

Faculty Senate Minutes #6

November 19th, 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, S. Decker, A. Fitz-Gibbon, M. Kent-Landes, K. Lawrence,, J. Neretich,, R. Powell, H. Schmid, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, T. Suzuki, D. Wilson A. X, M. Yacavone, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Members and Senators Absent: R. Davis, K. Diggs, P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, J. Hall, D. Harms, L. Jin, J. Jones, L. Lopez-Janove, A. McClellan, J. Parks, J. Radloff, K. Sheets, A. Thompson, B. Williams

Guests: L. Kahle

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from November 5th were approved by the Senate

II. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence:

- Announced that Faculty Senate in conjunction with the President's Office are currently in the preliminary review stage for Chancellor's Awards for Excellence
 - Out of 10 committees, we currently have 8 active committees
- There was a College Council meeting yesterday afternoon (11/18/24)
 - Marked improvement Campus Safety Committee; crime incidents have decreased, mental health concerns have increased
- Anthology link went live yesterday; immensely impressed with the CTE in organizing and management of the rollout of the program
 - A. Blavos inquired as to whether an email was sent out to campus
 - There was an email sent last week reminding everyone that the rollout was going to go live on 11/18/24; Provost is going to send out an email as well
 - K. Lawrence commented that she will reach out to Provost A. McClellan to see if there is anything Faculty Senate can do to assist
 - A. Blavos commented that there appears to be nothing under the "Faculty/Staff" tab in MyRedDragon
 - L. Kahle explained that doesn't open to students until 11/25/24; beginning Spring 2025, the program can/will be integrated into BrightSpace
 - R. Bryan asked if the link will work if it's copied and sent to students?
 - L. Kahle explained that theoretically, yes, it should work that way as well
- Reminded committees that if they have any proposals that would require changes to the College Handbook, then those proposals would need to be brought before the Senate no later than February/March to ensure edits can be made to the Handbook in a timely manner

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: D. Harms: No report.

IV. Treasurer's Report: C. Badurek – Reported that the Cortland Challenge Annual Giving Day will be 4/9/25; more information will be provided sometime in the Spring 2025 semester

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- Reported that M. Yacavone gave a comprehensive report on construction updates on campus at the College Council meeting yesterday afternoon
 - Van Hoesen will be completed sometime within a year
 - Corey Union is in the design phase
- We have received over \$700,000 in gifts to the College; donors have been very generous
- We have been fortunate in our enrollment
 - 2-week window students may apply to any SUNY/CUNY and not pay the standard application fee; last year during that period, we received 12,600 applications and this year during that period, we received 14,085 applications
- There are still some ongoing concerns about FAFSA; there has been some beta testing done
- New Vice Chancellor would like to see more micro-credentialing
- New Strategic Plan coming; C. Van Der Karr and L. MacDonald will present to the Senate
 - K. Lawrence confirmed that C. Van Der Karr is scheduled to present to the Senate at our next meeting on 12/3/24
- While we are thankful that there haven't been any major acts of violence and/or protest in response to the outcome of the recent presidential election on our campus (in comparison to some larger campuses), we are concerned with the affects on our students; particularly, our undocumented students and how Title IX will be affected as the transition of power takes place in the upcoming months. We will continue to monitor these closely
 - A. Blavos commented that a fellow colleague shared that she doesn't know who she can trust on campus
- Cortaca was this past weekend; while everything went relatively smooth, we did speak to local police in regards to some of the language expressed on some of banners presented outside student homes in the community

VI. Provost's Report: A. McClellan: No report.

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/D. Wilson

- Reported that the SGA is handling election results as it pertains to the student population on campus; the SGA members are remaining content neutral as representatives of the SGA as well as the University within SGA meetings, SGA clubs/club events, etc. One of the SGA clubs held an election reflection, and that went really well; everybody remained civil

- R. Borden commented that, with the election results in view, a number of our students do not feel free to speak their minds and that we may need to find a way of encouraging them.
 - A. Blavos suggested SGA could do an anonymous poll just to get an idea where students stand safety wise
- R. Bryan commented that there is a larger concern here with what goes silently or unnoticed with both students and faculty. Trans students struggling because they don't feel safe; feel that these are not being reported and/or shared out of fear from the students

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

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

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:

- **Remaining Vacancies Call for Nominations, Spring 2024** – Presented slate of vacancies to the Faculty Senate for the Spring 2024 Call for Nominations; there were no nominations received (*Please find documents attached*).
 - Number of remaining vacancies are as follows:
 - Senator vacancies (6 total)
 - Committee vacancies (7 total; including student vacancies)

X. New Business: N/A

XI. Announcements: N/A

Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 1:48PM on 11/19/24

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis