

# Revised Faculty Senate Minutes #1

February 4, 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, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, S. Dhital, P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, A. Fitz-Gibbon, P. Francis, J. Hall, D. Harms, K. Lawrence, A. McClellan, J. Neretich,, R. Powell, , J. Radloff, H. Schmid, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, K. Sheets, T. Suzuki, B. Williams, A. X. M. Yacavone, J. Zhe-Heimerman

**Members and Senators Absent:** S. Daman, S. Decker, D. Jones, J. Jones, M. Kent-Landes, L. Lopez-Janove, J. Parks

**Guests:** I. Strasser

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024 were approved by the Senate

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

- Welcomed everyone back for the Spring 2025 semester! Also thanked all committees for their continued and dedicated work, especially ad-hoc committees.
- Announced that resolution concerning contingent faculty rights will be introduced to the Faculty Senate at the next full meeting in two weeks (2/18/25)
- Announced that the new Spring 2025 Call for Nominations for Faculty Senate officer and senator positions, as well as Faculty Senate committee vacancies, will go out to campus early-mid March
  - Slate of nominations to be presented to the Faculty Senate on 3/25/25; slate will then be voted on 2 weeks later at the 4/8/25 Faculty Senate meeting
- Asked that all current Standing Committee Chairs submit a brief description of their committee, along with standard meeting days/times, to A. DeChellis so that we might include this information on our Faculty Senate website
  - K. Sheets pointed out that there's already a separate page on the SUNY Cortland website that includes this information
- Announced that there is a new Chancellor's Award, Horizons; noted that the vetting process for this particular award is conducted differently from the other Chancellor's Awards:
  - Submissions have to be from full professors only, nominating an early-mid career scholar within the same field of study. CV as well as another external letter are required to nominate. **Deadline to submit nominations is 2/28/25**; if interested, please see the Chancellor's Awards webpage

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

- Presented slate of remaining 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 (10 total; including student vacancies)
- Please note: Any seat that was uncontested by a single nominee was elected by the Faculty Senate. **(I. Vincent, Prof. Studies AFAC, Spring 2025)**

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

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

- Reported that all 64 SUNY presidents are working with governors to navigate through all the dramatic changes that are occurring as a result of the executive orders that are coming out of Washington D.C.
  - A tabletop exercise was conducted yesterday in an effort to prepare on how to handle if ICE were to come to campus
    - There are no longer any sensitive locations where ICE are prohibited to raid; these use to be locations such as hospitals, universities, and churches
      - B. Williams: What is the probability of ICE coming to our campus?
        - More likely that ICE would raid one of the larger campuses before ours, but, you never can be sure
    - An email with be forthcoming from FERPA
- Executive budget looks promising; capital seems positive as well
- Anyone between the ages of 25-55, who does not already possess a college degree, can enroll in a community college for free
- SUNY Cortland enrollment is at the highest it's been in years; looks good for Fall 2025

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

- Announced that the Provost's Cabinet is currently working on compiling a campus report
- Talking with EPC about Final Exam Policies; no changes will take effect this semester
- Research Sponsored Programs: the pause on federal grants has been rescinded; however, health federal grants are still paused, and NSF grants require an impact statement. We will continue to keep you updated.
- Continuing to try and work through issues concerning International Human Subject Research; the U.S.'s ability to bring back this particular type of research is limited
- Thanked everyone for the success of Professional Development Day
- Cabinet has been meeting with graduate coordinators to discuss new graduate programs
- New Room Reservation Software upcoming
- New General Education requirements (upcoming 2026)
- Continuing discussions of ethical use of A.I.

**Guest: I. Strasser, Anthology Update and CTE Updates:**

- The Anthology Implementation Team is currently reaching out to department chairs to assess any issues with the rollout; team is aware that there have been issues specifically in departments with interdisciplinary programs.
- Reported that if anyone is having trouble accessing Anthology, there is a ticketing link on MyRedDragon
- Old Legacy reports can be accessed by a link in MyRedDragon through July 2025; after that, it will be disabled
- The CTE is currently seeking a student representative to serve on their committee
- CTE is also currently working on updates to 260.02 of The College Handbook

- I. Strasser thanked and recognized H. Wong and C. Barber for all their dedicated work to the committee
- A. Blavos: Is Anthology going to be imbedded into BrightSpace?
  - Yes, and this should help with response rates
- D. Harms: Would it be possible to alert faculty of the Legacy Course Teacher Evaluations ending?
  - Yes, we will actually send out more than one notice to the campus
- R. Bryan: Can't review CTEs in the Anthology system; is there somewhere else to put a ticket through?
  - Yes, there will be; I will follow up with you regarding this issue

## **VII. Policy Committee Reports:**

**Joint Committee on Student Interests:** A. X/J. Radloff – J. Radloff reported that the committee has been having consistent meeting times, and is currently revisiting SGA objectives, as well as preparing for scholarship reviews.

**Academic Faculty Affairs Committee:** K. Sheets, Chair – Welcomed newly elected member I. Vincent to the AFAC. The AFAC will be working on 2 major projects this semester: 220.06 of The College Handbook, for clarity, and also clarifying what constitutes faculty service to the university.

**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 – A. Fitz-Gibbon reported on the 2025 Winter Plenary, which took place online; in light of the current situation in Washington D.C., the plenary was extremely subdued. There weren't even any resolutions this time around. A. Fitz-Gibbon also announced that his SUNY Senator seat will become vacant at the end of this semester, due to scheduling conflicts; encouraged nominations to fill the seat, as being the SUNY Senator presents exciting opportunities.

**Student Senator:** E. Cisneros/S. Dhital

- Announced that the SGA will be holding their Club Fair this evening from 6PM-8PM
- SGA Elections for the 2025-2026 term are up and coming; encouraged faculty to allow students to present in their classes to promote themselves if they are running for an SGA position. Also encouraged faculty to recruit any students they feel would be a good candidate for an SGA officer position.

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

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

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

**Faculty Research Committee:** C. Badurek, Chair – Reported that the Faculty Research Committee Fellowship deadline is 2/9/25; submissions for Undergraduate Fellowship is 2/14/25

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

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

## **IX. Unfinished Business:**

- **Remaining Vacancies Call for Nominations, Spring 2024** – Please see V. Chair report.

## **X. New Business:**

- **Generative A.I. Committee** – K. Ahern introduced the Generative A.I. Committee’s recommendation to include a generative A.I statement in course syllabi; will be voted on by the Faculty Senate in 2 weeks on 2/18/25 (*Please find document attached*)
  - Explained that faculty are free to modify any of these presented suggestions, as they are recommendations and not a requirement; these recommendations came out of the committee meeting with students and departments
  - Announced that the committee meets alternating Wednesdays (12:30PM-1:30PM) and Thursdays (1:30PM-2:30PM); any and all are welcome to attend. Next meeting will be on Thursday, 2/13/25.
  - B. Williams: Should it be considered a form of plagiarism then if not sourced?
    - Suggest that faculty be as clear as possible with students as to what their options are
    - It would more than likely be labeled as “other infractions,” rather than plagiarism

## **XI. Announcements:**

- M. Yacavone announced The Division of Finance and Management will host two open campus meetings in February about SUNY Cortland’s financial state and the university budget, with updates on campus reserves and allocation of resources.
  - Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2PM-3PM, Vittor Lecture Hall, Sperry Center, Room 105
  - Thursday, Feb. 27, 2PM-3PM, Via Budget Meeting Link
- R. Bryan: UUP Advocates SUNY System, 2/25/25
- D. Harms: Individual Development Awards due 2/14/25; remember to submit electronically and please inform your administrative assistants of the requirements
- R. Borden: It is SUNY Cortland’s policy that it is outlined in our College Handbook that requires all faculty to include DEI statements in their syllabi; I strongly believe that we as a faculty need to commit to this, regardless of what the federal government is trying to impose

**Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 2:16PM on 2/4/25**

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis