

Faculty Senate Minutes #1

September 3rd, 2024

Fireplace Lounge

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. Coyne, S. Daman, A. DeChellis, P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, A. Fitz-Gibbon, D. Harms, L. Jin, M. Kent-Landes, K. Lawrence, J. Neretich, 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. Davis, K. Diggs, J. Hall, J. Jones, L. Lopez-Janove, A. McClellan, J. Parks, J. Radloff

Guests: J. Bucciferro, K. Dushko, W. Gore

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from April 30th were approved by the Senate.

Approval of Revised Standing Rules of the Senate: The two revised items in the Standing Rules were approved by the Senate; the revisions were as follows:

- Under Section D. Senate Debate and Voting Procedures:
 - (4) Members may speak twice to any motion. Second speeches must wait until all have the opportunity to speak once.
 - ~~(8) Straw votes shall be illegal.~~ Was removed, as straw voting has become irrelevant
- M. Kent-Landes inquired about what the protocol is on ending discussion/debate in the Senate
 - Parliamentarian S. Anderson explained that procedure comes from Roberts Rules; a motion can be made from the floor to cease debate and move to a vote. If the motion to cease debate and move to a vote is accepted by 2/3 of the voting members of the Senate, then all debate/discussion ends regardless of whether there were others who still wished to debate/discuss the topic at hand.

II. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence:

- Welcomed everyone back, and acknowledged all new members of the Senate
- Announced all proposals from Spring 2024 semester that were approved by the Senate were also approved by the President's Office; thanked all the committees for all their hard work on those proposals
 - The Steering Committee will review all approved changes made to the College Handbook next week, just to double check and confirm all changes are included in the most recent edition of the handbook.
- Announced that she will be putting out a call to campus for an ad-hoc committee regarding contingent faculty within the next week or so
 - There will be another call sent out to form an ad-hoc committee to focus on advising
- Some of the concerns that we will hopefully cover this academic year include: Common Hour, parking issues on campus, and computer printers

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 (11 total)
 - Please note: Any seat that was uncontested by a single nominee was elected by the Faculty Senate.

IV. Treasurer's Report: C. Badurek – No report.

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- Reported that the SUNY Chancellor is tentatively planning to visit campus on 9/17/24
 - Panel discussion from 10:30AM-11:30AM; lunch with students before departing campus
- Governor Hochul met with several university presidents and discussed the possible disruptions that may occur on university campuses, where individuals are seeking to be arrested on campus grounds, given the current political climate
 - It was explained during these meetings that the state police will be working with campuses
 - The governor encouraged dismissal from campus for those who break the university's code of conduct
 - D. Harms reminded faculty members that they are protected by their union
- Announced that P. Arras recently received the Campus Community News Champion award for journalism; congratulated him on that feat.

VII. Policy Committee Reports:

Joint Committee on Student Interests: A. X/J. Radloff – Reported that the committee is scheduled to have their first meeting virtually on Wednesday, 9/4/24.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee: K. Sheets, Chair – Reported that the committee recently accepted a new member, A. Burns-Thomas. The committee is also continuing their work on bylaw reviews (both departmental and academic). AFAC will also begin work on some issues brought to them by the Provost; those items include the criteria for full professorship as well as how faculty service is assessed. AFAC will also begin work on their review of Chapter 220.06 of The College Handbook, which focuses on personnel procedures. Announced that there will be two different workshops offered this fall semester regarding the personnel review process; the first workshop will be on Thursday, 9/12/24, from 10:30AM-11:30AM in the Corey Union Exhibition Lounge, and the second workshop will be held on Monday, 9/16/24, from 1:00PM-2:00PM also in the Corey Union Exhibition Lounge.

Educational Policy Committee: J. Parks, Chair – No report

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

Area Senators – No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: A. Fitz-Gibbon, Vacant, L. Jin, J. Hall – No report

Student Senator: E. Cisneros/D. Wilson

- SGA held their club officer training this past weekend, and it went extremely well; they will be holding a make-up session for those who were unable to attend
- Club Fair for students also went very well; several students came out for that event
- SGA's Instagram page is flourishing.

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: Vacant, Chair – J. Bucciferro reported on behalf of the committee that they are continuing to work on the disclaimer for new course evaluations to combat derogatory remarks/comments from students

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: N/A

XI. Announcements:

- K. Lawrence announced that Monday, 9/16/24, is the deadline to submit nominations for Chancellor's Awards and/or Distinguished Rank Promotions; please be on the lookout for an email in regard to submitting nominations.

Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 2:07PM on 9/3/24

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis