

## **Faculty Senate Minutes #1**

**September 6, 2016**

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

**Members and Senators Absent:** C. Widdall, T. Phillips, L. Brady, D. VanLangen, M. Seyfried

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 were approved by the Senate.

**II. Senate Actions:** Standing Rules of Faculty Senate were approved by the Senate.

**III. Chair's Report:** Chair K. Lawrence opened the meeting by welcoming new and returning members to Faculty Senate for the Fall semester. The Chair also announced the committees who will present reports to the Senate in the next two meeting times: 9/20 – Planning Committee and Educational Policy Committee, then on 10/4 – Professional Affairs Committee and Teaching Awards Committee. She also reminded committee chairs if their committee has nothing to report, then he or she needs to let either the recording secretary or herself know. K. Lawrence also announced that there is still a crucial need for a Vice Chair and Secretary, as well as other vacancies, such as a senator in School of Education and Graduate Faculty senator. If a senator is going to be on sabbatical, he or she needs make the Senate aware, so that their seat can be marked as vacant. The seat of Part-Time Senator also needs to be filled. The Chair also reminded senators that SUNY Cortland will host the SUNY Faculty Senate Plenary meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>; there will be opportunities to attend work sessions as observers, if anyone is interested in seeing faculty governance at the SUNY level. A reminder also went out to senators to please refresh their use of Robert's Rules; Parliamentarian S. Anderson then distributed a review sheet covering Robert's Rules. K. Lawrence then announced that the Faculty Senate webpage on the SUNY Cortland website has been modified and updated with the latest Minutes, rosters, and meeting schedules. The chair also explained that the Senate is going to have guest speakers attend Senate meetings this semester.

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

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

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

**VII. President's Report:** E. Bitterbaum

- Announced the College is forming a search committee to hire a Chief Diversity Officer.
- Explained there is state funding available to the College for a transfer student program where SUNY Cortland will work with SUNY Broome and another community college.

- Announced the College is currently working on two projects: Brown Auditorium in Old Main and the Greenhouse.
- The first Board of Trustees' meeting to be held outside of NYC will be held at SUNY Cortland.
- Also announced that enrollment is up from previous years.

**Guest Speaker David Duryea:** David Duryea, Vice President for Finance and Management, gave his report on StartUp NY (*See E-mail Attachment*). Following his presentation, D. Duryea asked faculty and professionals to think of possible businesses that might want to take part in the StartUp NY plan.

## **VIII. Standing Committee Reports:**

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

**Academic Faculty Affairs Committee:** A. Fitz-Gibbon, Chair – Reported that his committee will meet with department chairs to help with approved revisions AFAC made to College Handbook. AFAC also sent out a memo to departments reminding them they need to send Personnel Policy to AFAC.

**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

**Student Senator:** M. Braun – Announced he has been elected as president of SGA. He announced there will be an SGA Senate meeting 9/6/16 at 7pm. Braun went on to explain how SGA uses an online platform called Cortland Connect; through the platform, students can sign up for clubs, as well as submit online forms. SGA feels that this platform encourages campus-wide collaboration. He also explained that SGA has created a student leadership cabinet, in an effort to bring to attention/resolve concerns across campus. M. Braun concluded his report by announcing that SGA has student representatives available to serve on Faculty Senate committees, if that is something the committees are interested in having.

## **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:** Chair vacant – No report.

**Committee on Committees** – No report.

**X. Unfinished Business:** No unfinished business.

**XI. New Business:** No new business.

**XII. Announcements:**

- Chris Kurelich, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Interim Chief Diversity Officer, announced he would be presenting to Faculty Senate on 9/20/16 regarding his Strategic Diversity Inclusion Plan.
- Senator S. Strause announced there has been an increase in international students this semester due to exchange student programs; she encouraged members to make these students feel welcome on campus. Senator Strause also mentioned she would like faculty to consider taking part in a faculty exchange program with China.

K. Lawrence thanked everyone for attending our first Faculty Senate meeting of the semester.

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:25PM on 9/6/16**

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis