

MINUTES OF
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
May 7, 2019

The fifth Faculty Senate meeting of the 2018-2019 academic year was called to order by Prof. Jonathan Karp, Judaic Studies, at 11:48 am.

1. Minutes

After no discussion, the minutes of the April 2, 2019 meeting were approved with one abstention.

2. Obituary Notices

Prof. Karp notified the body that Ms. Virginia Howard, University Libraries, and Ms. Betty W. Lincoln, University Libraries passed away. Prof. Karp asked for a moment of silence to remember these colleagues.

3. Election of 2018-2019 Faculty Senate Procedures Committee

The Nomination Committee of the Faculty Senate had submitted the following slate of nominees:

Chair – Jill Dixon, University Libraries
Vice Chair – Melissa Zinkin, Philosophy

Since there were no nominations for Secretary, it was suggested that the nominations be submitted in the fall 2019 semester.

Prof. Guzman asked that the two candidates be introduced. After no discussion, the slate for Chair and Vice Chair was approved by 44 in favor.

Ms. Jill Dixon introduced herself, thanked everyone for their support, and noted that budgetary, recruitment, and other issues will be on the agenda next year. She asked that if anyone had issues that they felt needed to be discussed to contact her.

4. Approval of Degree Candidates

5,171 graduates have filed an application for degree (1,234 graduate students; 3,937 undergraduate students). Prof. Andrew Walkling, Theatre, asked exactly what we were voting on and noted that there were some specific names that were not on the list and some student names that were on the list who would not be graduating. Prof. Karp noted that we are voting on graduate candidates. After no other discussion, the list was approved by a unanimous hand vote.

5. Curriculum Discontinuances

Prof. Sara Reiter, School of Management, and chair of EPPC, stated that these are programs that have no students, therefore they should be removed from our books.

- a. Acupuncture for Physicians and Dentists
- b. Applied Liberal Studies
- c. Biological Sciences combined BA-MA
- d. Reading and Language Arts

After no questions or discussions, these were approved by a unanimous hand vote of 42 in favor.

6. New Business

a. Student Academic Honesty Code

A committee was formed to review the academic honesty code. The committee proposes the following change which Prof. Karp read. The relevant passage appears on page 3 under Category 1 violations.

If there is no previous violation, the faculty member should impose the appropriate penalty. The instructor should then fill in a Report of Academic Dishonesty Form describing the violation that occurred and the evidence supporting that finding. The form will also explain to the student the procedures whereby the student may appeal the decision. The student will be asked to read and sign the form and will be provided with a copy. If a case involves multiple students, the student acknowledges, by signing the form, the possibility that they will may be asked to appear at a hearing as a witness. If a student signs the form and then withdraws from the course, they may face additional penalties from their school the infraction may be treated as a Category II violation. For further information, please see the academic honesty procedures for the school where the course was taken. If the student chooses not to sign the form, the case goes to a hearing before the committee of the school in which the offense occurred.

Prof. Karp invited comments from Senators and asked Prof. Florenz Plassmann to be available to answer questions or concerns.

Prof. Fernando Guzman, chair of Faculty Senate Diversity Committee, noted that any resolution moving to the Senate first goes to the Diversity Committee who has the option of endorsing. For this resolution, the committee offers no comment.

Prof. Strippoli, Asian and Asian American Studies, asked why if a student withdraws, would it be a Category II. Prof. Plassmann said a witness may be called if the case involves cheating by multiple students. If the student signs the form and then withdraws from the course, it is difficult because they would be out of the picture. Giving a Category II violation helps to keep the student involved. Prof. Plassmann did note that every school previously had their own rules and the previous language was very vague. The committee felt that the language should be the same for all schools.

Prof. Olivia Holmes, English, asked why the punishment is more severe. Prof. Plassmann responded that if a student commits a Category I offense and drops the course, we should not make it advantageous for the student to do so. A penalty should be given for the action justified.

Prof. Claudia Marques, Biological Sciences, asked if a student committed a Category I offense, why do they get a harsher penalty if they withdraw? Prof. Plassmann noted that some faculty agree with her, but some did not. Every college will decide.

Prof. Natalija Mijatovic, Art, commented that every school should have the same policies since students are taking courses that cross schools. Faculty typically give a penalty of a lower grade, but it will escalate to a Category II if the student withdraws.

Prof. Mark Fowler, Electrical and Computer Engineering, commented that the Category I violation still remains on their record, however Prof. Mijatovic noted that the student could retake the course to get a better grade. Prof. Fowler agreed.

Prof. James Jentsch, Psychology, noted that he is not opposed to a Category II violation if necessary. Prof. Douglas Jones, Judaic Studies, and chair of the Academic Honesty Committee, commented that a student signing the Category I form is agreeing that they committed a specific violation but are not accepting a specific penalty. It is good to keep things separate.

Prof. Andrew Walkling, Theatre, asked what does withdrawing from a class constitute. He said that some students do not care about getting a "W" on their record. Plagiarism and withdrawing should be seen as two different things.

Prof. George Bobinski, School of Management, said that if a student gets caught and signs the form, they have the option of withdrawing from the course. Later in the course they do not have that option. This is a timing option. Many students want the option of dropping the course if they get caught early in the course versus later in the course.

Prof. Andrew Scholtz, Classical and Near Eastern Studies, said that clarification is needed. The point of possible upgrade to Category II in the case of a student withdrawing from course is that it would appear built into the Category II violation that the instructor has the option to impose a grade penalty if student withdraws from the course.

Prof. Marques said that perhaps we can offer the student a "W" grade.

Prof. Fernando Guzman, Mathematics and chair of the Faculty Senate Bylaws Review Committee, makes a motion that we divide the language into two pieces. Motion was seconded. Prof. Karp noted that due to time constraint, there was no time for additional discussion. The motion was approved by 37 in favor, 2 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the first sentence:

If a case involves multiple students, the student acknowledges, by signing the form, the possibility that they ~~will~~ may be asked to appear at a hearing as a witness.

After no discussion, this was approved by 41 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

A motion was made and seconded to table the second and third sentences to the fall 2019 semester.

If a student signs the form and then withdraws from the course, ~~they may face additional penalties from their school~~ the infraction may be treated as a Category II violation. For further information, please see the academic honesty procedures for the school where the course was taken.

After no discussion, this was approved by a vote of 38 in favor, 4 opposed, and 1 abstention.

b. Proposal for Decker College of Nursing and Health Sciences

This proposal has been approved by the Decker School of Nursing faculty and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Dean Ortiz was available for questions.

Prof. Walkling asked if there was a longer term plan to incorporate the Pharmacy School into this school. Dean Ortiz responded that these two schools will remain separate.

Prof. Sarah Gerck, Music, felt that the entire name of the school was too verbose.

Prof. Fernando Guzman, chair of Diversity Committee, expressed support of the proposal by the Diversity Committee. Diversity has been addressed and there is strong community support for these programs in rural areas.

After no further discussion, this proposal was approved by a hand vote of 44 in favor.

c. University Faculty Senate resolution "Proposed Policy for Appointment of Interim Administrators at and above the level of Dean"

Prof. Karp commented that the past experience of assigning interim officers is not uncommon. It is felt that faculty governance should play an informative role, but currently there is no real measure to insure this. If this resolution is passed by the majority of campuses, it will be sent to Chancellor Johnson to adopt. We can only approve or not approve; we cannot change or revise the resolution. Prof. Guzman, chair of Faculty Senate Diversity Committee, said the Diversity Committee offers no comment. After no discussion, this resolution was approved by a hand vote of 43 in favor.

7. Reports

a. Prof. Sara Reiter, University Faculty Senator

Prof. Reiter reported on items discussed at the University Faculty Senate meeting held in April. Chancellor Johnson talked about the PRODiG diversity initiative with a goal of hiring 1,000 under-represented minority (URM) and women in STEM fields (WSTEM) over the next decade.

The Provost spoke about the SUNY online initiative, which will focus on 100% online, post-traditional students in programs that can grow to more than 1,000 students within three years. SUNY System has been conducting thematic webinars to identify opportunities for programs. A pilot launch is planned for the fall of 2020 for several already approved 100% online programs that will be able to grow to scale (1,000+ students). As of April, none of the online pilot programs had been identified. SUNY also plans to develop centralized resources for online development.

In March the SUNY Working Group on General Education released a Green Paper on General Education Revision. Comments are being collected by the Provost who will then form an advisory group on general education reform. The University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) sent comments on behalf of Binghamton University's Faculty Senate.

Resolutions were passed on the following issues:

- Process for appointment of interim administrators.
- Numerous pathways to continuing appointment and promotion (valuing the time faculty devote to mentoring activities).
- Expectation that professional employees participate in shared governance.
- Development of onboarding information points and processes (new faculty orientation).
- Improve the SUNY reimbursement process.
- Ask campuses to review registration deadlines.
- Academic freedom and shared governance in online education.

