

Faculty Senate Minutes #6

November, 29th 2016

Members and Senators Present: K. Lawrence, M. McGuire, C. Widdall, M. DiVita, A. Fitz-Gibbon, P. Gipson, W. Miller, D. Kilpatrick, D. West, H. Haines, A. Blavos, J. Kobritz, S. Shi-Strause, R. Borden, A. Dearie, S. Comins, R. Powell, P. Schroeder, E. Bitterbaum, M. Prus, G. Sharer, D. Duryea, M. Braun, G. Hulede, M. Fox, S. Anderson.

Members and Senators Absent: T. Phillips, L. Brady, D. VanLangen, O. White, M. Seyfried, G. Rinefield.

Guests: J. McNamara, J. Westbrook, C. Costell Corbin, J. Suarez, J. Ouellette, E. Faulkenbury, L. Schlicht, A. Thomas, J. Maroney, S. Harvey, G. Peterson, R. Bryon, C. Van Der Karr, J. Phelan.

I. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from November 8th, 2016 will be voted on for approval at the next meeting.

II. Senate Actions: There weren't any Senate actions.

III. Chair's Report: Chair, K. Lawrence, opened the meeting thanking S. Anderson for making her a gavel block, as well as A. DeChellis for a year of service to the Faculty Senate. The seat of Vice Chair remains vacant; K. Lawrence said she would be sending out a description of the responsibilities, as well as information regarding compensation and course release information, as the Vice Chair will assume the role of Chair in the fall of 2017. Lawrence then announced she has received a thank you note from SUNY Faculty Senate thanking SUNY Cortland for hosting the SUNY Plenary meeting back in October. The chair also announced that the 2017 Spring meeting calendar is available on the Faculty Senate webpage, and that a copy of the schedule will also be emailed out as an attachment with the minutes from today's meeting.

IV. Vice Chair's Report: Vacant.

V. Treasurer's Report: M. McGuire – Announced there is a current balance of \$962.00 in the treasury.

VI. Secretary's Report: Vacant.

VII. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum

- Discussed how the recent presidential election is a concern for many students, particularly undocumented students; he urged faculty members to talk about such issues in their classes.
- Reported that the NYS Revenue has fallen by 1.2 billion, and as a result could create cuts in the budget next fall; he explained that enrollment is the thing keeping SUNY Cortland going (other SUNY campuses have seen a drastic decline in enrollment).

VIII. 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: Chair vacant – No report.

Area Senator: No report

SUNY Senator: - A. Fitz-Gibbon – No report

Student Senator: M. Braun – No report

IX. Other Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Awards: K. Lawrence, Chair – No report

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: J. Walkuski, Chair – No report.

College Research Committee: B. Hodges, Chair – No report.

General Education Committee: J. MacNamara, Chair – Presented her committee's report regarding the assessment of GE 8, GE Course Proposal Guidelines, GE 4 Memo, and the GE 11 Prejudice and Discrimination (*Please see email attachments*).

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: J. Curtis, Chair – No report.

Committee on Committees: G. Evans, Chair – No report.

X. Unfinished Business: No unfinished business.

XI. New Business: D. West, R. Borden, and S. Strause shared their resolution for the Africana Studies Department with the Senate, which will be voted on at our next meeting (*Please see email attachment*).

XII. Announcements: There weren't any announcements.

Chair, K. Lawrence, then suspended the regular meeting agenda to make way for the open forum portion of the meeting. Topics brought forward included:

- Information regarding UUP
- Shared governance
- Gender leadership within campus committees
- Lack of participation in service across campus and specifically related to Senate
- Need to fill Senate officer positions as soon as possible--some discussion of what being Chair of FS includes
- Concern over the increasing number of “middle management” individuals hired in last five years
- Discussion of faculty governance and what being a campus leader means
- Point made that a high percentage of the number of committee chair positions on campus are held by women.
- Need to connect the "communication gap" between information given to chairs and senate
- Comment made about need in Student Government for leadership as parallel to the issue at FS
- Call for civility when it comes to faculty interactions with colleagues on committees
- Need for clarification and greater understanding for the committees that come under the responsibilities of FS
- Discussion of looking again at the call for a common hour
- Concern for lack of visibility, inclusion, and respect for CGL in important campus meetings, on councils, cabinets, and other decision-making bodies.

Following discussion of these topics, Lawrence thanked everyone for attending, and offering insightful suggestions and thought-provoking comments. She noted that Faculty Senate will take up these observations and more again in the Spring semester. It was wonderful to see the crowd that gathered on a very busy week.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm on 11/29/16.

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis