

Faculty Senate Minutes #3

March 23rd, 2021

Via WebEx

Members and Senators Present: S. Anderson, C. Badurek, G. Birren, E. Bitterbaum, R. Borden, A. Catalfamo, C. Chatfield, S. Clark, C. Costell Corbin, S. Comins, A. Curtis, S. Daman, K. Dames, A. Dearie, A. DeChellis, L. Delaubell, A. Fitz-Gibbon, R. Grantham, C. Grate, J. Hall, T. Hunter, L. Jin, A. Myles, C. Pass, P. Perkins, V. Placide, R. Powell, G. Sharer, P. Schroeder, T. Suzuki, R. Vooris, D. West C. Widdall, B. Williams, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Members and Senators Absent: M. Fox, S. Strause,

Guests: L. Lopez-Janove, J. Kronenbitter, C. Phillips, T. Hanford,

I. Approval of Minutes: The Amended Minutes from February 23rd were approved by the Senate.

II. Chair's Report: G. Birren – Reported that the Senate's open meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4/20/21 at 1:15PM; the topic will be on diversity, equity, and inclusion and the discussion will be led by guest Teresa Miller, Senior Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiative and Chief Diversity Officer.

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: C. Chatfield – Announced that the new Spring 2021 Call for Nominations was sent out to campus on 3/22/21; deadline to submit nominations via the Excel link will be Friday, 4/2/21 by 4PM.

IV. Treasurer's Report: R. Grantham – Reminded senators to please submit their donations of \$10 to her, if they haven't already done so; senate donations go toward the Faculty Senate's Memorial Scholarship award. All faculty/staff on campus are eligible to donate to the scholarship fund.

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- Reported that we have received the stimulus 2 package, which will award \$3 million to be dispersed among students; we are still waiting on the \$6 million that will go towards the campus. Awaiting the stimulus 3 package, if approved, will award \$16 million to the college (\$8 million to be dispersed among students, and the other \$8 million to go towards the campus).
- Spring athletics have begun; no spectators are allowed at this time, however, sporting events are being streamed virtually.
- The campus will be open for the Fall 2021 semester; hopefully, by that time there should be more of the emergency vaccine available for both students as well as faculty and staff
 - Since the vaccine is an emergency vaccine, the college cannot mandate that students, faculty, and staff have the vaccine before returning to campus for the Fall 2021 semester.
- Working on a plan for commencement in May; trying to plan an in person event, however, it is too premature at this time to tell if that will come to fruition.
- State budget is \$12 billion to go towards restoration; at this time, there isn't any tuition increase in the state budget.
- The Chancellor and the Board of Trustees have finalized, following the conclusion of the full rulemaking process, the one-year extension of the tenure clock that was announced last summer
 - We remain test optional
 - Enrollment is trailing

VII. Policy Committee Reports

Joint Committee on Student Interests: A. Blavos – Reported that the committee met yesterday, and that they have made their selections for the Faculty Senate’s Memorial Scholarship Award, as well as for the Faculty Senate Scholarship:

Faculty Senate Scholarship (1)

- Catherine Reid (Psych Major)

Faculty Memorial Scholarships (5)

- Andi Bruce (Social Philosophy)
- Daniel Reischer (Political Science)
- Jenna Kratz (Phys Ed Major K-12 [PEM])
- Nolan Demelfi (Business Economics)
- Melissa Safford (Community Health)

The JCSI has also been working on the SGA’s Manifesto to determine which resolutions from it are ready to be presented to the Faculty Senate.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee: A. Fitz-Gibbon, Chair – No report.

Educational Policy Committee: C. Widdall, Chair – Reported that EPC sent out a vetting document to campus regarding the updating of the language found in the College Handbook in regards to examinations and labs; EPC would appreciate everyone’s feedback.

Professional Affairs Committee: S. Daman, Chair – Committee met last week where they discussed the Revised Essential Worker Resolution.

Area Senators: No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: R. Vooris/C. Badurek – No report.

