

## **Faculty Senate Minutes #3**

**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

### **Fireplace Lounge**

**Members and Senators Present:** S. Anderson, P. Arras, C. Badurek, E. Bitterbaum, A. Blavos, R. Borden, R. Bryan, E. Cisneros, S. Clark, R. Coyne, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, S. Decker, , P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, P. Francis, J. Hall, D. Harms, K. Lawrence, A. McClellan, J. Neretich,, C. Palmer, J. Parks, R. Powell, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, B. Williams, M. Yacavone, J. Zhe-Heimerman

**Members and Senators Absent:** K. Ahern, S. Daman, A. Fitz-Gibbon, P. Francis, J. Jones, M. Kent-Landes, L. Lopez-Janove, J. Radloff, H. Schmid, K. Sheets, T. Suzuki, A. X.

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Revised Minutes from February 18<sup>th</sup> were approved by the Senate

**II. Chair's Report:** K. Lawrence:

- Acknowledged P. Schroeder for her continued dedication to the Faculty Senate and thanked her for her willingness to assist when called upon
- Reminded everyone about the upcoming Spring 2025 Call for Nominations that will be officially sent to campus on 3/11/24
  - Deadline to submit nominations via email will be 3/24/25 by 4PM
  - Slate of nominations received will be presented to the Faculty Senate as a slate at the 3/25/25 meeting
  - Reminders regarding elections and serving on the Faculty Senate and/or Faculty Senate committees
    - If an individual has been elected to serve on a committee, then that person is not required to attend Faculty Senate; however, Senators are required to attend Faculty Senate meetings on alternating Tuesdays
    - Any officer, or chair of one of the 4 policy committees (AFAC, EPC, JCSI, and PFAC), or SUNY UFS Senator are required to attend both the Steering Committee and Faculty Senate meetings on Tuesdays
    - Newly elected senators/officers/committee members terms begin after the final day of Final Exams week; newly elected Chair of the Faculty Senate term begins following Commencement
- The Resolution on Voting Rights for Faculty on Contingent Appointments will be introduced to the Senate on 3/25/25

**III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report:** D. Harms:

- Announced vacancies to the Faculty Senate for the Spring 2025 Call for Nominations

**IV. Treasurer's Report:** C. Badurek – No report.

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

- Followed up regarding concern over procedure if ICE or external law enforcement were to come to campus
  - There are 2 documents that will be available behind a firewall in MyRedDragon
  - An email will also be sent to the campus
- Dear Colleague Letter: there will be no changes to our website and/or titles across campus

- Commented that several universities are experiencing hardships (i.e. Cornell hiring freeze, MIT and Harvard are not accepting new students at the moment); all things considered, our campus is not in that bad of shape
- Thanked M. Yacavone for his presentation last week
- Recent fundraising trip a success; pledges totaling \$115,000 in one week
  - A. Blavos asked about the trend from donors to the campus
  - E. Bitterbaum explained that many of the donors are former students who were here in the 40s, 50s, and/or 60s and scholarship money was what allowed them to attend college; also, donors tend to be more liable to give money to a school like Cortland, where their funds will go further than a larger university (Cornell is around \$88,000/year, Miami University is around \$90,000/year whereas Cortland is around \$24,000/year)
- Announced that the Reverend Pauly Murray's niece will be on campus this evening giving a presentation in Jacobus Lounge

#### **VI. Provost's Report:** A. McClellan:

- New Dean of Professional Studies K. Polasek
- Newly hired Director of the Center on Teaching and Learning is J. Hall; she will begin on 5/8/25
- Department of Education Secretary, L. McMahon announces plans for "final mission"; can be found on the Department of Education's website
- Commencement is coming up; encouraged volunteering to be marshals. Food is provided!

#### **VII. Policy Committee Reports:**

**Joint Committee on Student Interests:** A. X/J. Radloff – No report

**Academic Faculty Affairs Committee:** K. Sheets, Chair – Welcomed newly elected member I. Vincent to the AFAC. The AFAC will be working on 2 major projects this semester: 220.06 of The College Handbook, for clarity, and also clarifying what constitutes faculty service to the university.

**Educational Policy Committee:** J. Parks, Chair:

- Reported on the vetting document that was recently sent out to campus regarding upper-level credit hour requirement policies in the undergraduate catalog; please remember to submit feedback before deadline 2/26/25
- Working on proposal to address consistency for acceptance of transfer students; transfer students who possess an associate's degree can be admitted as a transfer student with a "D"; however, transfer students who do not hold an associate's degree are not admitted as transfers with a "D"
- As Provost McClellan stated earlier, working on revisiting final exam schedule
  - R. Borden inquired as to whether there are any other SUNYs that have a week in between the last week of classes and finals week which was also count towards the required 16-weeks of teaching
    - Not aware of any SUNYs that do; finals week is typically counted as contact hours

**Professional Faculty Affairs Committee:** J. Neretich, Chair – Please find report attached in email along with recruitment document

**Area Senators** – No report

**SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator:** A. Fitz-Gibbon, G. Birren, L. Jin, J. Hall – No report

**Student Senator:** E. Cisneros/C. Palmer

- Nothing to report

**VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:**

**Committee on Teaching Effectiveness:** I. Strasser, Chair – See report above.

**University Curriculum Review Committee:** K. Polasek, Chair – No report

**Faculty Research Committee:** C. Badurek, Chair – Reported that the committee has reviewed several grant proposals; 15 have been chosen and the recipients will be notified soon.

**General Education Committee:** D. Radus, Chair – No report.

**Graduate Faculty Executive Committee:** L. Gathagan/L. Reichel, Chair – No report.

**IX. Unfinished Business:**

- **Generative A.I. Committee** – K. Ahern: The Generative A.I. Committee's Rationale for including a generative A.I. statement in course syllabi was presented to the Faculty Senate; the rationale will be included in the proposal when it goes out to referendum later in the semester

**X. New Business:**

- **EPC Revisions: Upper-Level Major and Degree Requirements for Undergraduate Programs** – Was introduced to the Senate by EPC Chair, J. Parks for clarifying questions (*Please find documents attached*)
  - J. Hall: Is there a timeline for those departments not currently in compliance?
    - J. Parks: Not sure about a specific timeline, but, we are working on all departments being compliant
    - P. Schroeder: emails are sent to department chairs to let them know they are out of compliance

**XI. Announcements:** There weren't any announcements

**Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 1:58PM on 3/4/25**

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis