

Faculty Senate Minutes #5

November 7th, 2023

Fireplace Lounge

Members and Senators Present: K. Ahern, S. Anderson, P. Arras, C. Badurek, C. Barnett, E. Bitterbaum, A. Blavos, R. Borden, R. Bryan, S. Clark, R. Coyne, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, S. Decker, P. Donnelly, E. Edlund, D. Fantacone, D. Harms, , L. Jin, K. Lawrence, L. Lopez-Janove, A. McClellan, J. Neretich, R. Powell, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, K. Sheets, K. Silvestri, T. Suzuki

Members and Senators Absent: J. Hall, T. Herman, J. Jones, J. Mascetta, J. Radloff, A. Thompson, C. Widdall, B. Williams, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Guests of the Senate: H. Zhang

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from October 24th were approved by the Senate.

II. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence:

- Announced that we received the name plates that were ordered a few weeks ago; sent around a sheet for newly elected senators to request a name plate, and/or any current senator that would like a new plate (for such things as pronouns to be added)
- Reported on her attendance to the Public Safety Committee; committee does so much in an effort to improve life across campus
 - Attended College Council yesterday (11/6/23) as well
- Explained that there have been several issues lately concerning communication as it pertains to how individuals are interacting with colleagues, as well as within several committees across campus; we will discuss these issues at the Steering Committee. These issues are something we all need to be mindful of and reflect on, while maintaining a certain level of civility with one another.

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: D. Harms:

- Announced nominations that were submitted via email to fill senator and committee vacancies; those nominations were approved by the Senate (*Please find documents attached*).
 - Remaining vacancies are as follows:
 - **Senator vacancies (7 total):** 1 seat representing Math/Science, 1 seat representing Social/Behavioral Sciences, 1 seat representing FTL Education OR Professional Studies, 2 seats representing Professional Faculty, 1 seat representing Graduate Faculty, and 1 seat representing Part-Time Faculty
 - **Committee vacancies (2 total):** PFAC: 1 (unexpired term) seat representing Academic Affairs, CRC: 1(unexpired term vacant SP 2024 ONLY) seat representing Math/Science

IV. Treasurer's Report: C. Widdall – No report.

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- We received 11,864 applicants during the 2-week free open enrollment period that closed on Sunday 10/29/23; of those 11,864, 7,926 will be accepted through early action on 11/15/23
- Will attend meeting with the other 63 SUNY Presidents and SUNY Chancellor tomorrow (11/8/23) afternoon
- SUNY Cortland is now 1 of 15 AmeriCorps universities; we will award two \$1,000 scholarships
- The Cortaca Jug Football game will be this Saturday, 11/11/23, in Ithaca

VII. Policy Committee Reports:

Joint Committee on Student Interests: K. Silvestri – No report.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee: K. Sheets, Chair – No report.

Educational Policy Committee: E. Edlund, Chair – Recognized and thanked P. Arenas for assisting the EPC in recruiting student members to serve on their committee.

Professional Faculty Affairs Committee: J. Neretich, Chair – No report.

Area Senators – No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: C. Badurek, A. Blavos, L. Jin, J. Hall – L. Jin – Will report on the new UFS resolutions passed at the recent Fall 2023 Plenary within the coming weeks to the Senate

Student Senator: J. Mascetta – On behalf of SGA, P. Arenas and C. Barnett reported:

- Announced that the SGA will be holding a forum with their Accessibility Coordinator in which students, faculty/professional faculty can ask questions; will take place on 11/13/23 from 1:30PM-2:30PM
- Encouraged faculty participation in Black History Month; L. Lopez-Janove will send out email correspondence reminders as in the past to the campus for upcoming events

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: H. Zhang, Chair – No report

University Curriculum Review Committee: K. Polasek, Chair – No report

College Research Committee: A. Davalos, Chair – C. Badurek reported on behalf of the committee:

- Working on DiNardo Awards
- Working on Faculty Research Program (FRP); there are a handful of applicants so far.
 - Deadline for applications is 2/1/24
 - Information session on 12/7/23 at 4:30PM to answer any questions/assist with framing of proposals, etc
- Transformations will be on 4/25/24 this year
- Opening on the committee, as A. Davalos will be on sabbatical for the Spring 2024 semester

General Education Committee: D. Radus, Chair – No report

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: L. Gathagen, Chair – No report.

IX. Unfinished Business:

- **Call for Nominations, Spring 2023** – See V. Chair Report

X. New Business: N/A

XI. Announcements:

- A. Blavos: There is concern regarding current faculty search; HR wants to wait to conduct reference checks after candidates have completed on campus interviews
- A. Blavos: Issues with registration for certain courses (PE, Health, GE's); since there aren't any seats available in certain courses, students are unable to have a full-time schedule....this creates a serious concern for the dis-service it does to these students
 - A. McClellan working with deans discussing the possibility of hiring adjuncts to make more sections available to students
- R. Bryan: Commented that such issues as A. Blavos raised has taken its toll on the PE Department; in addition to the department's advising issues, these registration concerns are eroding what was once considered a premiere program for the university....PE Department is under a tremendous amount of distress
 - K. Lawrence suggested that if any colleagues have any ideas to assist the PE Department, and/or any suggestions to assist with advising issues across various departments, to please send them to her at: lawrencek@cortland.edu
 - A. McClellan reported that the Provost's Office is working with the PE Department to try and devise a solution to help alleviate some of the issues the department is facing
 - R. Borden: Hire professional academic advisors who focus solely on advising?
 - A. McClellan: It is being discussed to hire 1-2 advisors for the office of Advisement and Transition
- L. Jin: Announced professional development opportunity; webinar to be held online on 11/9/23 from 12:30PM-2:30PM. Webinar will focus on assessment technology and A.I.

Meeting was adjourned at 2: 17PM on 11/7/23

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis