

Faculty Senate Minutes #2

September 20, 2016

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

Members and Senators Absent: M. McGuire, T. Phillips, L. Brady, J. Kobritz, O. White, M. Seyfried, A. Dearie, D. Duryea.

Guests: C. Kuretich, J. Wilson, and M. Nagel

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from September 6th, 2016 were approved.

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

III. Chair's Report: Chair, K. Lawrence, opened the meeting by expressing the crucial need for a Vice Chair and Secretary. She then announced that almost all vacancies for Faculty Senate committees have been filled. Lawrence explained that the Senate would be having guests attend the meetings regularly throughout the rest of the semester. At our next full Senate meeting, which will be held on the 4th of October, G. Rinefierd will discuss topics regarding student conduct. The Chair reminded members of the upcoming Plenary meeting, which will be held at SUNY Cortland in Corey Union, October 20th-22nd, 2016; the Chancellor of SUNY will be attending, and will also be giving a presentation with President Bitterbaum on topics regarding education. K. Lawrence closed her report with the charge to the Ad-Hoc Committee: To research the Faculty Senate election process, which is to include, but is not limited to, giving campaign opportunities to candidates. If you would like to do more than that, you can check with the Faculty Senate Chair.

IV. Vice Chair's Report: Vacant.

V. Treasurer's Report: No report.

VI. Secretary's Report: Vacant.

VII. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum

- The Board of Trustee's meeting that was held at SUNY Cortland went very well; all 64 SUNY Presidents came together and discussed concerns within the SUNY system. Their biggest concern is the decline in enrollment; if a campus cannot meet its enrollment quota, then they cannot meet their budget.
- The President announced the Diversity Plan is to be submitted in November.
- Construction is being done on the Greenhouse
- Construction on Whitaker Hall should be completed by the Spring semester
- Brown Auditorium in Old Main will undergo renovation in the spring.

Guest Speaker Chris Kurelich, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Interim Chief Diversity Officer: Chris Kurelich gave his report on Diversity and Inclusion (*See email attachment.*).

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 – Reported that the Planning Committee had previously submitted a survey to all department chairs last semester, seeking feedback regarding Faculty Senate. Since the committee only heard back from a small number of departments, they are re-sending the survey to the departments that did not complete it; the new deadline to return the survey to the Planning Committee will be October 7th, 2016.

Educational Policy Committee: C. Widdall, Chair – Reported that the committee still needs two student members, as well as an ex-officio graduate faculty member. She also reported that EPC is working on defining a major GPA, an Academic Integrity Policy with the Academic Grievance Tribunal, an Academic Forgiveness Policy, as well as trying to create a policy that removes the grade of A+ from SUNY Cortland's grading scale.

Professional Affairs Committee: Chair vacant – No report.

Area Senator: No report

SUNY Senator: A. Fitz-Gibbon – Reported on his meeting in Saratoga with the Chancellor of SUNY, regarding comprehensive colleges. Fitz-Gibbon explained that the meeting was to explore the place of comprehensive colleges within the SUNY system. He also explained that the Chancellor discussed the idea of experiential liberal arts programs that included micro-credentials and micro-badges; the Chancellor also discussed the idea that shared governance should become shared leadership.

Student Senator: M. Braun, SGA President – Reported on his attendance to the Board of Trustee's dinner, stating that one item that was discussed was that students want SUNY to be more accessible. Braun also reported that SGA is forming a committee on student life. SGA is also seeking new student senators, as well as faculty senators. SGA meets once every other Tuesday at 7pm. in Corey Union; their next meeting will be held on the 27th of September.

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 – No report.

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

Committee on Committees: G. Evans – No report.

X. Unfinished Business: The Educational Policy Committee has two documents that will be voted on at our next full Senate meeting, which will be held on October 4th. The first document is on SUNY Cortland's Residency Requirements, while the other regards the EPC's Recommendation for Change to the Transfer Credits P and S Policy (*See email attachments.*).

XI. New Business: No new business.

XII. Announcements: There weren't any announcements

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM on 9/20/16

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis