



**Kent State Stark Faculty Council Minutes
September 19, 2014**

- I. Chair Norton-Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM
- II. Secretary Moneysmith called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

Attendance by Constituency: I: Sebastian Birch, Leslie Heaphy, Thomas Norton-Smith. II: Mitch McKenney, Brad Shepherd, Dee Warren. III: Robert Hamilton, Gro Hovhannisyan, Matt Lehnert. IV: Jayne Moneysmith, Rob Sturr. V: Scott Tobias, Pete Dorff, Deb Shelestak. VI: Don Thacker, Greg Blundell.

Ex-officio: Interim Assistant Dean Bathi Kasturiarachi.

Absent: Keith Lloyd, Beth Campbell, Interim Dean Denise Seachrist (ex-officio).

Guests: Rob Kairis, Clarke Earley, Greg Smith, Gwendolyn Purifoye, and Ann Martinez.

- III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Councilor Heaphy
Second: Councilor Tobias
The agenda was unanimously approved.

- IV. Approval of minutes for the May 2, May 7, and May 8 meetings

May 2 minutes:
Motion to approve: Councilor Birch
Second: Councilor Heaphy
The minutes were unanimously approved.

May 7 minutes:
Motion to approve: Councilor Heaphy
Second: Councilor Hovhannisyan
The minutes were unanimously approved.

May 8 minutes:
Motion to approve: Councilor Heaphy
Second: Councilor Hovhannisyan
Discussion: A brief discussion ensued during which small changes were proposed.
The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

- V. Chair's Report

- A. Chair Norton-Smith welcomed everyone to the first Council meeting, and indicated that he looked forward to working with Council throughout the rest of the academic year.
- B. This morning tenured members of Council and the campus full professors began fall reappointment deliberations. Chair Norton-Smith thanked the members of the RTP

committee, for rendering personnel recommendations about our faculty colleagues is, perhaps, our most important service—if not our most difficult service—to the campus and the university.

- C. Chair Norton-Smith thanked all who participated in the August faculty workshop—and made it memorable. His hope is that we can make the implementation of our strategic plan one of the focuses of our endeavors during the coming year. Our August faculty discussions were an excellent beginning, and we intend to report the results later this semester.
- D. On behalf of the Stark Campus community, Chair Norton-Smith thanked Interim Assistant Dean Kasturiarachi and his wife Sharon for opening their home for a campus-wide gathering before the beginning of the Fall semester.
- E. Chair Norton-Smith has been asked to serve on the “One University Commission” along with the other regional campuses Faculty Council chairs. (Lee Fox is also a member by virtue of her role as senate chair.) The president will charge the commission on September 25th.
- F. The last chair of the DTA committee—Carrie McDougall—recommended that the procedures guiding the selection of the DTA and Award of Recognition be reviewed and updated. The Cabinet passed along that recommendation to Dean Seachrist. For that reason, Cabinet will be making no recommendations for DTA Committee membership at this time.
- G. The RCFAC met on Friday, September 12th:
 - 1. At its May meeting, the RCFAC passed a resolution on the issue of the connection between student bad debt and the university services fee paid by the regional campuses. In short, the regional campuses pay for services on revenues that are not collected. Individual regional campuses had passed resolutions regarding the issue—this Council did in April. Chair Ciuba reported that Vice President Gregg Floyd has not responded, and Provost Diacon responded, “I received it.”
 - 2. On September 12, RCFAC passed a resolution that the regional campus deans include state subsidies in the revenue when they determine the summer breakeven number (the minimum number of students necessary for a faculty member to receive full compensation for teaching a class) and distributed the resolution to regional campus deans.
 - 3. Chair Ciuba, a member of the University Handbook Committee, shared that the draft of the University Handbook will be ready for review by the middle of the fall semester. The committee expects to make its final recommendation to the Provost by the semester’s end. The expectation is, then, that all units and campuses have their handbooks revised in accordance with the approved University Handbook and the *Collective Bargaining Agreement* by the end of the spring semester.

VI. Dean's Report

Interim Assistant Dean Kasturiarachi reported on three issues on behalf of Interim Dean Seachrist.

- A. **Downtown arts presence.** Dean Seachrist would like to have a presence in downtown Canton, in a facility where we could display art, have historical displays, and hold events such as music performances and poetry readings. We have an opportunity to create a big presence downtown, especially by focusing on the arts, an area in which some of our neighboring institutions are not competitive.

Council members indicated interest in this idea, assuming that it is well planned, and Chair Norton-Smith noted that such a community presence supports our Strategic Plan.

Interim Assistant Dean Kasturiarachi indicated that this idea will be presented at the October all-faculty meeting.

- B. **The Corporate University.** Interim Dean Seachrist would like us to reclaim the Corporate University's educational mission and return to more corporate training and academic programming. Consequently, a moratorium has been placed on booking weddings. She has met twice with former campus dean Dr. Bittle to discuss the origins of the Corporate University and how we might re-direct its activities. Council members were in favor of this change and posed questions about how the Corporate University in its new form (and possibly with a new name) might support faculty work in the future, such as hosting professional conferences at an affordable rate. After several minutes of profitable discussion, Chair Norton-Smith asked that additional discussion be held until Dean Seachrist could be present to field questions.
- C. **Global Education.** Dr. Fantoni, VP for Global Education, would like to work on study abroad opportunities with our students and on getting international students enrolled on our campus. Councilors Heaphy and McKenney offered some additional insights into these possibilities, and Councilor Blundell mentioned some potential problems with fees for international students. Overall, Council members were interested in learning more about Dr. Fantoni's ideas.

VII. Assistant Dean's Report

- A. **Thanks to faculty.** Interim Assistant Dean Kasturiarachi thanked the faculty, especially coordinators, for supporting academic affairs the past year.
- B. **Provost's retreat/support of academic programs.** The theme of the Provost's retreat two weeks before the semester began was shared governance, with the goal of taking shared governance to a "higher level." Interim Assistant Dean Kasturiarachi indicated that he will be mindful of this goal in the coming year. He noted that he had met with the coordinators to make clear that he will support academic programs, perhaps seeing if the budget can be tightened in some ways to be able to support academic programs as needed. He believes that the Academic Planning Committee will play an important part, indicating that the committee will do a lot of "heavy lifting" this year.
- C. **Searches.** We had eight searches last year, one of which was not successful, yet hired 10 new full-time faculty due to resignations. It is not yet clear how many searches we will have this year. Interim Dean Seachrist would like to take an integrated approach and look at searches as a campus.

- D. **Global education.** Yesterday he had a productive meeting with Dr. Fontani, VP of Global Education.

VIII. Committee Reports:

A. PAAC

Chair Norton-Smith read a report from the Chair of PAAC, Councilor Lloyd. Last summer a total of 14 travel requests were approved, with 10 having already been reimbursed. So far this semester there have been 19 requests, three of which were not granted. It looks as though our travel monies are sufficient for the present.

B. Committee II

Chair Norton-Smith recommended that soon-to-be-constituted Committee II be charged with exploring new ways to recognize teaching and scholarship, a goal identified in our Strategic Plan (and one discussed at the August faculty workshop). A recommendation should be ready to be delivered at the November 22 Council meeting.

Motion: Councilor Heaphy

Second: Councilor Warren

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Colloquium Committee

No report.

D. Treasurer/Social Committee

Councilor Heaphy thanked those who had already contributed to the coffee fund and the faculty fund, and reminded those who had not yet paid to do so. Contributions for the coffee fund seem to be down among faculty in the Fine Arts building (although that may be due to the use of a Keurig machine).

E. Handbook Committee

Chair Norton-Smith recommended that the Handbook Committee be charged with the task of revising the campus handbook in accordance with the University Handbook—which he earlier noted is scheduled to be completed soon—and the *Collective Bargaining Agreement*, with work to be completed by the end of spring semester.

Motion: Councilor Sturr

Second: Councilor McKenney

The motion passed unanimously.

F. Technology Committee

Dr. Earley briefly noted some of the highlights from the written report he sent out earlier, indicating that the committee had handled two requests over the summer, and noting the changes in the classroom technology carts. He received email from a colleague about the quality of the speakers in one classroom and asked that people let him know of any other issues that arise.

IX. Old Business: None

X. New Business

A. Council approval of proposed committee composition.

Chair Norton-Smith explained that Council approves the composition of its six committees. All other standing committees are campus committees for which Council's role is to recommend membership to the dean. He also noted that some committees will begin in the spring. Chair Norton-Smith distributed Cabinet's proposed slate of members for Council committees and asked for a motion for approval.

Motion to approve: Councilor Birch

Second: Councilor Heaphy

Committee membership of Council committees was unanimously approved.

Chair Norton-Smith then turned attention to the campus committee, reminding council that the Distinguished Teaching Award committee membership will wait until it is reviewed.

Motion to recommend membership of campus committees: Councilor Thacker

Second: Warren

Recommendation for membership of campus committees unanimously approved.

B. Mary Southards' request regarding December commencement speaker.

Chair Norton-Smith asked Council for advice in response to Mary Southards' request for a protocol for choosing the December commencement speaker. He explained that there was agreement that the spring commencement speaker would be external, but there was a desire to have the December speaker be internal, preferably a faculty member. He had been asked to give last December's commencement address, which he felt was a great honor, but he did not believe it appropriate to do it twice. If the Council chair does not do it, who will? Several possibilities were discussed, such as the most recent DTA winner, a student, and the other officers of Council. Finally Council decided that each year Cabinet should make a recommendation, with the understanding that the Faculty Council Chair would be given first right of refusal. Chair Norton-Smith undertook to convey this idea to Assistant Dean Southards.

XI. Announcements

There were no announcements, but Councilor Shepherd took the opportunity to ask about a colleague's request to switch her TT position to an FTNTT position. Chair Norton-Smith indicated that the request was approved.

Chair Norton-Smith then welcomed the three new faculty members who came to observe the meeting, Dr. Gwendolyn Purifoye, Dr. Ann Martinez, and Dr. Greg Smith.

XII. Adjournment

Chair Norton-Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.

Committee Recommendations: 2014-2015

PAAC	Committee II	Social Comm.	Technology Comm	Handbook Committee	Colloquium Comm.	Academic Planning	Activities Budget	Student Scholarship
Keith Lloyd-Chair	Rob Sturr-Chair	Leslie Heaphy-Chair	Clarke Earley-Chair	Brad Shepherd-Chair	Joel Carbonell-Chair	Dee Warren-Chair	Mary Rooks-Chair	Andy Burns
Ralph Menning	Lindsay Starkey	Gwendolyn Purifoye	Sebastian Birch	Don Thacker	Mary Gallagher	Kim Garchar	Jack McWhorter	Chris Post
Allyson Drinkard	Brian Chopko	Kim Finer	Jen Cunningham	Jayne Moneysmith	Paula Sato	Leslie Heaphy	Natalie Mallis	Chih-ling Liou
Cindy Barb	Carrie Schweitzer	Partha Rajagopal	Greg Blundell	Bei Cai	Deepraj Mukherjee	Kim Finer	Beth Butler	Claudia Gomez
Lori Wilfong	Scott Tobias		Adeel Bhutta	Lucas Englehart		Debra Shelestak	Scott Tobias	Eric Taylor
						Jayne Moneysmith		

Student Research travel	DTA	AURCO Rep.	URA
Leslie Heaphy-Chair	Committee under review	Anne Haas	Deepraj Mukherjee-Chair
Gro Hovhannisyan			Baga
Gregory Smith			Loretta Aller
Ann Martinez			Jay Sloan
Angela Guercio			

2015 Spring Committee Assignments

<i>Black History Comm.</i>	<i>Women's History Comm.</i>	<i>Diversity Comm.</i>	<i>LGBT Comm.</i>	<i>Std. Complaint</i>	<i>Speaker Series</i>
Robert Hamilton—Chair	Brenda Smith-Chair	Jim Seelye-Chair	Jay Sloan-Chair	Peter Dorff	Partha
Joel Carbonell	Marie Gasper-Hulvat	Katrina Bloch	Robert Miltner	Brenda Smith	Gregory Smith
Tim Montgomery	Laura Brison	Robert Hamilton	Anne Haas	Chrissy Kauth	Lynn Adams
	Lynn Adams	Brenda Smith	Mason Shuman	Bei Cai- Alt.	
		Jay Sloan			