

MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
May 7, 2013

The third Faculty Senate meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year was called to order by Prof. Alistair Lees at 11:47 p.m.

1. Minutes A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2013 meeting as submitted. On voice vote, the motion was approved.
2. Obituary Notices Prof. Lees notified the body that Prof. William Vandament, Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Prof. David Buttolph, Professor Emeritus of Music passed away. As is established practice, a note of condolence has been sent to their families on behalf of the Senate.

3. Reports

Prof. Howard Brown (History and Chair of Faculty Senate Executive Committee) reported on Faculty Senate Executive Committee's work for 2012-2013 academic year.

- The FSEC met with several senior administrators to discuss the following principal issues:
 - Dean John Meador, Libraries – Update on state of the University Libraries and John's goals to bring the library in terms of collections and services to the level to join the American Research Libraries Group; developing data preservation systems to save faculty research and would like to do that for courses as well.
 - Vice President James Van Voorst -- State commitment on spending; raise revenue 10% from out-of-state students and increase of excellence fee to \$75 per year over five years for students coming to university centers; concern that there is no future investment in the capital plan -- the legislature is to confront this in the next year or two.
 - Mark Reed, Associate Vice President for Information Technology Services -- Growing infrastructure for ITS and concern about spread of that and resources available. FSEC noted their concern about support for teaching and research involving ITS and the maintenance of latest version of IBM SPSS and need to monitor and support online courses, and some concern if Mark Reed is "at the right tables" with senior administrators. Mark is a direct report to the Vice President for Administration with a dotted line to the Provost.
 - Susan Strehle, Interim Dean of the Graduate School – There is a significant over-commitment for tuition scholarship; she is strongly pursuing various ways to foster the graduate growth initiative.
 - Provost Donald Nieman – Results of Trans disciplinary Area of Excellence committee. Three areas or clusters were identified in the social sciences and humanities: sustainable communities; citizens, rights, and cultural belonging; and material and visual worlds. Titles are very broad and are magnets to attract people from disciplines into trans disciplinary kinds of intellectual ventures rather than nets to sweep disciplines together. This will increasingly become how BU conducts their faculty recruitment and structures part of our promotion and tenure process. There are two other areas, smart energy and health care, that did not arise out of the TAEC but were developed by senior administration to deal with disciplines we have called STEM.
 - Larry Roma, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management -- Overview of campus' expansion... 1.5 million square feet has been added to BU's physical facilities which is more than any time including the original building of this campus. FSEC also heard about the outline of residential halls that are going offline and need for additional classroom space, office space for TA/GA's and faculty, and relocation of some offices.
 - Donald Loewen, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education -- Concern about foreign language as a gen ed requirement and moving to proficiency testing; seamless transfer within SUNY.

- Provost Donald Nieman and Donald Loewen -- Online education and the role of the Faculty Masters; Center for Learning and Teaching expansion and appointment of Prof. James Pitarresi.
- President Harvey Stenger -- Roadmap process and the resulting 46 projects.
- President Harvey Stenger and the Budget Review Committee – New money targeted for the new initiatives in the roadmap.
- The FSEC nominated members for the TAEC and the search committee for the Dean of Harpur. FSEC met with the four candidates for the Harpur dean and made recommendations to the search committee. Next week the FSEC will be nominating faculty for the search committee for the dean of CCPA.
- Changes in undergraduate programs and curriculum and the role of EPPC, which is being chaired by Sara Reiter, School of Management. There are adjustments to undergraduate programs that in some instances are rather minor but still need to go to the State Education Department. Our concern is at what level does EPPC or FSEC engage in any curriculum revisions. Our conclusion was that any changes that would result in a degree or certificate should be reviewed carefully by EPPC. Track, drop, or add changes for various programs may not warrant review but the process is still being worked out. In that vein, Bioengineering had gone through various substantial revisions several years ago and only came to the attention of EPPC recently. EPPC is now looking at this and will be assessing the program and its success. Changes to LACAS and Math actuary track and Sociology were deemed insufficient and did not need EPPC and FSEC review.
- All are aware of the tentative contract being negotiated with UUP and New York State. FSEC has issued a statement (below) in opposition of the contract which was sent to all faculty. Some FSEC members met with the negotiating team while they were on campus. A report on FSEC's statement will appear in Inside later this week.

The United University Professionals has recently negotiated a tentative contract with the State of New York. In addition to other unappealing features, the proposed contract would eliminate the 1% Discretionary Salary Increases (DSI) that have been included in earlier contracts. These increases were given to the base salary of individuals receiving the increase. The tentative contract eliminates the former DSI, reduces the amount of discretionary money made available to 0.5%, and specifies that it be distributed solely as one-time bonuses that will not be added to base. This means that, no matter how much faculty or professionals excel in teaching, research or service, their base salaries will be exactly the same as if they did nothing. This change will greatly compromise the university's ability to encourage and reward exceptional accomplishment, to address salary inequities and to provide salary increases for individuals receiving promotions. Therefore, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee of Binghamton University urges faculty and professionals in UUP to vote against the tentative agreement.

4. Approval of degree candidates

A motion made to approve list by Prof. Matthew Johnson, seconded by Prof. Knuepfer. The list was approved by a vote of 38 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

5. New business

- a. Election of 2013-2014 Faculty Senate Procedures Committee. Pursuant to Article III, Title B, 10.c. of the Faculty Bylaws, the Nominating Committee of the Faculty Senate presents the following slate of nominees:

Chair -- Alistair Lees, Chemistry

Vice Chair -- Sara Reiter, School of Management

Secretary -- Pamela Sandoval, Graduate School of Education

On a voice vote, the slate was unanimously approved.

- b. Faculty ByLaws

- Change to references to Bartle Professorships – There were four references to the time limit for Bartle Professors. Due to recent changes to the Bartle Professor program changing to three years, the FSEC and the Bylaws Review Committee agree to take out any time references in the Faculty Bylaws.

Article I e

Voting Faculty. The Chancellor, the President, the Provost, and all faculty members having academic rank (Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, Librarian, Associate Librarian, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Assistant Librarian) and term or continuing appointment; the foregoing includes administrative appointees with concurrent academic rank and Bartle Professors. ~~There shall be a five year limit to the voting status of Bartle Professors from the time of their initial appointment as Bartle Professor. (Approved by faculty in mail ballot in April 1997)~~ Persons having temporary academic appointments or qualified academic rank may be included in the Voting Faculty upon the recommendation of the appropriate academic units and with the approval of the Provost.

Article VII, Title B 3c and 3d

c. Membership of Senior Personnel Committees. All full professors on continuing appointment shall serve on the Senior Personnel Committee to consider cases of professors and associate professors, except when their own case is being considered. Bartle Professors holding the title of full professor who agree to serve on this committee during a given academic year, ~~and within a five year limit from the date of appointment as Bartle Professor,~~ shall do so.

d. Membership of Junior Personnel Committees. All full professors and associate professors on continuing appointment shall serve on the Junior Personnel Committee to consider cases of those below the rank of associate professor. Bartle Professors holding the title of full professor or associate professor who agree to serve on the Committee during a given academic year, ~~and within a 5 year limit from the date of appointment as Bartle Professor,~~ shall do so.

Article VII, Title D 2

Conditions of Service. Only voting faculty on continuing appointment and holding the rank of associate or full professor, including Bartle Professors in those titles who agree to serve ~~within the five year limit stipulated in Article I.e. above (Voting Faculty),~~ shall be eligible to serve on the AUPC.

On a voice vote, these changes were approved.

- Change to composition of Faculty Senate Executive Committee – The changes suggested were because there no more faculty members in Athletics and there is no longer a Director of Libraries. There are associate directors in the Libraries, who are essentially department heads. The FSEC has approved this change.

Article III, B. 5b Composition:

*Composition. The Executive Committee shall consist of sixteen (Approved by faculty March 2012) members of the State University of New York at Binghamton voting faculty. Administrative officers with concurrent academic rank are not eligible for election to the Executive Committee nor may they serve as an observer on the Executive Committee. These include but are not limited to: the president, the provost, vice presidents, vice provosts, the deputy to the president, **and** the deans and*

~~associate deans, and the directors and associate directors (Approved by faculty in mail ballot in September 2009) of the library and athletics. (Approved by faculty in mail ballot in November 2007).~~

On a voice vote, this change was approved.

c. Resolution to restore NSF funding for political science and in support of peer review

Prof. McGuire (Anthropology) reported that in March of 2013, there was an amendment to an appropriations bill introduced that would totally defund political science at the National Science Foundation. Part of that bill was to defund behavioral and social science at NSF and a larger effort to compromise peer review at NSF.

This resolution was passed by University Faculty Senate last week. Prof. McGuire would like to suggest that each of us contact our Congressman Richard Hanna to encourage him to vote in opposition to this bill. Last year Congressman Hanna voted to de-fund. If Senate approves this resolution today, it will be sent from our leadership to our representatives to voice our position.

