

Faculty Senate Minutes #2

September 17th, 2024

Function Room

Members and Senators Present: K. Ahern, S. Anderson, P. Arras, C. Badurek, E. Bitterbaum, A. Blavos, R. Borden, R. Bryan, E. Cisneros, S. Clark, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, A. Fitz-Gibbon, D. Harms, L. Jin, M. Kent-Landes, K. Lawrence, A. McClellan, J. Neretich, J. Parks, R. Powell, P. Schroeder, H. Schmid, G. Sharer, K. Sheets, T. Suzuki, A. Thompson, B. Williams, D. Wilson, A. X, M. Yacavone, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Members and Senators Absent: R. Coyne, S. Daman, S. Decker, K. Diggs, J. Hall, J. Jones, L. Lopez-Janove, J. Radloff

Guests: L. Scagnelli

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from September 3rd were approved by the Senate.

Guest Speaker L. Scagnelli, Health Educator: Presented information regarding the SUNY Cortland Cupboard, which is a resource for our students who are struggling with basic needs; L. Scagnelli recognized her fellow committee members for their dedicated work to the cause. (*Please find presentation attached*)

II. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence:

- Announced that the deadline to submit nominations for Chancellor's Awards and/or Distinguished Rank Promotion was yesterday (Monday, 9/16/24) afternoon.
- Encouraged faculty to post SUNY Cortland Cupboard flyers throughout campus

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: D. Harms:

- Presented slate of vacancies to the Faculty Senate for the Spring 2024 Call for Nominations
 - Announced nominations that were submitted via email to fill senator and committee vacancies (*Please find documents attached*).
 - Number of remaining vacancies are as follows:
 - Senator vacancies (6 total)
 - Committee vacancies (8 total; including student vacancies)
 - Please note: Any seat that was uncontested by a single nominee was elected by the Faculty Senate.

IV. Treasurer's Report: C. Badurek – Reported that the Faculty Senate Fund currently has a balance of \$19034.11; there is also \$500 available for scholarships this semester

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- Reported on the SUNY Chancellor's visit to campus this morning for National Constitution; there was a panel discussion from 11AM-12PM in the Corey Union Fireplace Lounge, which was very engaging
- Reported on behalf of L. Lopez-Janove, reminding everyone of the upcoming events to celebrate Latine heritage Month
- Announced that the next budget season has begun; will be meeting with senators and legislators to discuss how funds are being put to use

- Reminded everyone of the deadline for mandatory campus climate training, which is 9/30/24
- Since Fall Break is 10/7/24-10/8/24, we will observe 10/7 on 10/9/24; more details will be coming next week
- Updating our Sustainability plan
- Reported that there is a vast amount of homelessness on college campuses
 - In a recent survey, 3 out of 5 students experience basic needs insecurities (1/3 of that population is lack of food), 48% experience housing insecurities, and 14% are homeless
 - A. X inquired if there has been a recent survey of unhoused students specifically at SUNY Cortland
 - Not at this time; information presented is mostly anecdotal

VII. Policy Committee Reports:

Joint Committee on Student Interests: A. X/J. Radloff – No report.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee: K. Sheets, Chair – No report.

Educational Policy Committee: J. Parks, Chair – Reported that the committee is currently working on finishing some unfinished business from last semester; one thing they will be working on for new business this semester will be a basic needs statement to be put in syllabi.

Professional Faculty Affairs Committee: J. Neretich, Chair – No report

Area Senators – No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: A. Fitz-Gibbon, G. Birren, L. Jin, J. Hall – Former SUNY Senator C, Badurek reported on this past UFS Spring 2024 Plenary:

- Online teaching across SUNY is at a 20% rate; is basically becoming the new norm
 - A.X commented that the availability of more online courses brings more accessibility for students, especially students with disabilities
- Presentation regarding the future of A.I. in education; idea presented that in the future each student will have access to their own personal A.I. tutor.

Student Senator: E. Cisneros/D. Wilson

- Reported that the SGA has been diligently working to fill remaining student vacancies on Faculty Senate committees
 - All student vacancies have been filled on the JCSI
 - Graduate student vacancy has been filled on the GFEC
 - Currently has a student who is interested in serving on the CTE
 - Will post remaining student vacancies on their Instagram page

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: I. Strasser, Chair – No report.

University Curriculum Review Committee: K. Polasek/C. Ortega, Chair – No report

Faculty Research Committee: C. Badurek, Chair – No report

General Education Committee: D. Radus, Chair – No report.

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: L. Gathagan/L. Reichel, Chair – No report.

IX. Unfinished Business: N/A

X. New Business:

- **UFS Resolution 197.01: AI Tools for Research** – Introduced to the Senate by L. Jin for clarifying questions; will bring back to the Senate in two weeks for debate and vote to endorse
 - Q. Is there a timeline for discussion?
 - A. No, not that I am aware of
 - Q. “Private confidential lesson plan...” What exactly does that mean, or what is it referring to?
 - A. Many SUNY faculty members basically are looking for assistance with A. I.
- **UFS Resolution 197.02: SUNY Cross Campus Research Support** – Introduced to the Senate by L. Jin for clarifying questions; will bring back to the Senate in two weeks for debate and vote to endorse
- **UFS Resolution 197.04: SUNY Research Communication Enhancement** – Introduced to the Senate by L. Jin for clarifying questions; will bring back to the Senate in two weeks for debate and vote to endorse
 - No clarifying questions asked
- **UFS Resolution 197.05: Recommendation for Basic Needs Resource Communication** – Introduced to the Senate by L. Jin for clarifying questions; will bring back to the Senate in two weeks for debate and vote to endorse
 - No clarifying questions asked
- **UFS Resolution 197.06: Requesting a Progress Report on the Financial Sustainability of State University of New York Campuses** – Introduced to the Senate by L. Jin for clarifying questions; will bring back to the Senate in two weeks for debate and vote to endorse
 - No clarifying questions asked
- **Academic Calendar Committee** – A. Thompson announced that there will be two drafts of academic calendars that will be going out to campus via email within the next week; the calendars are essentially a copy of the 2018 academic year calendar, with a few minor changes (date of the President’s opening address); will bring back to the Senate in two weeks for debate and vote to endorse

XI. Announcements:

- K. Lawrence reminded senators to please to review all resolutions and academic calendars to prepare for discussion/endorsement at the next Senate meeting, which will take place on 10/1/24.

Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 2:32PM on 9/3/24

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis