A. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

B. POSITIONAL REPORT

The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University
COVID-19 Resolution

C. NEW LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

D. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE UNIVERSITY

E. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the University Faculty Senate will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 1:00 p.m.
The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University COVID-19 Resolution

(Positional Report)

This report includes editorial revisions of 10/7/2020, approved at 10/8/2020 Special Senate meeting. Marked up version is first, followed by clean copy. Bold text indicates additions and strikeouts indicate deleted text. Deleted text is notated with [Delete] [End Delete]. Added text is notated with [Add] [End Add].

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University is the recognized Faculty Governance Organization for The Pennsylvania State University, representing faculty, staff, and students;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University endeavors to represent the best interests of faculty, staff, and students in areas of education, health, safety, and welfare;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University acknowledges the worldwide pandemic of the COVID-19 Coronavirus;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University acknowledges The Pennsylvania State University Administration made planning decisions establishing resumption of classes and face-to-face instruction at all locations for the 2020 Fall Semester;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University acknowledges The Pennsylvania State University Administration collects, monitors, controls, and disseminates data and information regarding COVID infection in its larger Community of faculty, staff, and students;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University is very concerned over the fact that since returning Penn State students to University Park August 18, 2020, a total of [Delete] 2123 COVID-19 cases resulted, with over 630 COVID-19 positive cases each of the last 2 weeks (9/4/20 9/10/20 9/11/20 9/17/20) as reported by the Dashboard on 9/25/20. [End Delete] [Add] 2964 COVID-19 cases resulted, averaging over 600 new COVID-19 positive cases each of the last 4 weeks (9/4/20-10/1/20) as reported by the Dashboard on 10/6/20. [End Add] This is one of the highest caseloads in all US Universities;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University is very concerned that high COVID-19 caseloads could result in spread to all of our surrounding communities, across the Penn State system;

(1) Be it resolved that, the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to release information regarding “The Predictive Nature” of their COVID Modeling System, which to date, has not been publicly
released. This information should contain retrospective and future modeling predictions and should be accessible through the Penn State COVID-19 Dashboard;

(2) Be it resolved that, the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for our Administration to release “contact tracing information”. Specifically, the University Faculty Senate would like to know whether Contact Tracing data analysis reveals COVID-19 clusters at specific residence halls, apartment complexes, known community gathering points, or other community group events or situations. clumping trends at on-campus or off-campus locations or linked to specific events or gatherings. These data are valuable indicators for tracking COVID-19 spread in our surrounding communities. This information should be accessible through the Penn State COVID-19 Dashboard;

(3) Be it resolved that, the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to release information about specific thresholds of COVID-19 caseload, random testing results, isolation facility occupancy, or Mount Nittany Medical Center emergency room caseloads or local hospital caseloads that might trigger face-to-face Instruction Pauses or Return to Remote Instruction Scenarios;

(4) Be it resolved that, the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to make on-campus COVID Testing available for all Penn State Community members (faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students). Testing should be offered at no cost to the patient, across all University campuses. Rapid testing options such as those commercially available through Abbott Laboratories should be examined, as these tests yield faster results and are cost efficient;

(5) Be it resolved that, the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to significantly increase random surveillance testing of all Penn State Community members (faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students). Testing should be offered at no cost to the patient, across all University campuses. Rapid testing options such as those commercially available through Abbott Laboratories should be examined, as these tests yield faster results and are cost efficient;

(6) Be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to require COVID-19 testing for all Penn State Community members (faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students), prior to student arrival for Spring 2021 Semester classes. Testing should be offered at no cost to the patient, across all University campuses. Rapid testing options such as those commercially available through Abbott Laboratories should be examined, as these tests yield faster results and are cost efficient;

(7) Be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to remain in close communication with Faculty Senate Chair and Officers, Senate Council, The Faculty Senate University Planning
Committee, and the Faculty Senate Body regarding COVID-19 developments and involve these parties substantially and collectively in all aspects of the Penn State COVID-19 Policy, including modeling, planning, and implementation.

**REMOVED due to announced modification of Spring Academic Calendar, 10/5/20:**

[Delete] Be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for The Pennsylvania State University Administration to eliminate Spring Break in the Official Penn State Academic Calendar for 2021 and have a continuous academic calendar through the end of Spring semester. The entire calendar can start a week later or end a week earlier to compensate for the elimination of Spring Break. [End Delete]

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**The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University COVID-19 Resolution:**

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University is the recognized Faculty Governance Organization for The Pennsylvania State University, representing faculty, staff, and students;

Whereas, The University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University endeavors to represent the best interests of faculty, staff, and students in areas of education, health, safety, and welfare;

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(2) Be it resolved that, the University Faculty Senate of the Pennsylvania State University calls for our Administration to release “contact tracing information”. Specifically, the University Faculty Senate would like to know whether Contact Tracing data analysis reveals COVID-19 clustering trends at on-campus or off-campus locations, or linked to specific events or gatherings. These data are valuable indicators for tracking COVID-19 spread in our surrounding communities. This information should be accessible through the Penn State COVID-19 Dashboard;

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