Student Senator: D. Reischer – SGA elections are coming up; asked that faculty encourage interested students to run for SGA office.

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: K. Bonafide, Chair – G. Birren reported on the committee’s behalf:

- CTE has met twice this semester
- It has been determined that the new Class Climate system which was approved over a year ago doesn’t meet our campus’ needs; in the meantime, the college will continue to use the existing course teacher evaluation system.
 - The CTE questions that were approved by the Senate a year ago will be re-introduced at the next Senate meeting on 4/6/21.

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

College Research Committee: A. Davalos, Chair – No report.

General Education Committee: L. Delaubell, Chair – No report.

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: N. Wilson, Chair – No Report.

IX. Unfinished Business:

- **Call for Nominations, Spring 2020** – Nominations that were received via email for the Spring 2020 call were approved by the senate; additional nominations were accepted from

the floor in an effort to fill any remaining vacancies; there weren't any nominations received from the floor.

- **Revised Essential Worker Resolution** – A resolution regarding how the COVID 19 pandemic placed ever-expanding demands on the Student Health Services, Counseling Center, Residence Life and other campus offices. To protect the campus community, paid and volunteer staff were compelled to invest enormous effort above and beyond their usual responsibilities, and for those efforts, we express our deepest gratitude to those individuals (*Please find document attached*).
 - Discussion ensued revealing that, while the resolution is well-intended, it is problematic to list only certain offices throughout the resolution; there is a general consensus of a lack of inclusiveness.
 - C. Chatfield thanked everyone for their comments, and made a motion to send the resolution back to the authors for revision with the consultation of the PAC (Professional Affairs Committee)
 - 2nd: R. Grantham
 - No objections; motion passes
- **SUNY Cortland Open Access Policy** – A resolution regarding the development of campus-specific open access policies for faculty, student, and staff scholarship and creative works and the creation of searchable repositories (*Please find documents attached in email*)
 - Discussion ensued concerning the legalities between faculty members and their publishing companies; J. Kronenbitter and R. Powell of the Library reiterated that this is an opt-in policy, and that the library would offer support to faculty
 - No objections in adopting this policy; policy passes
- **UFS Resolution 187.01** – Shared Governance in Times of Extraordinary Challenges was discussed for endorsement by the Senate (*Please find document attached in email*)
 - Unanimously endorsed by the Senate
- **UFS Resolution 187.03** – Board of Trustees Support of Black Lives Matter was discussed for endorsement by the Senate (*Please find document attached in email*)
 - While many agreed with the sentiments behind the resolution, there was enormous concern that the resolution lacked adequate substantiation.
 - There was also major concern that the SUNY Central mission isn't necessarily the place for ideological causes.
 - Motion: D. Reischer: Postpone voting to endorse at our next Senate meeting on 4/6/21
 - 2nd: C. Chatfield
- **UFS Resolution 187.04** – Faculty Senate Support of Black Lives Matter was discussed for endorsement by the Senate (*Please find document attached in email*)
 - Motion: D. Reischer: Postpone voting to endorse at our next Senate meeting on 4/6/21
 - 2nd: C. Chatfield

X. New Business:

- **AFAC Resolution on Service** – Academic Faculty Affairs Committee's White Paper "Lip Service? White Paper on Service in the Personnel Review Process" recommends that the College Handbook be revised to better reflect the Board of Trustees Policies on the equal weighting of scholarship, teaching and service in the personnel review process was introduced to the Senate for clarifying questions (*Please find document attached in email*)
 - Question on whether this resolution applies to tenure, and the answer was yes.

XI. Announcements:

- G. Birren announced that there will be an updated Spring 2021 Call for Nominations that will be emailed out to campus as an attachment to today's meeting minutes
 - It was brought to our attention that there was an error in the original call that was emailed to campus on 3/22/21.
 - The error pertained to a GFEC seat; all other committee seats, senator seats, and Senate officer seats were listed correctly in the original call that was previously sent out.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:32 on 3/23/21

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis