

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
May 10, 2011

Prof. Sara Reiter (School of Management and Chair of the Faculty Senate) called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 11:51 a.m. in UU Mandela Room.

1. Minutes A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2011 meeting as submitted. On voice vote, the motion was approved.
2. Approval of degree candidates Prof. Reiter explained that approval is a formality signifying the faculty role in granting degrees. A motion was made to approve the lists of degree candidates contingent on completion of requirements for respective degrees. On voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.
3. Obituary Notices Prof. Reiter noted the death of Prof. Arthur Lessac, Professor Emeritus (Theatre). A moment of silence was observed.
4. Reports
Prof. Peter Knuepfer (Geological Sciences and University Faculty Senator) reported on results of the last University Faculty Senate meeting in Fredonia on April 15/16.
 - The largest issue was the SUNY budget. University Faculty Senators did learn about a set of possible scenarios that SUNY system administration had distributed to campus presidents on dealing with the cuts. SUNY is planning to distribute all cuts in some proportional manner to campuses. To meet our obligations, Binghamton would get a \$7.5 to \$9.7 million cut in the fiscal year 2011-12.
 - University Faculty Senators reminded the Chancellor that a raise in graduate tuition affects Ph.D. programs (campus and research grant budgets) disproportionately.
 - SUNY is piloting a new degree audit system to track students through the university; this will impact us in terms of our degree audit system.
 - As part of the strategic planning process for SUNY, they have identified issues of how/whether entrepreneurial “scholarship” (e.g. patents) are considered in tenure/promotion process.
 - SUNY will be publishing its report card next week.
 - The group passed a number of resolutions including supporting the five-year traditional tuition plan, broadening the Governor’s UB2020 “summit” to encompass the rest of SUNY, and urging campuses to look hard at procedures and processes on authority to change grades.
 - Since this meeting, we have heard about the NYSUNY2020 program with \$35 million to each University Center as part of a broader proposal to focus on economic development. Both Senate and Assembly have bills which call for a rational tuition plan with 5.5% increases for each of four to five years.

Prof. Richard Lee, (Sociology and Chair, Faculty Senate Executive Committee) reported that most of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee work this year were items on today’s agenda. FSEC has also been involved in rapidly breaking issues such as the SUNY budget and the presidential search.

- Last year FSEC put in place a policy which complied with SUNY guidelines for implementation and election for faculty to serve on presidential search committees. Last year’s nominations resulted in a wide range of nominees from various schools with a balance of gender and under-represented minorities. Final election was for three faculty from Harpur and three from the Professional Schools and the Library.
- We now have two original faculty representatives who have communicated that they cannot continue (Dawnie Steadman from Anthropology, who is leaving the University, and Timothy Perry from Music, who will be leading accreditation for the Music Department).

- The Search Committee is changing leadership – Kathryn Madigan and James Orband will be co-chairs. Additional search process changes have been put in place as well. There is an open invitation from the BU Council and the Chancellor to discuss concerns at any time. President Magrath will act as consultant to search committee.
- Prof. Lee shared the letter from Kathryn Madigan and James Orband sent to Sara Reiter and Richard Lee.
- The search committee will meet on May 25, two weeks from now. This is a tight time frame for nomination and election to replace the two faculty vacancies.

5. Resolution regarding Presidential Search Committee

The Binghamton University Faculty Senate reaffirms its previously elected faculty representatives to serve on the Binghamton University Presidential Search Committee.

It commits to following the same electoral process in selecting replacements for those faculty members who are unable or unwilling to continue their service on the search committee.

It also thanks all faculty who have served to date on the committee for their hard work on behalf of the University.

Prof. Herbert Bix (History) questions if an effort was made to have faculty of color on the search committee. Prof. Reiter noted that this was/is an electoral process with members nominated and elected.

Prof. Ross Geoghegan (Mathematics) asks if it is correct that this election is being planned to fill one slot in Social Sciences and one in Humanities. Prof. Reiter notes that this is correct and that all faculty vote from a slate of nominees. Prof. Geoghegan feels the resolution needs more content.

Prof. Thomas O'Connor (Romance Languages) asks why we are not using the results from the last election. Prof. Richard Lee notes that FSEC did consider that, but the next highest vote getter has retired. More discussion ensued in FSEC and everyone agreed that since that election had taken place one year ago, it would be more appropriate to elect new faculty with a new slate of nominees rather than work down the slate of nominees from the original election.

Prof. Frank Cardullo (Mechanical Engineering) notes that he was not happy with the whole process. While conceptually the process was fine, there was a relatively short time to nominate. He felt there was not enough time to get all the information that the Senate leadership was requiring. He notes that this is an important decision to appoint the leader of this university and it's important to have a discussion about the candidates. Candidate resumes were not sent until 24 hrs before coming to campus. Faculty had little possible input into the process. If we are going to see the same kind of process, he feels we will see the same results. Why can't Faculty Senate have a discussion on candidates and an endorsement by faculty? Why was this not permitted? He urges Faculty Senate to try to get involved in the process at some level.

Prof. Sara Reiter would like to clarify that this motion is not to reelect the search committee, but to replace two faculty who are leaving committee.

Prof. Leslie Gates (Sociology) would like an elaboration on the nomination procedure? Prof. Sara Reiter notes that a nomination requires collection of four signatures along with the faculty member's vitae. One qualification is that candidate agrees to serve and is available to serve over the summer.

Prof. Ross Geoghegan (Mathematics) reminds everyone of the process of appointing president. Our BU Council is appointed by the Governor; they are a ceremonial body until it comes to the appointment of a president. The president is recommended by the Chancellor and appointed by the SUNY Board of Trustees. He shares Prof. Cardullo's thoughts on the candidates and the issue of confidentiality, but he does see the merits of a completely confidential process. We may just be informed of who our next president is. Candidates may not want to subject themselves to an open, public search. The only task before us is to elect two replacements on the search committee.

Prof. Gale Spencer (Decker School of Nursing, member of Presidential Search Committee) notes that everyone on campus had a vote, every group had a vote, FSEC had a vote, anyone who went to the open sessions had a vote. The search committee took these votes very seriously. We lost a number of candidates when they knew it was going to be public. The BU Council and the search committee felt it was important to have the search as open as possible. We will not just drop in a candidate that no one has seen. The search committee hopes to have people meet with candidates but they will sign confidentiality agreements to protect the candidates' confidentiality. Everyone did have vote, and votes do count.

Hearing no more discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 27 in favor, 3 opposed, 12 abstaining.

6. Faculty Bylaws Changes

a. Change to Nomination Procedure for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Each constituency shall nominate candidates from the constituency to a number at least twice as many as the constituency's membership on the Executive Committee. Nominating petitions must be signed by 10 percent of the constituency, or 15 constituents, whichever number is smaller.

*Change that to (changes in **bold**):*

*Each constituency shall nominate candidates from the constituency to a number at least twice as many as the constituency's membership on the Executive Committee. **Nominating petitions must be signed by a minimum of 5 constituents.***

After no discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

Since this is a bylaws change, it will go to President Magrath for approval.

b. Change/addition to committee charges. Since these are changes to the Bylaws Appendix, approval by this body is final. These changes do not need to go to the president.

- Committee for the University Environment (CUE)

Proposed addition (bold) to the composition of the Committee for the University Environment:

APPENDIX TO FACULTY BYLAWS

Title A. Faculty Senate Committees

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENT (Joint)

Composition:

- *8 faculty members, 5 selected by the Faculty Senate and 3 selected by the Provost*
- *3 students, 2 nominated by the Student Association (SA) and 1 by the Graduate Student Organization (GSO)*
- *Vice President for Administration or his/her designee*
- *One professional employee appointed by the Professional Employees Council (PEC)*
- *One Residential Life representative appointed by the Vice President for Student Affairs*
- *One Physical Plant representative appointed by the Associate Vice President for Physical Facilities*
- *One environmental ombudsperson or other environmental professional appointed by the Vice President for Administration*
- ***The Steward of the Nature Preserve***
- *Additional non-voting members whose expertise would contribute to the committee's function may be added at the discretion of the committee chair, subject to the approval of the Executive*

Prof. Peter Knuepfer noted that the correct title is "Steward of Campus Natural Areas". On voice vote, this was changed in the motion.

After no discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

- Evaluation Coordinating Committee (ECC)

Add the following charge to the Appendix to the By-Laws:

APPENDIX TO FACULTY BYLAWS

Title A. Faculty Senate Committees

In accordance with Article IV. Title B. of the Faculty Bylaws, following are the charges of all currently authorized Faculty Senate committees:

Evaluation Coordinating Committee

Charge:

1. *To coordinate or conduct regular evaluations of those senior administrators who have significant responsibilities involving them in the academic program. These positions currently include, but are not limited to: the President, the*

Provost, the Vice President for Research, all Deans, the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, the Vice Provost for International Education, the Associate Vice President for Information Technology Services, and the Director of Continuing Education and Summer Programs.

- 2. To prepare confidential reports for distribution only to the administrator being evaluated; that administrator's immediate supervisor; and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.*

Composition:

The Evaluation Coordinating Committee (ECC) will consist of nine full-time Faculty Senate members chosen by the Committee on Committees and confirmed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, including one representative from each of the following units: the Decker School of Nursing, the School of Management, the School of Education, the College of Community and Public Affairs, the Watson School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Library, and three representatives from Harpur College of Arts and Sciences, including one member from each of the following Divisions: Humanities, Science and Mathematics, and Social Sciences. ECC members will serve one year terms renewable for the duration of their Faculty Senate terms.

In addition to explanation shown on the attached, Sara noted that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee felt that this charge should be added to the Bylaws appendix as it never did appear before. After no discussion, motion was approved by a vote of 41 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

- Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (IAC)

Proposed change to the charge of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee:

Current (old) charge:

to make recommendations and suggest policies to the Faculty Senate regarding the impact of intercollegiate athletics on academic standards and practices.

Proposed (new) charge:

to oversee procedures by which the Department of Athletics maintains NCAA, conference, and university standards for the academic pursuits of student athletes. This includes

- 1. developing guidelines for the integration of student athletes into university academic life;*
- 2. evaluating procedures by which the Department of Athletics ensures compliance with NCAA academic requirements, promotes the academic success of student athletes and maintains university academic standards;*
- 3. promoting initiatives that integrate Department of Athletics academic support programs with other campus resources, offices and programs;*
- 4. making recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding these and other academic issues that impact student athletes and the Department of Athletics.*

Prof. Frank Cardullo (Mechanical Engineering) notes that he has had considerable experience with the IAC, most of it unpleasant. He was the chair a number of years ago and was unceremoniously removed by FSEC (around 2001), with FSEC stating that his term would not be renewed. At that time, the IAC was trying to do some of the things noted in this charge, but were stonewalled by Admissions and the administration. He feels that the proposed charge could be a little stronger. He suggests that “oversee and suggest...procedures” which are words from the Kaye report and would like Admissions be dealt with explicitly in this charge. The Kaye and Westgate reports both dealt with Admissions specifically. He notes that at that time Athletics were making recommendation of students who were well below our standards.

Prof. Mike Lewis (Computer Science, chair of IAC) notes that the IAC now does consider admissions in the realm of committee, getting information from Admissions. Admissions is one of the other most important departments the IAC works with, so he has no issue with adding Admissions to the charge. He also suggests that we may want to add the Registrar’s Office to the charge, too.

A motion was made by Prof. Randall McGuire (Anthropology), seconded by Prof. Richard Lee (Sociology, Chair of Faculty Senate Executive Committee) to table this motion until May 17 Faculty Senate meeting so the IAC can consider revised wording. On voice vote, this motion was approved.

- Professional Standards Committee (PSC)

Proposed revision of the charge of the PSC – changes in italics.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Revised Charge:

1. *to consider all sides of issues involving professional conduct and to seek a resolution or to recommend appropriate action to assure high standards of professional conduct;*
2. *to report annually on the number of issues raised, the nature of the issues raised, and the procedures used in recommending resolution of redress.*
3. *the committee will not consider cases which are matters of grievance of discipline under provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement or aspects of promotion, tenure, and renewal cases related to the substantive issues to be considered by the University Personnel Committees, such as composition of initiating personnel committees, adherence to proper procedures, the fairness of presentation of the case, or the weighing of factors by parties at the various stages of the personnel process. The committee may be concerned with the unprofessional conduct of faculty in the context of personnel cases.*

Original Charge:

1. *in cases which are not matters of grievance of discipline under provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, to consider all sides of issues involving professional conduct, and to seek a resolution or to recommend appropriate action to assure high standards of professional conduct;*
2. *to report annually on the number of issues raised, the nature of the issues raised, and the procedures used in recommending resolution of redress.*

After no discussion, this motion was approved by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

There was a motion and voice vote to adjourn at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Bat-Ami Bar On, Christopher Bishop, Herbert Bix, Anne Brady, Frank Cardullo, Jill Dixon, Mark Fowler, Donette Francis, Monika Furch, Leslie Gates, Ross Geoghegan, Peter Gerhardstein, J. David Hacker, Scott Henkel, Sharon Holmes, Clifford Kern, Sonja Kim, Kelly Kinney, Peter Knuepfer, Richard Lee, Michael Lewis, Marcin Mazur, Randall McGuire, Luiza Moreira, Rosmarie Morewedge, Nagendra Nagarur, H. Richard Naslund, Thomas O'Connor, Carolyn Pierce, Solomon Polachek, Curt Pueschel, Sara Reiter, Erin Rushton, Thomas Sinclair, Timothy Singler, Gale Spencer, Jennifer Stoeber-Ackerman, Susan Strehle, Lisa Tessman, Gary Truce, Karl Wilson, Lijun Yin

Excused: Karen Bromley, Ariana Gerstein, Norah Henry, Douglas Holmes, Alistair Lees, C. Peter Magrath, Sarah Maximiek, Karen Salvage, Jim Stark

Absent: Josephine Allen, Laura Anderson, Kimberly Avery, Anne Bailey, Karen Barzman, George Catalano, Andy Cavagnetto, Lubna Chaudry, Christof Grewer, Albrecht Inhoff, Kimberly Jaussi, Jonathan Karp, David Klotzkin, Kenneth Kurtz, R. Kevin Lacey, Ricardo Laremont, Dale Madison, Michael McDonald, Jean-Pierre Mileur, Daniel Rabinowitz, Karin Sauer, Paul Schleuse, Pamela Smart, Srinivasa Venugopalan, Leigh Ann Wheeler, Nan Zhou, Weixing Zhu