

MINUTES OF
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
September 20, 2016

Prof. Fernando Guzman called the Full Faculty meeting to order at 11:46 am in UU Old Union Hall. He 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 <http://www.binghamton.edu/faculty-senate/documents-and-forms.html>

Questions and answers:

- Q: Prof. Sandra Michael, Biological Sciences, asked with new roadmap work that is going to happen if President Stenger could share some of the big picture items that are being thought of now, such as a new school or building.
- A: President Stenger answered that there is no plan for a new school. We will let the roadmap process suggest areas and programs we can expand. We may be looking at expanding our footprint of facilities, such as the expansion of Corliss Avenue for the School of Nursing, or obtaining 42-44 Corliss Avenue (an abandoned manufacturing facility) to house any companies who may want to partner with the Pharmacy School and/or the School of Nursing.
- Q: Prof. Richard Naslund, Geology, asked that with the 30% increase in students, what is the increase in graduate TA's.
- A: Provost Nieman answered that we now have 802 versus 750 last year. Prof. Naslund asked how many were funded as research assistants. Although Provost Nieman did not have this information, he noted that the research assistants growth has been very modest (less than 15%) and that we have a commitment to increase stipends for TA's.
- Q: Ms. Tami Mann, Graduate School of Education and Professional Staff Senate representative, asked about the status of campus safety.
- A: President Stenger noted that last year all key card accesses were updated in all our buildings, so we are current. We have a safety advisory committee, chaired by Prof. William Ziegler, and safety is taken very seriously.
- Q: Prof. Chris Hanes, Economics, asked if the number of parking spaces have increased over the time we have grown.
- A: Vice President Rose replied that we are now tracking the ratio of permits versus parking spaces available. He did note that there are empty spaces every day. We have made the investment of personnel in the parking/transportation area and hired an executive director with experience in solving this type of challenging problem. We need to figure out a financial model for the long term. We do have a campus shuttle bus that goes around campus all day. We need to have patience as our new director takes stock of what we have, the revenue sources we have, and to build a capital plan to solve the problem. We formed a parking transportation focus group two years ago to address some of these challenges and Rose noted that two faculty are on this committee.
- Q: Prof. Fernando Guzman, Mathematics, noted that the Senate will begin its evaluation of the TAE program. The committee will meet with different groups that are involved with the

TAE program. Prof. Guzman asked about the process for termination of a TAE that may not be working and the process for forming a new TAE. Even though a TAE is not a program, faculty do play an important role in academic life at the university, and the recent decision to create a new TAE did not involve any faculty, Faculty Senate, or Campus Governance Leader participation.

A: President Stenger answered that he felt our process to form TAE's is a good one. He hopes that the evaluation committee will work with the group that is looking at forming a new TAE. Provost Nieman noted that there were some ideas that had come about when the original TAE's were formed; he has also put out a call for proposals for new TAE's. A faculty evaluation process seems like a logical thing to do for new TAE's, but it may be too late to wait until this current TAE evaluation is completed. The call for suggestions for new TAE's will be out in a few days and the deadline for proposals is December 15. The evaluation will be done early in the spring semester so we can get a group together in late spring with it getting going next fall. Provost Nieman noted that the decision regarding the sixth TAE will be made by members of the ACSR committee augmented by several additional faculty. The ACSR does evaluations of the Organized Research Centers and they are very conversant with the issues involved in the success of the TAE program. This group has been reviewing these issues for some time. Provost Nieman agreed that very broad participation is a good idea in the review. President Stenger also agreed that we could have asked the Senate and the Executive Committee and they did not. Prof. Guzman said he appreciated that the process that has been laid out for selection of the TAE's is sound and very important, but the concern was about forming a new TAE itself.

Q: A student asked if the safety of students off campus is a concern.

A: President Stenger said that yes, it is a huge concern. He has discussed this with Mayor David. We also pay for a police officer who works Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights until 4:00 am. We have met with Mayor David about a joint task force with the city and the university. Two concerns are the City of Binghamton's zoning rules and the enforcement for multiple occupied buildings and the hope that establishments that have liquor licenses verify the ages of their customers. There are a lot of things that are out of our control. We cannot make the City of Binghamton enforce their zoning laws. We need to rely on our students to be safe and make smart choices.

After no more questions, the Full Faculty meeting was adjourned.

The first Faculty Senate meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year was called to order by Prof. Fernando Guzman, Mathematics, at 12:37 pm.

1. Announcements

- a. The Diversity Committee that was approved by the Senate last year has been formed. Prof. Lisa Tessman is serving as chair.
- b. The TAE Evaluation Committee has also been formed. Prof. Tom Sinclair is chair.
- c. The language that was approved at the December 15, 2015 meeting regarding service to the University in relation to tenure and promotion to associate professor, and promotion to full professor did not get included in the Procedures for Personnel Cases. The Provost will insure that this language will be included in the procedures.

2. Minutes

After no discussion, the minutes of the May 17, 2016 meeting were approved as submitted.

3. Obituary Notices Prof. Guzman notified the body that Prof. George Klir, Systems Science, and Prof. Isidore Okpewho, Africana Studies, passed away. Prof. Guzman asked for a moment of silence to remember these colleagues. As is established practice, notes of condolence have been sent to the families on behalf of the Senate.

4. New business for 2016-2017

Prof. Guzman outlined some of the agenda items that were suggested at the Senate's informational planning meeting of September 6, 2016.

