

MINUTES OF
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
March 21, 2017

Prof. Fernando Guzman called the Full Faculty meeting to order at 11:46am 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/docs/Stenger%20presentation.pdf>

Questions and answers:

Q: Prof. John Starks, Classics and Chair of Faculty Senate Executive Committee, asked for confirmation of the funds coming from FEMA.

A: President Stenger confirmed that we have gotten \$2 million from FEMA with a remaining \$700,000 to come. We are talking about a new Welcome Center concept to engage us more fully with the City of Binghamton.

Q: Prof. Natalia Mijatovic, Art, asked for an update on the status of the Inebriate Asylum ("The Castle").

A: President Stenger noted that the consulting selection is almost complete. There will be a reconvening of the group of faculty with the consultants to define what should be in there. We should be starting soon involving faculty and staff.

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

The fifth Faculty Senate meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year was called to order by Prof. Fernando Guzman, Mathematics, at 12:17 pm.

Prof. Fernando Guzman thanked President Stenger for his prompt response to the recent executive orders.

1. Minutes

After no discussion, the minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

2. New business

a) Faculty ByLaws -- Change in Budget Review Committee charge

Prof. Sandra Michael, Biological Sciences, and chair of ByLaws Review Committee, stated that the proposed change addresses a long standing concern of the budget review process and the role of the faculty. This language was generated by the Budget Review Committee itself and designed to make sure we have a meaningful role in the process of allocating the budget rather than simply being given the information. This change asks for the ability to see the allocations 14 months before the budget is due and noted that the FSEC has approved this proposed change. Prof. Michael read the change:

to review on a regular basis revenue projections and division level allocations beginning 14 months prior to the start of the fiscal year (July 1) and prior to implementing campus budgetary policies; to report its findings to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. The explicit intention of this charge is to have faculty involvement in budgetary

planning prior to policy or budgetary implementation, including midstream budget changes;

After no discussions, this was approved by a unanimous vote.

b) Resolution on Applied Learning

Prof Starks noted that this is a proposed requirement for each graduating student to have centralized applied learning. We need to give our decision to SUNY by May on what our requirements will be for our students. Many sister campuses have embraced the idea of applied learning. It is not easy to identify every example of student research or senior theses.

The FSEC recommends for the Faculty Senate's consideration and approval that Applied Learning/High-Impact Learning experiences, whether identified as Undergraduate Research, Capstone Courses, Service Learning, Study Abroad, or Internships, not be mandated as a university-wide requirement for fulfillment of all Bachelor's degrees. Individual academic units should continue to determine what, if any, experiential learning is required of their graduates.

After no questions or comments, this was approved by a favorable vote with 1 opposed and 1 abstention.

John noted that the applied learning inventory was included with our agenda. He suggests this may be a good time for Senators to bring back to their departments to reconcile it at the department level to see if any inventory is missing.

c) Student Academic Honesty Code change

Prof Starks noted that it was found that a statement was missing regarding University-wide courses under the Responsibility for Implementation section.

The FSEC recommends for the Faculty Senate's consideration and approval that the Student Academic Honesty Code be revised as shown in the attached document with the following addition under the subheading Responsibility for Implementation (shown in red in the attachment):

For cases involving University-Wide courses (including CDCI, ELI, OUT, SCHL, and UNIV courses) implementation and adjudication will occur through committee structures in Harpur College of Arts and Sciences. The Harpur College honesty committee may consult with other schools, as needed, for University-wide honesty cases involving students from those schools.

After no questions or discussions, this was approved by a unanimous vote.

3. Open conversations

a) Teach NY policy

Prof. Guzman said that the SUNY Provost Cartwright has asked the SUNY Board of Trustees to approve this Teach NY policy. The Mathematics department and the School of Education have the responsibility for quality of our math teachers, and the School of Education does look at this issue every day. This SUNY policy is the result of two years of work between the State ED and SUNY, replacing a 2001 policy. April 3 is

the deadline for our comments. Prof. Guzman proposes that the FSEC send comments to SUNY with direction from the School of Education. He also encouraged President Stenger and Provost Nieman to provide their own comments either separately or jointly with the FSEC. Prof. Guzman also invited all faculty and Senators to send any comments to FSEC within the next week.

Dean Susan Strehle, interim Dean of the School of Education, noted that there is no objection to the standard of teaching. However, Prof. Candace Mulcahy, new chair of Education in CCPA, is deeply involved in thinking about these issues. Educators and education deans have had discussions for the last two years regarding regulation-free zones (it is now regulated highly) and the accountability plan with no support attached. Original discussions called for financial support (this is not in the document now). Education departments are saying they have no resources for new accreditation processes; there are currently 65 standards for every kind of education. This also calls for the campus president to address his role in this (i.e. write a report).

Prof. Chris Hanes, Economics, suggested that if the Senate is to come up with comments, the best thing is that we support the Education Department's statement.

Prof. Heather DeHaan, History, noted that we are already working to equip teachers but most of our students in the education system do not want to stay in New York State. We should support the resolution that will come from our Department of Education.

Prof. Sandra Michael, Biological Sciences, asked that perhaps the incoming department chair share plans for how they will be responding to this.

Prof. Candace Mulcahy, Education, said that they have found that this resolution shows what we are already working on for accreditation. We do not have access to information/data from the State and are working on getting that information formalized. Education is also working hard on the merger to CCPA. It is a great idea to have the Senate support this. Education will have more ideas on how to move forward once the department meets to discuss thoroughly.

Ms. Tami Mann, Education and PSS representative, noted that cooperating teachers in the districts only receive \$200 (this amount has been the same since the 1990's). We take very good care of our cooperating teachers in the community who are helping our students. These teachers work every day for eight weeks to help prepare our students for teaching. She noted that private colleges are compensating much more than \$200.

Jose Morales, graduate student and GSO representative, asks if it's worth the time that this policy requires. Do faculty want to take time to write a report rather than using their time for field research?

Prof. Fernando Guzman recalls when our education MAT programs had six courses in this area, then the State Education Department imposed restrictions or burdens on us to cut to three courses.

Prof. Fernando Guzman proposed a motion asking the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to consult with the Department of Education to produce comments to send to Albany. After no discussion, this was approved by favorable vote with 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

b) SOOT restructuring

Prof. John Starks began the discussion. SOOT's are technically optional but are sometimes used with promotion and tenure cases as a metric to assess teaching effectiveness, so most departments do not opt out. Some have suggested that a comment section be added so comments can come back to the instructor. Prof. Starks asked if there were other areas on the SOOT's that Senators wanted added? He noted that cross-tabbing is not done across demographic information against information at the top of the form. For example, the question "what grade you think you are getting" could give some information on how they are responding to other items on the SOOT. This can be done. This is a tool for understanding how our students have responded to our teaching.

Jose Morales, graduate student and GSO representative, noted that the SOOTs are not accommodating for the format of teaching other than lecturing. Is there any way to accommodate clinical-based courses to be more meaningful? Also, it may be helpful to help students understand the impact of the SOOTs.

Prof. Sandra Michael said that many agree that the SOOT is not a one-size-fits-all useful document. This is why some departments and individuals have created their own evaluation tool, especial in lab sciences and seminars. Mr. Morales agrees with this; he feels that students do not take these seriously,

Prof. Guzman asked that additional comments be sent to FSEC who will be discussing this issue later in semester.

After no more business, the meeting adjourned at 1:03 pm.

Present: Nancy Abashian, Serdar Atav, Anne Brady, Cassandra Bransford, Manas Chatterji, Zu Yan Chen, Kenneth Chiu, Cynthia Connine, Leon Cosler, Heather DeHaan, Marvin Diaz, Nikolay Dimitrov, Salvator Fajardo, Heather Fiumera, Benjamin Fordham, Mark Fowler, Thomas Goodheart, Robert Guay, Fernando Guzman, Colleen Hailey, Christopher Hanes, Brendan Hennessey, Stephanie Hess, Leslie Heywood, Barry Jones, Katja Kleinberg, Leslie Lander, Dennis Lasser, Richard Lee, Alistair Lees, Carl Lipo, Marla Mallette, Tami Mann, Sandra Michael, Natalija Mijatovic, Carol Miles, Jose Morales-Collazo, Nagendra Nagarur, Donald Nieman, Titilayo Okoror, Carolyn Pierce, Sara Reiter, Hiroki Sayama, Pamela Smart, John Starks, Harvey Stenger, Jennifer Stoever, Ruth Van Dyke, Adrian Vasuu, Joseph Weil, Bogum Yoon, Hong Zhang

Excused: Rosemary Arrojo, Christopher Bartlette, Junghyun Cho, Arianna Gerstein, Joseph Graney, Changhong Ke, Jay Newberry, Vladimir Nikulin, Neil Christian Pages, Maxim Pensky, Sara Wozniak

Absent: Laura Anderson, Anne Bailey, Elizabeth Casteen, George Catalano, Raul Jesus Cepin, Eric Cotts, Weiying Dai, Patricia DiLorenzo, Carmen Ferradas, Leslie Gates, Sharon Holmes, James Jentsch, Hyeyoung Kang, Jonathan Karp, Kristina Lambright, Tongshu Ma, Robert Micklus, Richard Naslund, Gregory Robinson, Masatsugu Suzuki