The resolution on online education raises concerns about faculty intellectual property rights and contracts with online service providers. The resolution recommends that faculty use the AAUP online toolkit <https://onefacultyoneresistance.org/privatization/> to familiarize themselves with issues related to online education.

b. Prof. Barry Jones, chair of Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Prof. Jones reported that the FSEC met 12 times in the spring semester and will meet on May 14 for their 13th meeting. FSEC was fully staffed with all 18 seats filled throughout the academic year, and elections are completed for all seats for next year.

This spring FSEC met with various administrators and faculty members including:

- The Chairs of the TAEs (Dan Davis, Carl Lipo, Mark Poliks, Gail Rattinger, Xingye Qiao) to discuss the conclusions and recommendations from the Final Report of the TAE Review Committee, which was distributed to the voting faculty in the fall. We had previously met with Prof. Tom Sinclair in the fall who chaired the TAE Review Committee.
- Andrew Baker for a discussion on a draft sexual harassment and consensual relationship policy.
- Vice Provost James Pitarresi who reported on the Online Education Offerings Task Force.
- John Koch, Interim Vice President for Advancement.
- Karima Legette, Interim Director of the Equal Opportunity Program.
- Prof. Carl Lipo and Prof. Joyce Knuepfer regarding revisions to the Environmental Studies BA and BS programs; Prof. Tony Reeves regarding the PPL program; and Prof. Paul Schleuse regarding the music program.
- Vice Provost Don Loewen regarding seamless transfer and the SUNY review process for the transfer paths. Departments were contacted in December to obtain representatives for each transfer path.
- President Harvey Stenger to discuss a wide range of issues including the hiring exception process, long-term strategy, PRODiG, and critical maintenance.
- Andrea MacArgel and Provost Nieman to discuss Learning Management Systems and the ongoing pilot programs. This was also discussed at the April 2, 2019 Faculty Senate meeting.
- Dean Mario Ortiz, Prof. Mary Muscari, and Prof. Nicole Rouhana to discuss the Nursing BS to DNP programs.

- Dean Elizabeth Chilton to discuss a wide range of issues including Harpur's budget and long-term strategy, the new Dean's Advisory Committee, and advancement.
- Dean Mario Ortiz and Provost Nieman to discuss the creation of a School of Applied Health Sciences, which we considered today.
- Provost Nieman and Prof. James Pitarresi to discuss accessibility.
- Kathy Brunt, Prof. Doug Jones and Prof. Florenz Plassmann to discuss the Student Academic Honesty Code.
- We plan to meet with members of the Graduate Task Force at our last meeting on May 14th.

The FSEC approved several resolutions that moved to the Faculty Senate:

- FSEC endorsed SUNY University Faculty Senate Resolution 180-01-01 on Gender Neutral Language in all SUNY Correspondence, which the Faculty Senate also endorsed at its February 26, 2019 meeting.
- FSEC passed a Resolution to Create a Joint Committee on Transdisciplinary and Inter-Disciplinary Issues, which the Faculty Senate passed at its February 26, 2019 meeting. The committee members have been chosen and the Provost and Prof. Jones are meeting with the two co-chairs later this week.
- FSEC endorsed SUNY University Faculty Senate Resolution: Proposed Policy for Appointment of Interim Administrators at and above the Level of Dean, which the Faculty Senate considered today.
- FSEC passed a motion to create a new Decker College of Nursing and Health Sciences, which the Faculty Senate considered today.
- FSEC approved changes to the Student Academic Honesty Code, which the Faculty Senate considered today.
- FSEC considered a range of curriculum issues including a number of accelerated programs and discontinuances / deactivations.
- The Faculty Senate approved the Open Access Policy at the December 4, 2018 meeting, which had been forwarded by the FSEC.

The Evaluation Coordinating Committee completed evaluations of Dean Meredith and Vice Provost Srihari late last year, which FSEC reviewed. ECC recently completed evaluations of Dean Kendrick and Vice Provost Loewen, which the FSEC is reviewing now.

FSEC received a proposal from the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee in the spring regarding elections to the AUPC. The FSEC worked with the Diversity Committee to refine the proposal and voted to implement it for the AUPC elections being conducted now. The proposal offers faculty who are eligible to serve on the AUPC the opportunity to answer two questions and have their responses shared with voters. The first question asks about participation in training in implicit bias, and the second is an opportunity to add any comments concerning the faculty member's potential service on the AUPC including, but not limited to, engagement in the promotion of diversity. For two step elections, such as those in Harpur, the survey is only sent to faculty who advanced to the second stage of voting. In single step elections, the survey is sent to all eligible faculty.

On October 9, 2018, SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson sent a memo to the Board of Trustees regarding a proposed resolution that “establishes a uniform policy statement with respect to sexual harassment and directs all campuses and System Administration to create a consensual sexual and romantic relationship policy.” The memo stated that “each SUNY campus and System Administration shall individually develop, with input from appropriate members of their workplace and campus communities, including local governance, a sexual or romantic relationship policy” by March 1, 2019, which must include certain components. It also stated that “each SUNY campus and System Administration should consider a prohibition against any sexual or romantic relationships between faculty or staff and undergraduate students” by January 2, 2019.

Following this memo, the FSEC held meetings to discuss the issues surrounding consensual sexual and romantic relationships. In February, we learned from the administration that the topic has been deemed a condition of employment and SUNY System Administration is negotiating a policy with bargaining units including UUP. FSEC continued to discuss these issues throughout the spring semester.

Lastly, the FSEC endorsed SUNY University Faculty Senate Resolution 177-02-1 To Provide Free Access to Menstrual Products at all SUNY Campuses in all Restrooms, which was subsequently endorsed by the Faculty Senate at the October 23, 2018 meeting. Vice President Navarro set up a committee to discuss this initiative and Ms. Jill Dixon was our representative on that committee. Phase 1 of the resulting program was announced in late March and an article appeared in the Pipedream on March 27th. Planning for phase 2 is ongoing.

Prof. Jones thanked Prof. Karp as outgoing Faculty Senate chair for his hard working and dedicated service. He also thanked Prof. Cassandra Bransford, Prof. Randy Scholtz, and Laura O’Neil for their service, and he looks forward to working with Ms. Jill Dixon and Prof. Melissa Zinkin. Prof. Jones also congratulated Prof. Florenz Plassmann who is leaving the university to become a dean at Ohio University.

Prof. Jones noted that the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UUCC) meets to approve new gen ed courses and approve course designations. Currently the body of returning committee members does not consist of any faculty who teach H, G, P, and N course designations. Currently these gen ed designations are being reviewed and approved by faculty from other schools and departments who do not teach the courses with these designations. Prof. Jones appealed to the Senate members for faculty volunteers for this essential committee.

Prof. Karp thanked everyone for their support during his chairmanship. He learned that faculty governance functions very well on this campus. He thanked the Senate officers, Senators, and Executive Committee members for their service, time, and effort. We face more challenges for the future and he will work with Ms. Dixon over the summer in a transitional capacity.

One issue that continues on campus is the parking and accessibility issues. Prof. Karp commented that there are alternate ways to get to campus (bus, bicycle). Our low parking fees are incentives for employees and students to drive to campus; he will be working with UUP to support and encourage consider modifying the parking fees to help

address this problem. Prof. Karp noted that the OCCT and Broome County buses can be used for free.

After no more business, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 pm.

Present: Anne Bailey, Lina Begdache, Kevin Boettcher, Peter Borgesen, Cassandra Bransford, Brian Callahan, Leon Cosler, Jill Dixon, Patrick Doyle, Mark Fowler, Leslie Gates, Sarah Gerk, Neyda Gilman, Fernando Guzman, John Havard, Norah Henry, Olivia Homes, Mattias Iser, James Jentsch, Barry Jones, John Suk Young Kang, Jonathan Karp, Bryan Kirschen, Adam Laats, Leslie Lander, Michael Lewis, Daniel Magelby, Claudia Marques, Natalija Mijatovic, Donald Nieman, Tomonari Nishikawa, Nkiru Nzegwu, Omowunmi Sadik, Sumantra Sarkar, Anton Schick, Andrew Scholtz, Edward Shephard, Thomas Sinclair, Diane Sommerville, Roberta Strippoli, Andrew Walkling, Douglas Wehbe, Lei Yu, Hong Zhang, Yan Zhang, Harald Zils, Melissa Zinkin

Excused: Christina Balderamma-Durbin, Robin Best, Lubna Chaudhry, Seokheun Choi, Anne Clark, William Culverhouse, Ann Fronczek, Sharon Holmes, Sha Jin, Richard MacKenney, Marcin Mazur, Anthony Meder, SB Park, Harvey Stenger, Alexi Zentner

Absent: Ana Maria Candela, Eric Cotts, Elizabeth DiGangi, Deborah Elliston, Christof Grewer, Christopher Hanes, Robert Holahan, Albrecht Inhoff, Thomas Kulp, Brett Levinson, Stephen Levy, Harold Lewis, Carl Lipo, Steven Lynn, Tarun Mastana, Thomas McDonough, Jean-Pierre Mileur, Timothy Singler, Gale Spencer, Cihan Uzmanoglu, Erin Washburn, David Wilson