

Faculty Senate Minutes #6

May 4th, 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, K. Dames, A. Dearie, A. DeChellis, L. Delaubell, A. Fitz-Gibbon, R. Grantham, C. Grate, J. Hall, T. Hunter, L. Jin, K. Johnson, 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: S. Strause

Guests: L. Lopez-Janove, J. Ouellette, L. Davies, L. Kahle, K. Nuhu, V. DeTuri, E. Edlund

I. Approval of Minutes: The Amended Minutes from April 20th were approved by the Senate.

II. Chair's Report: G. Birren – No report.

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: C. Chatfield – No report.

IV. Treasurer's Report: R. Grantham – Reminded senators to please submit their donations of \$10 (or more, if they would like) 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. Thanked everyone for their support to the scholarship fund.

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- Seeking additional help with the graduation walk, which is being held next Tuesday/Wednesday from 10am-7pm at the Lusk Field House; although sign up slots are listed for 3 hour blocks, anytime volunteered would be greatly appreciated, even if only for an hour.
- Fall 2021 semester is projected to be back in full (in person teaching/classes); waiting for guidance from the SUNY systems as to what the protocols will be.
- Has been reviewing 70-80 portfolios for promotion and continuing appointment; very impressed with all of them.
- Several things that will be in process over the summer months:
 - Middle States
 - Social justice/Anti-Racism plans
 - Capital campaign
 - Admissions has received over 12,000 applications
- Wished everyone a healthy and safe summer!

VII. Policy Committee Reports

Joint Committee on Student Interests: A. Blavos – Reported that K. Silvestri will be taking over as Chair for Fall 2021.

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

Educational Policy Committee: C. Widdall, Chair – No report.

Professional Affairs Committee: S. Daman, Chair – No report.

Area Senators: No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: R. Vooris/C. Badurek – R. Vooris reported on the Spring 2021 Plenary which was held 4/22/21-4/24/21:

- Discussion on vaccine mandate
 - As of the moment, there is currently not a mandate to be vaccinated in order to return to campus for faculty/staff
 - UFS intends to send out a survey
 - We will know more hopefully later this summer
- SUNY Provost discussed LMS transition
 - There will be a new LMS that will be replacing Blackboard; Blackboard will go through 12/2022.
- SUNY enrollment issues were addressed
- Draft policy of new General Education policies; guidelines from the BOT forthcoming sometime in June.
- Budget was discussed
 - Money to close TAP gap around \$500 million
 - Increase EOP funding/double funding for mental health solutions
- New president of UFS for at least the next 2 years will be Heather Maldonado.
- G. Birren thanked R. Vooris for all his hard work with the UFS as the SUNY Senator over the past year; welcomed C. Badurek as the new SUNY Senator beginning Fall 2021.

Student Senator: T. Hunter:

- T. Hunter was recently elected as the new president of the SGA for 2021-2022 academic year.
- SGA is in the process of receiving applications for cabinet positions; encourage students to apply. Application deadline is Thursday (5/6/21).
- Thanked the Faculty Senate for all their support to the SGA, especially during COVID-19.

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: K. Bonafide, Chair – M. Moyer will Chair the CTE for Fall 2021.

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

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

General Education Committee: L. Delaubell, Chair – Reported that the survey on assessment results went out to campus last week; survey can be accessed via the link sent out.

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

IX. Unfinished Business:

- **Call for Nominations, Spring 2021** – Additional nominations were accepted from the floor in an effort to fill any remaining vacancies from the Spring 2021 call for nominations (*Please find document attached*).
- **Student-Facing and Essential Workers Resolution** – A revised resolution regarding how the COVID 19 pandemic placed ever-expanding demands on all campus offices including risks to student-facing and essential workers. To protect the campus community, paid and volunteer personnel were compelled to invest enormous time and effort above and beyond their usual responsibilities, and for those efforts, we express our deepest gratitude to those individuals (*Please find document attached*).

- C. Chatfield explained that this particular proposal has been revised 2 times over the past few months; she thanked for their help/contributions to the revision process, especially UUP
- The Senate floor was opened for debate regarding the resolution
 - No objections; resolution passes
- **Course Teacher Evaluations** – Revisions to the course teacher evaluation questions from the Fall 2019 semester was re-introduced to the Senate (*Please find document attached*).
 - G. Birren reiterated that this document was passed by the Senate during the Fall 2019 semester; it needs to be re-approved by the Senate, since it had been rejected at the administration level, due to UUP issues.
 - The Senate floor was opened for debate regarding the resolution
 - No objections; resolution passes.
- **EPC's Review of Section 414.03 Examination Polices College Handbook** – The Educational Policy Committee's (EPC) proposal to the change in language to the 415.03 Examination Policies of the College Handbook (*Please find revised document attached*).
 - Motion to open the floor for discussion: C. Widdall
 - J. Zhe-Heimerman made a motion to propose an amendment to the resolution
 - 2nd: S. Daman
 - Amendment : **Students with anticipated conflicts or more than two exams in one day may request an adjustment to their final examination schedule at least 5 business days in advance. ~~no later than 10 business days prior to final examination time period.~~ In such cases instructors are encouraged permitted to offer an alternate examination time for individuals who have time conflicts or more than two exams in a day if an alternate time it is practical.**
 - Discussion ensued
 - Motion, Call to Question, Proposal as written: R. Vooris
 - 2nd: T. Hunter
 - Vote: Unanimous
 - Proposal Vote: 15 Aye/7 Nay
 - Passes

X. New Business:

- Unable to address resolutions from Spring 2021 UFS Plenary, due to time constraints; Steering Committee plans to meet next Tuesday, 5/11/21 where UFS resolutions will be discussed for endorsement.

XI. Announcements:

- G. Birren thanked everyone for their hard work throughout the year; greatly appreciated, especially considering these unprecedented times.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:38 on 5/4/21

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis