

## **Faculty Senate Minutes #4**

**March 22, 2016**

**Senators and Members Present:** K. Lawrence, P. Gipson, W. Miller, N. Karlov, R. Spitzer, L. Brady, D. VanLangen, G. Rineford, K. Pristash, R. Powell, Z. Newswanger, N. Chaddock, M. Prus, G. Sharer, D. Duryea, A. Fitz-Gibbon.

**Senators and Members Absent:** M. McGuire, J. Hartsock, D. Kilpatrick, D. West, A. Blavos, J. Kobritz, S. Strause, O. White, R. Borden, M. Seyfried, A. Dearie, T. Hanford, T. Phillips, N. Kane, P. Schroeder, E. Bitterbaum, S. Anderson.

**Guests:** V. Levine, J. Wilson, M. Boyland, M. Guity.

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 could not be approved, as there were not enough senators present to establish a quorum.

**II. Senate Actions:** There were no Senate actions.

**III. Chair's Report:** K. Lawrence – The Chair opened the meeting by reminding everyone that the Faculty Senate Plenary will take place October 20<sup>th</sup> through October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and encouraged those who are interested to attend. The Chair also announced that the Efficiency Committee will be sending an email out on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> to examine and discuss ways to cut costs as well as ways to make the university run more efficiently; the committee will also have a crowd sourcing page that will be available to faculty, staff, students, community members, and alumni where they can input suggestions and comments concerning cutting costs. K. Lawrence commented on behalf of M. McGuire, expressing that, while the treasury is doing well, they are still seeking contributions for the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

**IV. Vice Chair's Report:** Vacant.

**V. Treasurer's Report:** No Treasurer's report.

**VI. Secretary's Report:** Vacant.

**VII. President's Report:** No President's report.

**VIII. Guest, Virginia Levine, Executive Assistant to the President, Academic Calendar Committee, Chair:**

V. Levine spoke about the changes being made to the proposed academic calendars for 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 academic years. She explained there will be two changes made to the calendars: one being the removal of all religious holidays, and the other being the removal of student teaching dates. All religious holidays will be listed on a separate list that will be available as a hyper-link on the SUNY Cortland website. These two proposed changes are an effort to make the calendars purely academic. V. Levine's proposal was officially received by the Faculty Senate.

#### **IX. Standing Committee Reports:**

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

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

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

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

**Professional Affairs Committee:** K. Pristash, Chair – No report.

**Area Senator:** No report.

**SUNY Senator:** N. Chaddock, Chair:

- Reported that the SUNY Voices Conference went very well.
- Announced that Tim Wise will be on campus Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Alumni Arena; Tim will be speaking on anti-racial issues.
- Announced she will be speaking at the President's Conversations on Race event, which will take place on March 31<sup>st</sup>, from 3pm-5pm in Sperry.

**Student Senator:** No Student Senator report.

#### **X. Other Committee Reports:**

**Committee on Teaching Awards:** K. Lawrence, Chair – Reported that the committee has received a nomination and is moving forward with the process. K. Lawrence reported that the committee is doing well and is up to date on all its business.

**Committee on Teaching Effectiveness:** No report.

**College Research Committee** – No reports

**General Education Committee** – No reports

**Graduate Faculty Executive Committee** – No reports

**Committee on Committees** – No reports

**XI. Unfinished Business:** No unfinished business to report.

**XII. New Business:**

**Guest, Michael Guity, President of Black Student Union:**

M. Guity spoke in regard to the BSU's town hall meetings and explained how they discussed various racial issues that are present both on this campus, as well as many other SUNY campuses at their last meeting. He went on to explain how it is necessary for SUNY Cortland to address these racial issues that are occurring on our campus, and that there seems to be a lot of positive feedback throughout campus concerning this necessity. M. Guity presented five points that the BSU wishes to see take shape around campus:

1. That faculty understands the concept of race and how it affects student success.
2. That the faculty is involved in professional development.
3. Faculty continues to ask students what they can do to better suit students in the classroom (i.e. make a broad demographic/spectrum and find a common ground among those students.).
4. Don't be afraid to take risks – students want to know that the faculty care and are concerned about them as students.
5. Let students know about upcoming events that deal with race and racial issues.

K. Lawrence thanked M. Guity for sharing his insights and commended him on his leadership in representing the BSU at Faculty Senate.

**Campus Diversity Statement:** K. Lawrence distributed copies of the campus diversity statement from February 2014 that was endorsed by the Faculty Senate; she went on to discuss the possibility of perhaps forming a committee to come together and work on the issue of how we, the Faculty Senate, can put the statement into practice.

**XIII. Announcements:** No Announcements.

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:56pm on 3/22/16.**

Minutes submitted by,

Amy M. DeChellis