Faculty issues -- How does a faculty member's research get publicized in national press?
Role of clinical faculty and their status/representation on university committees.

University calendar -- Final exam schedule. More faculty representation input when developing the calendar.

Campus -- Understanding what kind of environment we want to live in in 10 to 20 years.
Parking.

Students/curriculum -- Admissions policy. Support for international students. Online learning.

Personnel issues -- Salary compression. Administrators holding multiple appointments.
New faculty hires.

Prof. Guzman suggested that we discuss the issues with the University Calendar.

Prof. John Starks, Classical and Near Eastern Studies and FSEC chair, said there have been concerns about the final exam schedule and its implementation. A delay in posting of the final exam schedule is a problem for students. We do understand it can be difficult to schedule rooms, but this is a serious issue that needs to be addressed.

Prof. Sandra Michael, Biological Sciences, said there is a recurring issue in the life sciences and other technical fields when groups are taking a lab on say, a Tuesday, but not on Thursday. Some experiments may not last a whole week so this is a problem for departments who have labs.

Prof. Dana Stewart, Romance Languages, said there is a problem with the January break being shortened. Many students cannot participate in study abroad programs since the break has been shortened.

Prof. Heather DeHaan, History, said that when classes start on a Thursday, the Monday/Wednesday/Friday first class is Friday, which is usually allotted for discussion sections, which are TA-led. Many of the History Department TA's have no experience in the classroom except for the discussion sections that they lead. In classes with more than one

TA, it was not possible for the professor to be present for all the sections and it made for an awkward start to the year. If classes start on a Wednesday, at least students could engage with the professor in a regular lecture first which is helpful to set the framework for the class and the upcoming Friday section.

Prof. Jennifer Stoeber, English, said that the two-week drop deadline period is too long; shortening of this would be beneficial so students can start a replacement class sooner.

Prof. Anne Brady, Theatre, said that Theatre plans their production schedule one year ahead so if there will be changes to the calendar, they would need to know ahead of time. Prof. Guzman reminds everyone that we are talking about the calendars for 2018/19 and beyond.

Prof. Chris Hanes, Economics asked if we could have our spring break when local schools have theirs. The timing of our spring break may be an inconvenience for some faculty who have school-aged children. It was suggested that we can speak to the superintendent at BOCES who sets the calendars for all the local school districts.

Prof. Laura Anderson, Mathematics, stated that it is also hard to start classes before the local schools start.

President Stenger noted that we followed a process with faculty, staff, and students who met to establish the calendar. It is also impossible to come up with calendar to fit everyone's wishes, but he does believe that some good things came out of this planning. We created a fall break that we didn't have before, we ended the fall semester well before Christmas, and the January break was shortened so we had time to have a spring break. This forced us to start the spring semester earlier so we knew the winter break would be shorter. It is important to note that each semester has 14 Mondays, 14 Tuesdays, etc.

Provost Nieman noted that this is the first time the calendar has been put together by a committee since the 1980's. It was an inclusive process and there were faculty representation on the committee along with representatives from Residential Life and Physical Facilities. We know we had trade-offs. Having move-in day on Sunday worked very well for families so parents did not have to take time off from work. The Provost also noted that it is difficult to synch our calendar with the local schools but it is a good idea to try to make the effort to do so. Students have told us that a spring break that fluctuates is counter-productive; it is very stressful to go a long time without a break. It is good to build in breaks in the middle of the semester which will have a positive affect for students and faculty.

Prof. Guzman asks for a motion for the Senate to ask the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to continue review of the calendar process and bring the results of their discussions back to the Senate. This motion was seconded. After no discussion, this was approved by a unanimous hand vote.

After no more business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Present: Laura Anderson, Rosemary Arrojo, Serdar Atav, Christopher Bartlette, Anne Brady, Cassandra Bransford, Elizabeth Casteen, Manas Chatterji, Zu Yan Chen, Kenneth Chiu, Junghyun Cho, Cynthia Connine, Leon Cosler, Daniel Davis, Heather DeHaan, Heather Fiumera, Leslie Gates, Christof Grewer, Robert Guay, Fernando Guzman, Colleen Haile, Christopher Hanes, Stephanie Hess, Barry Jones, Jonathan Karp, Changhong Ke, Katja Kleinberg, Kristina Lambricht, Richard Lee, Alistair Lees, Marla Mallette, Tami Mann, Sandra Michael, Robert Micklus, Natalija Mijatovic, Nagendra Nagarur, Richard Naslund, Donald Nieman, Vladimir Nikulin, Neil Christian Pages, Sara Reiter, Pamela Smart, John Starks, Harvey Stenger, Dana Stewart, Jennifer Stoever, Ruth Van Dyke, Adrian Vasiu, Sara Wozniak, Bogum Yoon, Hong Zhang, Melissa Zinkin

Excused: Sharon Holmes, Jay Newberry, Carolyn Pierce, Hiroki Sayama

Absent: Nancy Abashian, Anne Bailey, George Catalano, Eric Cotts, Alexandra Cuesta, Michael Cutler, Weiyang Dai, Marvin Diaz, Patricia DiLorenzo, Mark Fowler, Brendan Hennessey, James Jentsch, Hyeyoung Kang, Thomas Kulp, Dennis Lasser, Carl Lipo, Tongshu Ma, Carol Miles, Titilayo Okoror, Gregory Robinson, Masatsugu Suzuki, Joseph Weil