After no more discussion, this was unanimously approved via a voice vote.

d. Prof. Alistair Lees congratulated Prof. Peter Knuepfer (Geological Sciences and Environmental Studies and University Faculty Senator) for being elected president of the University Faculty Senate. At this time, Prof. Knuepfer reported on SUNY Faculty Senate matters.

- UFS passed a resolution, thanks to the work and leadership of Prof. Randy McGuire, on defunding of political science and the intrusion of Congress into this process.
- Another resolution was passed by UFS in support of the need to maintain SUNY hospitals in a manner that does not negatively impact other SUNY campuses. There is a concern that budgetary issues that are present could have widespread impact across the system in a very negative fashion.
- There will be a SUNY shared governance award to recognize campuses that have done something innovative in the area of shared governance. Prof. Knuepfer encouraged our leadership here to apply on BU's behalf.
- Chancellor Zimpher addressed the UFS body about:
 - The need to examine base campus allocations -- There are campuses who have grown and have not seen an increase in allocations. There needs to be a change in the funding model but the Chancellor remains somewhat vague on how she sees that changing. She did say that new ideas are needed and there might be an investment fund for job readiness training tied to the economic development of the regions. This will probably be one point that Prof. Knuepfer in his new role will be discussing with the Chancellor.
 - SUNY's reaction to the lack of discretionary funds to base -- The Chancellor is committed to helping campuses find a way to provide incentive monies for addition to base if needed. She has expressed her disappointment with the lack of discretionary funds to the highest level of government.
 - Hospital issue -- This issue remains large not only to Downstate Medical University but to SUNY as a whole. Estimates are that Downstate is ready to lose \$100M this year. New York State at this point has not provided any funding to offset those losses,

instead has told SUNY that by June 1 they need to provide a stabilization plan to the legislature. We do not know where this will lead.

- Capital funding is still an issue. The Chancellor said the System was caught by surprise by what happened in capital funding. There is not as much impact on this campus; other campuses have had to put projects on hold.
- Policy on changing grades – SUNY is asking campuses to define proper procedures for changing grades and recognizing the primacy of faculty in this regard.
- Open SUNY for expanding different approaches to online and other kinds of education -- Chancellor Zimpher has formed three groups to oversee the broad elements of Open SUNY initiative: 1) to examine the impact on traditional student enrollments, 2) to evaluate credentialing of external sources of online courses, and 3) to oversee program delivery of tuition money if student is taking courses at more than one institution.

Prof. Lees notified all Senators to email him and Prof. Brown if there are any issues Senators wish to discuss in the coming academic year.

Prof. Brown wished to thank Prof. Knuepfer his service to our Faculty Senate and the University Faculty Senate.

There is also a concern about the attendance to Faculty Senate meeting. If any Senators have suggestions on how make the Faculty Senate meetings more vigorous and more participatory, please contact Prof. Brown or Prof. Lees.

After no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Present: Tania Alameda-Lawson, Jeffrey Barker, John Baust, Mark Blumler, Donald Boros, James Burns, Gisela Brinker-Gabler, Howard Brown, Sharon Bryant, Subimal Chatterjee, Scott Craver, Jill Dixon, Jennifer Gordon, Douglas Holmes, Matthew Johnson, Peter Knuepfer, Les Lander, Anne Larrivee, Michael Lawson, Alistair Lees, Harold Lewis, Patrick Madden, Marcin Mazur, Thomas McDonough, Randall McGuire, Robert Micklus, Rosmarie Morewedge, Donald Nieman, Stephen Ortiz, Sara Reiter, Pamela Sandoval, Steve Seepersaud, Thomas Sinclair, Jim Stark, John Starks, Eugene Stevens, Gary Truce, Deanne Westerman, Charles Westgate, Zili Yang

Excused: Frederic Deyo, Solomon Polachek, Harvey Stenger

Absent: Allan Arkush, David Bartine, Christopher Bishop, George Catalano, Yulong Chen, Zu-yan Chen, Jungyun Cho, Joseph Church, Laura Collins, Eric Cotts, Magdalena Czubak, Deborah Elliston, Salvador Fajardo, Ross Geoghegan, Vincent Grenier, Surinder Kahai, Christopher Knapp, Jonathan Krasno, Ji-Song Ku, Dina Maramba, Sarah Maximiek, Robert Mess, Debi Mishra, H. Richard Naslund, Eseosa Olumhense, Seungbae Park, Lisa Savage, Dale Tomich, Wendy Wall, David Wilson, Jeffrey Yates, Melissa Zinkin