

MINUTES OF
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 12, 2019

Associate Librarian Jill Dixon, University Libraries, called the Full Faculty meeting to order at 11:47 am in UU Old Union Hall. She welcomed President Harvey G. Stenger and turned the meeting over to him.

President Stenger began his report to the Full Faculty meeting attendees. See attached PowerPoint presentation for details. Presentation can also be found at <https://www.binghamton.edu/faculty-senate/docs/2019-11-12-full-faculty-hgs.pdf>

After no questions, the Full Faculty meeting was adjourned.

The first Faculty Senate meeting of the 2019-2020 academic year was called to order by Assoc. Librarian Jill Dixon at 12:15 pm.

1. Minutes

Andrew Walking, Theatre, asked that his name be spelled correctly. Change will be done. After no other changes, the minutes of the May 7, 2019 meeting were approved.

2. Obituary Notices

Assoc. Librarian Dixon notified the body that Prof. Allan Jackson, Theatre; Prof. John Eisch, Chemistry; Prof. Gisela Brinker-Gabler, Comparative Literature; and Prof. Stephen Stalker, Music passed away. Assoc. Librarian Dixon asked for a moment of silence to remember these colleagues.

3. Election of 2019-2020 Faculty Senate Secretary

The nomination of Andrew Scholtz, Classical and Near Eastern Studies, for Faculty Senate secretary was approved unanimously.

4. Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention

Master of Science proposal has been reviewed and approved by FSEC. Prof. Rubaii is available to answer questions.

Prof. Lubna Chaudhry of the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee noted that the Diversity Committee endorses the GMAP program proposal because it did touch on the main points the Diversity Committee has stressed in its review of previous proposals, although many members noted the lack of specifics.

Three key points were emphasized because the committee felt they might help the proposal and the program as they move forward:

- The proposal would be stronger if examples of the multiple disciplines and subgroups within professional associations that were in mind to reach out to people of color were actually provided.
- There needs to be a course on contemporary genocides in Latin America.
- The student recruiting section is weak because it relies primarily on BU's undergraduate diversity to feed into the program.

Prof. Rubaii asked that Prof. Chaudhry provide the Diversity Committee's suggestions in writing.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the GMAP proposal. After no discussion, the Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention was approved unanimously with one abstention.

5. New Business

- a. Elsevier – Support for SUNY negotiations for a fair and reasonable contract with Elsevier
Prof. Sara Reiter noted that the University Faculty Senate would like campuses to endorse the resolution.

Our contract with Elsevier expires on December 31, 2019. This is a large contract that represents 25% of SUNY's overall expenditures on journals. A SUNY consortium has been negotiating but the success of the negotiations is not assured. The University of California met an impasse on their contract. There are concerns about the practices of publishers, the formation of monopolies, charging exorbitant fees for access, and publication charges. Issues surrounding the contract negotiations are not just the price of the contract but about practices in the publication industry. Negotiators are concerned that contract negotiations may not be successful and may lapse past December 31.

We are being asked to endorse this resolution which calls for Elsevier to act in good faith and for the campuses to support the negotiation process. We are asking to reduction the SUNY expenditure, maintain access, and support open access publishing. This is a strong stance in order to make a meaningful change. If the contract is not renewed, we will pursue all necessary efforts to maintain access to scholarly work, and funds that will not be spent on Elsevier contract will be kept in the Libraries budget for access to these works. Campuses are called upon to unite with SUNY and not enter in any of their own agreements

Prof. Reiter noted that we can either endorse or not endorse this resolution; we do not have the option to change any wording. The main purpose is to make sure we are educated about the situation.

Dean Curtis Kendrick, University Libraries, noted that we had received one proposal from Elsevier that showed a price increase year to year. Their revised proposal on the table now has a price decrease with extending the annual credit SUNY-wide which is a modest amount. Many feel that this is still more than SUNY can afford so the negotiation team is considering further negotiations to the existing proposal, or may take a more aggressive stance to restructure the deal. The differential between what SUNY is paying (\$25.75 per FTE) against what CUNY is paying (\$8.24 per FTE) is 2.5 times which does not seem fair and justifiable. There is a possibility come January 1, 2020 that SUNY will no longer have access. The University of California does not have access and it has not been a problem for them so far.

Prof. Randy Scholtz, Classical and Near Eastern Studies, asked if the Library has a sense that other providers are more amenable to these kinds of negotiations or would it be just like Elsevier? Dean Kendrick said that this comes down to a stylist approach, but

bottom line of increases is not excessive. It is Elsevier's approach to bring us to the negotiating table.

Prof. Tom Sinclair, Public Administration, reminded everyone that in 2014 Elsevier opened its journal access to countries of West Africa to respond to the Ebola crisis. He recommended support of negotiations at this time because of this.

Motion was made and seconded. After no more discussion, resolution was unanimously approved.

b. Senate planning meeting items

Assoc. Librarian Dixon reviewed the items that were brought up at the September 3 planning meeting:

- Mix of faculty
- How to get faculty get involved
- Better pathways to leadership
- Recruitment and retention
- Safety and health issues
- Immigration concerns
- Facilities -- How are strategic plans set for the capital plan; mechanism to weigh in on the capital plan
- Library renovation – Open forums will be held November 21 and 22 to learn about the renovations
- More classrooms and accessibility
- Parking
- Micro-credentials – This is being discussed in FSEC
- New programs previously approved – What is status of those programs?
- LMS system – Will continue to follow progress of new system
- Budget updates

Senators can contact Assoc. Librarian Dixon or Prof. Jones if they feel there are items we should be addressing.

After no more business, the meeting adjourned at 12:39 am.

Present: Saligrama Agnihotri, Seden Akcinaroglu, Jeffner Allen, Nathanael Andrade, Michael Armstrong, Aaron Beedle, Sharon Bryant, Nicole Cameron, Subimal Chatterjee, Lubna Chaudhry, Leon Ciu, Leon Cosler, Scott Craver, Marilyn Desmond, Jill Dixon, Patrick Doyle, Mark Fowler, Ann Fronczek, Leslie Gates, Carl Gelderloos, Neyda Gilman, Thomas Goodheart, Jennifer Gordon, Fernando Guzman, Aleshia Huber, Norah Henry, Robert Holahan, Sha Jin, Barry Jones, Bryan Kirschen, Blazo Kovacevic, Leslie Lander, Carl Lipo, Andrea MacArgel, Thomas McDonough, Donald Nieman, Tomonari Nishikawa, Judith Quaranta, Sara Reiter, Joshua Reno, John Santare, Anton Schick, Andrew Scholtz, David Schuster, Thomas Sinclair, Elizabeth Skaggs, Harvey Stenger, Roberta Strippoli, Andrew Walkling, Hong Zhang, Yan Zhang, Melissa Zinkin

Excused: Laura Anderson, Brian Callahan, Anne Clark, Alistair Lees, Paul Schleuse, Stan Whittingham

Absent: Robin Best, Peter Borgesen, Ana Maria Candela, Paul Chairot, Christof Grewer, Douglas Holmes, Albrecht Inhoff, James Jentsch, John Suk Young Kang, Thomas Kulp, Patricia Lespinasse, Steven Lynn, Jean Pierre Mileur, Kent Schull, Timothy Singler, Natesha Smith, Bruce White, David Wilson, Lei Yu