

MINUTES OF
FULL FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 14, 2023

Associate Professor and Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences Aaron Beedle, Faculty Senate chair, called the Full Faculty meeting held in Old Union Hall to order at 11:47 a.m. She welcomed President Harvey G. Stenger and turned the meeting over to him.

President Stenger began his report to the Full Faculty meeting attendees. The presentation can be found at <https://www.binghamton.edu/faculty-senate/documents-and-forms.html>.

Chair Beedle then asked for questions from the full faculty.

Andrey Darovskikh, a graduate student in Philosophy, inquired about the state budget for graduate assistance to master's students and the amount of money allocated to Binghamton University.

President Stenger estimated \$400K to \$500K allocated to graduate students. He explained that the \$3M from SUNY was divided among graduate student fees, disability services, mental health, internships, and faculty research. The University is currently in the process of identifying which positions would receive scholarships. He also mentioned this year, the increased stipends for graduate students.

After no further discussion, the Full Faculty meeting was adjourned.

The second Faculty Senate meeting of the 2023-2024 academic year was called to order by Chair Beedle at 12:19 p.m. She began with a moment of silence and reflection.

1. Minutes

Minutes from the September 26, 2023 meeting were approved.

2. Reports

a. Report from Chair Beedle

Chair Beedle provided an update on the vote on amendments to the Faculty Bylaws. The voting results were 200 in favor, four opposed, and fourteen abstentions. The revised bylaws will be posted on the Faculty Senate website once President Stenger approves. A communication will go out to committees of those impacted by the bylaw's changes.

Chair Beedle discussed the pending proposals cleared by the Program Review Committee. The first proposal is a change in program title for the current Master of Science in Student Affairs Administration to Master of Science in Higher Education and Student Affairs. The second proposal is a correction to the English-English Adolescence 4+1 degree. She then turned the discussion over to Tom Sinclair, Program Review Committee Chair.

Prof. Sinclair discussed an issue regarding the English-English Adolescence 4+1 degree that was approved last year. However, there was an error and the proposed program did not have sufficient graded credit hours to meet residency requirements for a graduate degree. Prof. Sinclair voiced concern that this final faculty senate meeting of the fall semester was scheduled

for mid-November meaning that there was less time for committees to submit items for approval, forcing such items to be delayed into the spring. To prevent a similar problem in the future, he suggested holding next year's last Faculty Senate meeting of the fall semester in December instead of November. Prof. Sinclair also mentioned that the timing of this meeting is causing problems with programs that want to get SUNY's approval for launching in 2024. Therefore, he proposed scheduling the Faculty Senate meeting soon to move these items forward.

Chair Beedle announced the Spring 2024 Faculty Senate meetings that will take place on March 26 and April 30. She mentioned due to the PRC items pending the Faculty Senate's approval, she proposed an additional Faculty Senate meeting on February 6. She then asked the Senate for suggestions and if there were concerns with this additional meeting. There being no further discussion, the proposal for an additional meeting was approved.

Chair Beedle requested that chairs of standing committees create a standard operating procedure document to assist new and external committee members in understanding the general processes of the committee.

Chair Beedle then asked FSEC members to stay after the Faculty Senate meeting to discuss other business.

b. Report from Prof. Jon Krasno, chair of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Prof. Krasno reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met 11 times during the 2023 Fall semester. He shared three highlights from a series of meetings this semester.

- Bylaws amendments-clearing the way to send the bylaws to the Faculty Senate at its last meeting which approved the revisions and referred them to the faculty for an electronic vote – which occurred with the revisions overwhelmingly passing.
- Graduate school- Last year, the Campus Governance Leaders (CGLs) asked Provost Hall to appoint Prof. Susan Strehle, a former Dean of the Graduate School, to create a task force to compare Binghamton to our peer universities. Prof. Strehle's committee produced a remarkably compact, yet informative report by early summer, detailing an array of clear shortcomings. FSEC met with Prof. Strehle and members of her committee, continuing discussion over a following meeting. From these conversations, the CGLs communicated the faculty's desire for a "transformed" Graduate School and an internal search is underway for a Dean to head this effort. He thanked Provost Hall, Prof. Strehle, and the committee members.
- The proposal to turn the Environmental Studies Program into an academic department. The creation of an academic department is a rare event and converting a program that has traditionally drawn from across several existing departments to a new department has caused some concerns. The FSEC met separately with the leadership of affected departments and with Dean Celia Klin, Assoc. Dean Dave Clark, and ENVI Chair George Homsy to hear their perspectives on the proposal, along with devoting portions of several meetings to follow-up internal discussions. The committee agreed to authorize its chair to send a brief memo to Dean Klin, Prof. Clark, and Prof. Homsy with suggested revisions to their proposal but have not heard back.

c. Report from Prof. Melissa Zinkin, SUNY University Faculty Senator

Prof. Zinkin, University Faculty Senator, provided a report on the SUNY University Faculty Senate Plenary meeting held at SUNY Geneseo on October 20. Prof. Zinkin reported that the SUNY Faculty Senate meets twice a year. She then shared highlights from the plenary.

- Two resolutions were voted on but FSEC has not had time to review them and they will be voted on at the spring Faculty Senate meeting. Resolutions include:
 - To advocate that the governor expands more financial support to SUNY and CUNY
 - Involvement in shared governance with the creation of micro-credentials
- Other resolutions that were discussed for consideration included:
 - Supporting SUNY Potsdam and advocating their budgetary process
- Chancellor King discussed and promoted Civic Education and Engagement and discourse fellowship.
- A conference at SUNY Albany next fall on “Public Universities as a Public Good”.

Chair Beedle thanked Prof. Zinkin for her report. She then asked the committee if they had any further business to discuss.

Prof. John Zilvinskis, CCPA Student Affairs Administration, acknowledged Prof. Sinclair who is retiring this semester, and congratulated him. Chair Beedle then thanked Prof. Sinclair for his contributions and service.

After no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

Present: Manoj Agarwal, Michael Armstrong, Aaron Beedle, Megan Benson, David Bisaha, Jeremy Blackburn, Peter Borgesen, Luca Cassidy, Alex Chase-Levenson, Junghyun Cho, Laura Cook, Sidney Dement, Sean Dunwoody, Laura Fine Hawkes, Rodney Gabel, Matt Gallagher, Ariana Gerstein, John Havard, Brendan Hennessey, Leslie Heywood, Murali Jagannathan, Barry Jones, Clarice Kelleher, Rebecca Kissling, Jonathan Krasno, BrieAnna Langlie, Michael Lawler, Meg Leja, Colin Lyons, Andre Mathis, Tom McDonough, Ralph Miller, Debi Mishra, Luiza Moreira, Christopher Morgan-Knapp, H.R. Naslund, Vladimir Nikulin, Julien Panetier, Heather Parks, Xingye Qiao, Shay Rabineau, James Rea, Anton Schick, John Starks, Harvey Stenger, Melvin Whitehead, Wei Xiao, Bogum Yoon, Sarah Young, Hong Zhang, Ning Zhou, Melissa Zinkin

Excused: Christopher Bishop, Zu-yan Chen, Leon Cosler, Donald Hall, Nora Henry, Marcin Mazur, Paul McShee, Anthony Meder, Thomas O'Brien, S.B. Park, Kirsten Prior, Gurpreet Singh, Bridget Whearty

Absent: Nancy Abashian, Jobial Alex, Christina Balderrama-Durbin, Lina Begdache, Nicole Cameron, David Campbell, Kenneth Chiu, Weiyang Dai, Guy German, Douglas Holmes, Wei-Cheng Lee, Jason Moore, Titilayo Okoror, Mark Poliks, Olga Shvetsova, Marguerite Wilson