skipping spring break. There is talk about starting the spring semester starting a week later.

*Q-Is there any discussion about moving to remote after Thanksgiving (assuming we are ever really f2f) or has that discussion ended.*

*A-There are no discussions at this point, but it could certainly come up.*

*Q-Are there any updates for the frozen startup grant and the frozen Camden Health Initiative grant?*

*A-No Updates*

5. Professional Staff Senate Exec Group

Professional Staff had no clear process for remote work. Teri Drye from HR has not come up with a statement for professional staff for Work from Home.

6. Suggestions for improving Canvas: Kim Poolos, chair of Tech Resources Committee

An anonymous Google form has been created to document issues with Canvas and for other information needed for the future. First Tech Committee Meeting is October 6<sup>th</sup>, so Kim Poolos will try to compile this data before this.

Q-Why did IRT disable Import Course Content? All tests and questions had to be recreated. I have asked IRT and never got an explanation.

A-Please email Bill an email to document all of this and he will contact Mike Cicacco

Comment-Just FYI: the policies from IT on Canvas are a significant hindrance to faculty. One pet peeve: not being able to add colleagues as observers to specific classes. No one likes Canvas Commons. Thanks for doing this!!!

There are a few workarounds

## 7. Sabbaticals

People are asking about Sabbaticals. All this year'ss have been deferred. Is it worth having a Sabbatical process if we may only award 0-4 sabbaticals?

*Q-Is it possible to consider (re)awrding sabbaticals halted by COVID last year?*

*A-Yes, you should ask the Provost and the Chair of Sabbatical*

## 8. Senate office hours: By appointment only

## 9. Update on Zoom

Zoom is only for use through Canvas. WebEx is the official product we are using.

If you are a non-faculty member and do not have access to Zoom, let Bill know

## 10. Dance Studio: August

## 11. Discovery Hall: mid-February

*Q-Is the fossil park on hold?*

*A-No, it is still going on as it is bond funded*

12. Fall curriculum deadlines: Proposals must be approved by the Department, Dean, and College by Friday, September 25. Proposals received by the Senate after September 25 but on or before October 2 may or may not be reviewed during the Fall semester. Proposals received after October 2 will be reviewed in the Spring 2020 semester.

Spring curriculum deadlines: Proposals must be approved by the

Department, Dean, and College by Friday, February 12. Proposals received by the Senate after February 12 but on or before February 19 may or may not be reviewed during the Fall semester. Proposals received after February 19 will be reviewed in the Spring 2020 semester.

**Note: All submissions will be through the OnBase workflow software.**

**2:30-3:10**

5. Update from Monica Kerrigan, Ombuds

Ombuds has been in existence for 4-5 years. This office offers assistance with conflict resolution options. The Ombuds is a confidential resource. This is not a formal process. It may help you understand policies and processes that are unclear or confusing. [Kerriganm@rowan.edu](mailto:Kerriganm@rowan.edu). Voicemail and Email is not a confidential form of communication. Reach out to Dr. Kerrigan and set up a time to meet.

6. Update on Budget (Chris Simons)

Stronger than expected FY21—expecting 7 million deficient. There is still a lot of variability, especially with the pending NJ state budget. The 7 million includes the tuition discount, housing losses, and state budget cuts.

Hired 9TT for next year

Hiring 30 people for new SOM Medical School at RCSJ

There is discussion of changing tuition pricing.

*Q-Is there data on the cost savings of eliminating adjusted load?*

*A-Have not seen any*

*Q-Do we see the cost savings from the furloughs?*

*A-Up to 4 million*

7. Internship legal documents (separate files)

Requiring any employer offering our students an internship. How will this impact your programs and students? If you have suggestions and concerns, please let Bill know so he can forward them

*Q-Is this for remote or in-person internships?*

*A-It is for both*

*Q-What defines an internship?*

*A-Bill will check*

8. Graduate concentrations (separate file)

If you have questions, please email Bill

9. Ratification of Senate Committees (separate file) **Motioned, Approved**

**3:10-3:15**

10. New or Old business

*Q-Just wondering about recorded peer observations or if they need to be done real time.*

*A-Either is fine. Bonnie Angelone will send more information from Faculty Center*

**10. Adjournment-2:59pm**