

Faculty Senate Minutes #3

March 1, 2016

Senators and Members Present: K. Lawrence, M. McGuire, P. Gipson, W. Miller, B. Spitzer, D. West, L. Brady, D. VanLangen, A. Blavos, J. Kobritz, , R. Borden, , T. Hanford, N. Chaddock, A. Dearie, K. Pristash, N. Kane, E. Bitterbaum, M. Prus, G. Sharer, D. Duryea, A. DeChellis, M. Braun.

Senators and Members Absent: S. Strause, M. Seyfried, J. Hartsock, D. Kilpatrick, G. Rinefierd, S. Anderson, N. Karkov, O. White, R. Powell, D. Newswanger, T. Phillips, C. Widdall, P. Schroeder.

Guests Present: There weren't any guests present.

I. Approval of the Minutes: There was a change made to the Minutes from February 16, 2016 which was the removal of the transfer credit policy section of the Educational Policy's report. These changes were addressed and the Minutes were approved.

II. Senate Actions: There were no Senate actions.

III. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence – The Chair opened the meeting by reminding members that March is Women's History Month, and announced she would like to invite the leaders of BSU, Women of Color, and perhaps other student organizations to one of our future meetings. K. Lawrence also reminded members that it will be the Teaching Awards and College Research Committees' turn to present at our next meeting, which will be held March 22, 2016 (there is no meeting March 15th, due to spring break.). There are only four Faculty Senate Meetings remaining until the end of the semester and there is still a need to fill Vice Chair, preferably before the beginning of next semester.

IV. Vice Chair's Report: Vacant.

V. Treasurer's Report: M. McGuire – The treasurer reported that the Faculty Senate Memorial Scholarship Fund is still currently seeking donations; she shared there have been donations given to the Scholarship Fund within the past month totaling \$140.00. The current total for the fund is roughly \$700.00.

VI. Secretary's Report: Vacant.

VII. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum

- Discussed Admissions Open House; there will be roughly 2,000 students in attendance.
- Micro Badges and Micro Credentials (Applied Learning).
- International Fullbrights.
- Discussed Equity and Diversity Inclusion.

IX. Standing Committee Reports:

Student Affairs Committee: T. Phillips, Chair – No report.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee: A. Fitz-Gibbons, Chair – No report.

Planning Committee: M. DiVita, Chair – No report.

Educational Policy Committee: C. Widdall, Chair – No report.

Professional Affairs Committee: K. Pristash, Chair – Reported on issues concerning PDAs (President Discretionary Awards) versus the former DSIs (Discretionary Salary Increases). K. Pristash explained that there are going to be changes made to how PDAs are awarded; there will be a one-time bonus award, rather than the award amount added to the base salary, as in the past. He also explained that the PAC's recommendation as to how PDAs should be distributed would be for the award to be evenly distributed among professionals. This was done after the PAC had spent many hours surveying and discussing the issue with professionals. Nevertheless, the Cabinet decided that this year's PDA awards would be meritorious in nature, requiring an application process which is still somewhat unclear. PAC will be following up with HR. Another item of work shall be to look into creating a promotion ladder for professionals.

Area Senator: No report.

SUNY Senator: N. Chaddock, Chair

- Reported there is an upcoming SUNY Voices Conference on Diversity that she will be presenting at with Dianne Goodman.
- GE Committee (See *Announcements*).

Student Senator: M. Braun – Reported that there is an upcoming conference call with the SGA to discuss the Rational Tuition Policy. Braun feels the policy would encourage and allow a stronger student voice in the college community. Braun also mentioned that SGA leaders would be interested in facilitating bringing representatives from BSU and Women of Color to a future senate meeting to address the body.

IX. Other Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Awards – No reports

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness – K. Lawrence (using the report filed by former ETC chair, J. Walkuski on 12/1/15) presented on behalf of the committee. She explained the committee is in need of a chair, and also discussed issues facing Course Teacher Evaluations (CTEs). According to the committee, CTEs are not effective in evaluating teaching capabilities; therefore, there needs to be a new system put into place in order to effectively and fairly evaluate our teaching staff. Discussion ensued regarding CTEs and in particular, concern was raised for the effect they may have on contingent faculty members.

College Research Committee – No reports

General Education Committee – No reports

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee – No reports

Committee on Committees – No reports

X. Unfinished Business: No unfinished business to report.

XI. New Business: No new business to report

XII. Announcements: Senator Chaddock shared that the GE Committee Chair, Jen McNamara, constituted a sub-committee to look specifically at category GE 11.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:11 pm. on 3/1/16.

Minutes submitted by,

Amy M. DeChellis