From the President

As part of my reflection on the first semester of this year, I have asked myself what I learned this semester as the president of the Part-Time Faculty Council (PTFC). I have learned how important awareness, communication, responsiveness, and active engagement are to our success as representatives of part-time colleagues and in participating in shared governance. Our PTFC is a unique arm of the Faculty Senate that provides part-time faculty a voice in shared governance. The work of the council is to determine the wishes of the part-time faculty and to be a voice both in the Senate and to the Provost.

Representatives face a major challenge in carrying out their roles. While full-time faculty have the opportunity to meet as a department, discuss, vote and share their viewpoint via an elected Faculty Senate, part-time faculty rarely know all the colleagues in their department nor do they have an opportunity to attend scheduled faculty meetings. To minimize the sense of isolation from university affairs, the officers work together to stay aware of current university initiatives and to plan meetings that inform part-time faculty department representatives of items that affect their work in the university. Each representative on the council is positioned to create awareness and share this information with their own colleagues by forwarding the monthly PTFC minutes and newsletter, and by inviting two-way communication.

Being responsive to each other and to colleagues is another crucial next step in the success of the council. By bringing topics for discussion to the council, a representative may deepen knowledge of an issue. Recently, as your representative on the Faculty Senate, I was able to express an opinion and vote in favor of a motion because of the information provided by a representative during our last council meeting.

Active engagement through attendance or participation at council meetings as a representative or as an observer is encouraged. According the Part-Time Faculty Charter, departments with 10 or more part-time faculty members are required to “offer an opportunity for their part-time faculty to elect a representative” to the PTFC. Departments with fewer than 10 part-time faculty members have the option to elect a representative. Of 38 departments with 10 or more part-time faculty members, 17 have representatives. Of 10 departments with fewer than 10 part-time faculty members, 3 have representatives. Currently, only 42% of the eligible representative are at the table. The next priority is to increase representation on the council.

As we move into the next semester, I thank all of you who have attended meetings and been actively involved. Thank you for being aware, communicating, responding and staying actively engaged with your colleagues.

Joanne Lee. President
Dr. Joanne Lee, President, Part-Time Faculty Council

Dr. Joanne Lee is an Assistant Professor in the Educational Leadership Department at Kennesaw State University and the Department of Secondary and Middle Grades Education. She currently serves as the President of the Part-Time Faculty Council. Dr. Lee’s educational experience includes service on the middle school, high school, and state levels of education. She has been a teacher, administrator, and state coordinator, in addition to working in the private sector as a Leadership Performance Coach.

On the state level as the Executive Assistant to the Georgia’s Deputy State School Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Lee focused on the implementation of curriculum and instruction, the conversion to Georgia Performance Standards, and state board policies and rules. In her roles as the State Coordinator for Middle Grades Education and the Unit Director for School Improvement Programs, Dr. Lee spearheaded the conversion from operational leadership to instructional leadership in middle grades. She is a strong advocate for middle grades education and leadership for school improvement. Her passion is quality teaching and strong instructional leadership in all schools.

Dr. Lee has worked as a leadership coach with Harvard University’s Executive Leadership for Educational Leaders (EXEL) project. The highlights of her career include coaching elementary and middle school principals in underperforming schools to implement the America’s Choice school reform model and to improve student achievement in elementary and middle grades. As the Magnet School Coordinator for the Academy of Research and Medical Sciences at South Cobb High School, she successfully led the staff in the development and integration of the medical and research strands into the curriculum and worked extensively to align Professional Learning with the School Improvement initiatives.
I. Welcome – Dr. Joanne Lee called the Part-Time Faculty Council monthly meeting to order at 3:35PM on November 29, 2017 in room 1009 in the KSU Clendenin Building.

II. Approval of the Minutes – The minutes from October 25, 2017 were adopted as posted.

III. Quality Enhancement Plan - Dr. Amy Buddie, Director, Office of Undergraduate Research
Professor and Professor in the Department of Psychology, shared the current status of the Quality Enhancement Plan. The plan will focus on helping faculty and students to create and participate in “Engaging in Transformative Learning at KSU.” To learn more about the plan, visit the website at http://qep.kennesaw.edu/. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be sent to all PTFC representatives.

IV. President’s Report – Dr. Lee reported on the November Faculty Senate meeting which addressed the following items: new scheduling policy for classes, pilot of new syllabus format, the status of the elimination of e-tuition stipend, equity issues among faculty and staff, parking, Quality Enhancement Plan, and One USG. She encouraged all part-time faculty to stay current on discussions by logging in to the Faculty Senate website to read the minutes at http:// facultysenate. kennesaw. edu/ meetings/ faculty–senate. php. Dr. Lee also reported that she voted on a faculty resolution to send a letter to Dr. Olens expressing concerns and requesting a forum on issues associate with shared governance, first amendment rights, and outside pressures on the university.

Dr. Lee also discussed the current status of the PTFC Charter, Bylaws, and Handbook. After a review of the documents with Dr. Ken White and Faculty Senate President Joya Carter-Hicks, she will work with Dr. Charles Jackson to align the documents and present a revised description for the university handbook as well as revised bylaws that align with the Charter and current operating procedures for the PTFC. The PTFC has been invited to serve on the University Council. The TAP/Professional Learning Committee will await feedback from President Olens on professional learning opportunities for part-time faculty.

V. Work Session on Charter, Bylaws, and University Handbook – Representatives broke into three groups to compare the PTFC charter, bylaws and description in the university handbook and make recommendations on updates. Dr. Lee was able to provide an historical context for the charter and bylaws and a rationale for areas of conflict. PTFC Vice President Dr. Charles Jackson and Dr. Lee will take the representatives’ recommendations and prepare proposed revisions for the January meeting.

VI. Next Steps
- Communicate with colleagues by 12/15 and copy PTFC officers
- Send a Highlight/Kudo about yourself or a colleague to Becky 12/15
- Next Meeting Date 1/31

VII. Announcements and Questions – A representation requested that PTFC find out why part-time faculty do not have the opportunity to evaluate KSU administrators as full-time faculty do. Dr. Lee will follow up on this and report back during the January meeting. Dr. Lee asked if the representatives would be interested in hearing from the KSU campus representative from American Association of University Professors (AAUP) at the nest meeting. The group approved the invitation.

Dr. Amy Buddie requested to talk to the group in January about the research symposium. The group approved the request.

Dr. Joanne Lee adjourned the PTFC monthly meeting at 4:45PM.

Minutes submitted by Secretary: Rebecca Simmons

Approved:

Minutes are in draft form until approved at next council meeting.