

Faculty Senate Minutes #5

April 8th, 2025

Fireplace Lounge

Members and Senators Present: K. Ahern, S. Anderson, P. Arras, C. Badurek, , R. Borden, R. Bryan, E. Cisneros, S. Clark, R. Coyne, S. Daman, A. DeChellis, D. Fantacone, A. Fitz-Gibbon P. Francis, J. Hall, D. Harms, K. Lawrence, J. Neretich,, C. Palmer, J. Parks, J. Radloff, H. Schmid, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, K. Sheets, B. Williams, A. X., M. Yacavone, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Members and Senators Absent: E. Bitterbaum, A. Blavos, R. Davis, S. Decker, P. Donnelly, J. Jones, M. Kent-Landes, L. Lopez-Janove, A. McClellan, R. Powell, T. Suzuki,

Guests: G. Birren, C. Kaltefleiter

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from March 25th were approved by the Senate

II. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence:

- In the interest of time and because we have a full docket, Chair Lawrence did not give a report.

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

- Presented slate of nominations received from the Spring 2025-2026 Call for Nominations; slate was read and approved by the Senate.
- Announced results of the Referendum for the Requirement of a Generative AI Statement in SUNY Cortland Syllabi; the referendum was endorsed by the campus
- Announced results of previously contested seats that closed on 4/7/25 at 4PM; results were as follows: M. Timberlake representing Education on the FRC for the 25-28 term, B. Bellovary representing Professional Studies on the UCRC for the 25-27 term, J. Parks representing Professional Studies on the EPC for the 25-27 term, and E. McCarthy representing Math/Science for the Faculty Senate Senator 25-27 term
 - Any seat that has been currently contested by more than one nomination will go out to a ballot by the appropriate constituency (*Please find documents attached*)

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

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum (G. Sharer):

- On behalf of the president, G. Sharer reported that President Bitterbaum wanted to thank everyone who participated in the Saturday Open House and for making it a success
- Reported that the president is looking forward to the upcoming ceremonies of Honors Convocation as well as the President's List celebration
- Announced that Cortland Challenge Day is tomorrow (4/9/25); encouraged participation – no gift is too small
 - Acknowledged R. Coyne and his department for their part in the event

VI. Provost's Report: A. McClellan (K. Lawrence):

- On behalf of the provost, K. Lawrence reported that the deadline to submit CTE requests has been extended to Wednesday, 4/9/25, no later than 4PM

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:

- The committee has voted to seek Senate endorsement for the draft UUP Performance Management forms; Senate will vote on whether or not to endorse on 4/22/25
- Forms will then be given to UUP Cortland and Human Resources to negotiate, including any changes and implementation

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 elections are now live; voting will be open Tuesday 10AM (4/8/25)-10AM Thursday (4/10/25). Please encourage students in your classes to submit their votes
 - Currently have 7 candidates running for SGA offices; E. Cisneros is running for SGA President
- The Big Event is Scheduled for 4/13/25; they have over 300 student volunteers
 - Will also accept students who show up the day of
- Student Senate's resolution regarding their business relationship with Cortland Auxiliary Services (CAS) will be brought to their Senate meeting this evening
 - Met with the BOD of CAS; meeting was very productive. E. Cisneros thanked R. Coyne and the CAS BOD for being willing to come to a compromise

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

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

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
- Committee has revised procedures concerning FRP Awards in an effort to promote equity across the different schools
 - Also, each committee member reads a proposal to ensure a more thorough review; with this new method, the committee was able to fund 15/26 proposals
 - Funding is determined based on the number of faculty
 - K. Lawrence inquired whether mentorship still exists within the program for those wishing to submit an application?
 - C. Badurek: Yes, people can contact D. Fantacone's office as well as the FRP for assistance; information sessions are also held throughout the academic year

General Education Committee: D. Radus/K. Downey Chair – No report

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: L. Gathagan/L. Reichel, Chair – K. Lawrence reported on behalf of L. Gathagan that things are "cooking along"

IX. Unfinished 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 – brought resolution to the floor of Faculty Senate for discussion/debate:
 - Committee members spoke first in support of the resolution (R. Bryan on behalf of K. Ahern, read a statement); then a debate followed expressing opinions for and against which included comments from J. Parks, K. Sheets, J. Neretich, R. Bryan, D. Harms, and A.X
 - B. Williams moved that the resolution be postponed allowing continued debate and proper vetting at the campus level
 - J. Parks 2nd the motion
 - J. Neretich, R. Borden, and R. Bryan all spoke in opposition to the motion
 - Parliamentarian S. Anderson: Original motion is out of order; can only postpone for a length of no longer than a quarter of a calendar year (if it were to be postponed until September when the Senate reconvenes, that is longer than a quarter of a calendar year from today's date)
 - Since discussion/debate is still ongoing, we will pick up the discussion where left off at the Faculty Senate meeting scheduled for 5/6/25 (since 4/22/25 is the Open Meeting, and we cannot vote at an open meeting)

X. New Business:

- **Academic Calendar, Academic Year 2028-2029** – P. Francis presented academic calendar to the Faculty Senate for endorsement
 - Explained that the calendar committee was brought back together before approving the third calendar (26-27 and 27-28 were already approved together) to discuss certain issues (i.e. making Thanksgiving Break a week long, instead of 3 days, removal of finals week, etc.); in the end, however, this calendar pretty much matches the other two calendars (those previously mentioned issues are just not feasible to incorporate into the calendar, unless we removed Fall Break altogether). The Calendar committee unanimously endorsed this final calendar
 - B. Williams raised concern over final exam schedule being on a circulating pattern
 - Exam schedule is through the Registrar's Office, not the Calendar Committee; however, this is something that can definitely be looked into
 - The Calendar Committee also had M. Bersani compile a chart to ensure that there are no major conflicts in terms of religious holidays within any of the calendars for the next 3 years
 - Vote: Faculty Senate unanimously endorsed calendar academic year 2028-2029

XI. Announcements: There weren't any announcements

Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 2:32PM on 4/8/25

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis