

## Faculty Senate Minutes #4

October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Fireplace Lounge

**Members and Senators Present:** K. Ahern, S. Anderson, P. Arras, C. Badurek, E. Bitterbaum, A. Blavos, R. Borden, R. Bryan, S. Clark, R. Coyne, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, S. Decker, P. Donnelly, E. Edlund, D. Harms, K. Lawrence, A. McClellan, J. Radloff, G. Sharer, K. Silvestri, T. Suzuki, C. Widdall, B. Williams, J. Zhe-Heimerman

**Members and Senators Absent:** D. Fantacone, J. Hall, T. Herman, L. Jin, L. Lopez-Janove, J. Mascetta, J. Neretich, R. Powell, P. Schroeder, K. Sheets

**Guests of the Senate:** K. Barber, D. Radus, H. Zhang

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from October 3<sup>rd</sup> were approved by the Senate.

**II. Chair's Report:** K. Lawrence:

- Asked Senator R. Bryan if there were any updates concerning the advising issues that are prevalent in certain departments across campus
  - R. Bryan reported that the PE Department. has received 12 volunteers (volunteers receive extra service pay for their assistance) from other departments to assist with their advising loads; while the PE Department is very thankful for this assistance, each faculty member still has over 50 advisees, even with the help from the volunteers
  - E. Bitterbaum commented that the university is looking to add more faculty lines in the future if they are able to (all faculty lines are owned by SUNY, and not the individual campuses themselves).
- Reported that she has submitted all feedback received to W. Cramner in regards to the presentation that W. Cramner gave a few weeks ago on consultative searches; K. Lawrence plans to meet with W. Cramner and A. McClellan soon to follow up on the subject
- Met with A. Fitz-Gibbon last week and discussed Mediation and Resolution Service Committee that A. Fitz-Gibbon currently chairs; encouraged faculty to reach out to him if they are so inclined
  - Mentioned that A. Fitz-Gibbon's service is an informal service; if a complaint is taken to HR, that is a formal service
- Announced that new plates have been ordered for newly elected Senate members; however, there has been a delay in them being delivered
- Announced that she and A. DeChellis has been in contact with GFEC Chair L. Gathagen regarding the committee's vacancies; it was decided that due to the eligibility requirement of obtaining Graduate Faculty Status (which is a process that requires approval, and not simply having had taught a graduate course), the GFEC would from this point forward handle their vacancies in accepting nominations (although we as Faculty Senate would still announce their vacancies in our calls)

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

- Announced nominations that were submitted via email to fill senator and committee vacancies; those nominations were approved by the Senate (*Please find documents attached*).
  - Remaining vacancies are as follows:
    - **Senator vacancies (7 total):** 1 seat representing Math/Science, 1 seat representing Social/Behavioral Sciences, 1 seat representing FTL Education OR Professional Studies, 2 seats representing Professional Faculty, 1 seat representing Graduate Faculty, and 1 seat representing Part-Time Faculty
    - **Committee vacancies (2 total):** PFAC: 1 (unexpired term) seat representing Academic Affairs, CRC: 1(unexpired term vacant SP 2024 ONLY) seat representing Math/Science

**IV. Treasurer's Report:** C. Widdall – No report.

**V. President's Report:** E. Bitterbaum:

- All 64 SUNY presidents met last week in Albany; 200 million set aside in budget for technology, cyber security, and emergent technology such as A.I.
- Free SUNY applications will run through 10/29/23
- 70% chance of recession within SUNY on the horizon
- Recent Supreme Court decision will make diversity, equity, and inclusion difficult for many institutions
- SUNY plan on shared services as an effort to save money
- Clean energy masterplan
- SUNY-Wide re-enroll program for students who have left SUNY as an initiative to return
- C. Baker with the NCAA has been to Congress over concern of legalized collegiate sports betting; 70% are college students between the ages 18-22 who are gambling
- Hopeful about enrollment and retention

**VII. Policy Committee Reports:**

**Joint Committee on Student Interests:** K. Silvestri – No report.

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

**Educational Policy Committee:** E. Edlund, Chair – No report.

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

**Area Senators** – No report

**SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator:** C. Badurek, A. Blavos, L. Jin, J. Hall – L. Jin – No report

**Student Senator:** J. Mascetta – On behalf of SGA, P. Arenas reported:

- Thanked K. Silvestri and J. Radloff for their efforts within the Joint Committee on Student Interests

**VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:**

**Committee on Teaching Effectiveness:** H. Zhang, Chair:

- The Committee on Teaching Effectiveness has successfully completed the charges from Fall 2022 and Spring 2023, which included evaluation of various software for CTE administration. These included Watermark, Brightspace, and BLUE. The committee found that Watermark and BLUE met the requirements as a replacement tool for the current CTE system, while Brightspace D2L did not meet the requirements. The committee submitted reports in December 2022 and May 2023 summarizing the evaluations of these three systems. In June 2023 the committee chair was invited with other administrative staff to collectively review information sent by three bidders (including Watermark, BLUE, and Anthology) and attended a follow up meeting to provide perspective on evaluation of software functionality. At this point, the decision was out of the committee's hands. In July 2023, the committee received notice that the offer was made to Anthology based on a lower overall cost. Currently, the university is waiting on a contract to be approved with Anthology. Thus, it does not appear that Anthology will be ready for Fall 2023. The Provost's Office upon receiving the news has been actively making alternate plans and will offer that later this month.
- K. Lawrence thanked H. Zhang and her committee for all their diligent work on this matter
- A. McClellan noted that there will be CTEs available this semester, just not with Anthology yet

**University Curriculum Review Committee:** K. Polasek, Chair – No report

**College Research Committee:** A. Davalos, Chair – No report.

**General Education Committee:** D. Radus, Chair:

- The committee has returned to its regular business; currently working on Assessment of GE Social Sciences (used to be GE 3) and Assessment of GE Humanities (used to be GE 7)
  - Assessments occur in the Spring semesters

**Graduate Faculty Executive Committee:** L. Gathagen, Chair – No report.

## **IX. Unfinished Business:**

- **Call for Nominations, Spring 2023** – See V. Chair Report
- All 4 UFS Resolutions listed below were introduced by SUNY Senators L. Jin and C. Badurek to the Senate on 10/3/23; discussion and vote to endorse was led by SUNY Senator C. Badurek this afternoon:
- **UFS Resolution:** 194-01-1 Condemn Abusive Workplace Behavior
  - Vote: 21 Yay; 1Nay; resolution endorsed
- **UFS Resolution:** 194-02-1 Best Practices for Administrative Searches at the Associate Dean
  - Vote: unanimous Yay; resolution endorsed
- **UFS Resolution:** 194-03-1 Restoration of Incentive Programs for Cross-Campus Research
  - Vote: unanimous Yay; resolution endorsed
- **UFS Resolution:** 194-04-1 Resolution to Increase Diversity among Faculty in the Colleges of Technology
  - Vote: unanimous Yay; resolution endorsed
- SUNY Senator C. Badurek also reported on the UFS 2023 Fall Plenary which took place at SUNY Geneseo over the past weekend:
  - Retention and degree completion

- Student loan repayments starting up again
- Public transit access
- Civic engagement fellows
- DEISJ conference almost sold out
- Economic development
- Clean energy
- SUNY Potsdam

**X. New Business:** N/A

**XI. Announcements:** N/A

**Meeting was adjourned at 2: 17PM on 10/24/23**

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis