

## **Faculty Senate Minutes #4**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

### **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, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, S. Decker, , P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, A. Fitz-Gibbon D. Harms, M. Kent-Landes, K. Lawrence, A. McClellan, J. Neretich., J. Parks, H. Schmid, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, T. Suzuki, B. Williams, A. X., M. Yacavone, J. Zhe-Heimerman

**Members and Senators Absent:** P. Francis, J. Hall, J. Jones, L. Lopez-Janove, C. Palmer, R. Powell, J. Radloff, K. Sheets,

**Guests:** G. Birren, N. Diller, K. Downey, I. Strasser

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from March 4<sup>th</sup> were approved by the Senate

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

- Announced President's List Ceremony; encouraged faculty involvement
- Encouraged faculty participation in forthcoming ceremonies (Honors Convocation, Commencement)

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

- Presented slate of nominations received from the Spring 2025 Call for Nominations; slate was read and approved by the Senate.
  - Any seat that has been contested by more than one nomination will go out to a ballot by the appropriate constituency in the coming weeks (*Please find documents attached*)

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

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

- Reported that all 64 SUNY Presidents are meeting later this afternoon in Albany to discuss matters that are happening in DC and how SUNY System will react
- Several major universities (Cornell, Harvard) are currently on hiring freezes; while that is not the case for SUNY yet, we need to be cognizant that could be a definite possibility for the SUNY System down the road
- Protocols for interacting with external law enforcement should they come to campus can be found by logging onto MyRedDragon, clicking on Campus Life, and then choosing University Police (all this is located behind a firewall)
- Partnership with TC3; SUNY Cortland is purchasing TC3's building on South Main Street; we have received \$400,000 toward the purchase
  - A.X.: What will the building be used for?
    - E. Bittebaum: Entrepreneurship center, among other possibilities
    - A. McClellan: Partner with Broome County Coalition to offer learning opportunities to the community; possible leasing opportunities for office space, and conference facilities

- We have received almost 18,000 applications through enrollment (14,000 freshmen and 400 transfer)
- K. Lawrence explained that several people across campus have been inquiring about what the situation will look like once renovations on Corey Union begin
  - E. Bitterbaum: C. Van Der Karr and her team are working diligently on summer orientation
    - G. Sharer noted that people will be moving over to Van Hoesen this summer; contact Todd with any questions, concerns
- K. Lawrence also inquired about the new dorms that are coming to campus?
  - E. Bitterbaum: Yes, it will be an apartment style residence hall, which will be located between the athletic field and the SLC; this development is still several years away

#### **VI. Provost's Report:** A. McClellan:

- Currently hiring and planning on continuing to hire; we will be conducting full time faculty searches (hopefully, before August); need faculty representation for search committees
  - Other positions looking to hire for and will have consultative search committees for are Director for the Learning Center, and a new Associate VP for Information Resources, as L. Kahle will be retiring soon. F. Pierce will also be retiring soon as well
- Thank you to our advancement team; received an endowment to fund Faculty Development

#### **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 – No report

**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 – No report

**Student Senator:** E. Cisneros/C. Palmer

- Reported that campaigning for elections began yesterday
  - Currently have 7 candidates running for SGA offices; E. Cisneros is running for SGA President
- The Big Event is Scheduled for 4/13/15; they have over 300 student volunteers
  - If faculty have any job sites, please let E. Cisneros know
- Student Senate has approved a resolution that the SGA has created regarding the SGA's business relationship with Cortland Auxiliary Services (CAS); President Bitterbaum brought the resolution to the cabinet last week and they are looking into it.
  - R. Coyne explained that it will be discussed at this Friday's meeting
  - E. Cisneros: Could the SGA bring the resolution to the floor of the Faculty Senate for endorsement?
    - K. Lawrence: Yes, we will add the SGA's resolution to the agenda for the meeting scheduled on 4/8/25.

#### **VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:**

**Committee on Teaching Effectiveness:** I. Strasser, Chair – See report attached

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

**Faculty Research Committee:** C. Badurek, Chair – Reported that it was a difficult decision to choose a recipient of the DiNardo Award, as applicants were exceptional; Dr. Tegan Bradway from the English Department received the award. Badurek encouraged the attendance of T. Bradway's presentation on 5/1/25

**General Education Committee:** D. Ratus/K. Downey Chair – Reported that the committee is currently working on reviewing assessment plans; deadline is June/July for assessment outcomes

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

## **IX. Unfinished Business:**

- **EPC Revisions: Upper-Level Major and Degree Requirements for Undergraduate Programs** – Opened to the Senate floor for discussion/debate:
  - There was no debate
    - Vote: Unanimously endorsed by the Faculty Senate

## **X. New Business:**

- **Resolution on Voting Rights for Faculty on Contingent Appointments** – Ad-hoc committee on voting rights for faculty on contingent appointments – K. Ahern, G. Birren, and R. Borden – introduced resolution for clarifying questions:
  - Q. How many people does this refer to?
    - A. 54 FTL, and 204 PT for a combined total of 258 individuals
  - Q. What types of things would they be able to vote on?
    - A. Items that pertain to shared governance, ballots for referendum voting, etc. They still would not gain voting rights on items such as personnel decisions (i.e. promotions)
  - Q. What impacts would this have on union agreements, such as salaries?
    - A. That would be a question for the union; we have been in constant contact and have had several conversations with J. Pittsley, and that has not been raised as an issue

**XI. Announcements:** There weren't any announcements

**Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 2:28PM on 3/25/25**

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis