

Faculty Senate Minutes #2

September 21st, 2021

Via WebEx

Members and Senators Present: B. Addams (sub for C. Pass), M. Alvisi, S. Anderson, C. Badurek, G. Birren, A. Blavos, R. Borden, A. Catalfamo, S. Clark, S. Comins, C. Costell Corbin, K. Dames, S. Daman, A. DeChellis, E. Edlund, A. Fitz-Gibbon, R. Grantham, J. Hall, T. Hunter, K. Johnson, L. Lopez-Janove, A. Myles, V. Placide, R. Powell, M. Prus, K. Silvestri, G. Sharer, P. Schroeder, G. Vogt, D. West B. Williams, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Members and Senators Absent: E. Bitterbaum, A. Dearie, L. Jin, K. Nuhu, P. Perkins, J. Radloff, G. Sharer, T. Suzuki

Guests: D. Harms, L. Delaubell, G. Peterson

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from September 7th were approved by the Senate.

Approval Senate Standing Rules: Standing Rules were approved by the Senate.

II. Chair's Report: G. Birren – Reported that the College Council met on Monday, 9/13/21

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: B. Williams – No report.

IV. Treasurer's Report: C. Widdall – No report.

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum: Chief of Staff L. Davies reported on the president's behalf:

- Student vaccination rates: verified 83%, unverified 96%
 - Currently reaching out to students who have not been proactive in being vaccinated, and/or submitting proof of vaccination status; deadline is 9/27/21.
 - Vaccination rates include all students, even those who are fully remote and also those who have been exempt from being vaccinated due to religious beliefs and/or medical circumstances which prevent them from being able to get the vaccine; therefore, our campus will never reach 100%.
- Cortaca is scheduled to be held at Yankee Stadium next year; projected attendance to be around 40,000.
- Construction on campus:
 - Light project is underway
 - Demolition on 2nd/3rd floor of Miller to begin this week.
- Capital Campaign is underway
- There are currently 28 new faculty searches in process
- SUNY Cortland has re-applied for the Prodi-G Program.
- Concern was raised about some students refusing testing because they do not want to go into quarantine and isolation and/or miss class. Chief of Staff Davies confirmed that individuals can refuse testing.
 - Concern was raised about tracing protocols, including: How does Cortland County Health Dept define “close contact”? Chief of Staff Davies stated that having been within six feet of an infected person is part of the Department's criteria for determining close contact.
 - SGA President Hunter also noted students' concern with falling behind in classes. Chief of Staff Davies stated those issues will be discussed by the Academic Planning

Committee. In response, concern was raised whether faculty would be consulted about accommodation of such students. Davies stated this issue of consultation would be brought up to the APC.

VII. Policy Committee Reports

Joint Committee on Student Interests: K. Silvestri – No report.

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

Educational Policy Committee: E. Edlund, Chair – Announced that the committee had a resignation, so there is now an open vacancy on EPC representing Arts/Sciences.

Professional Affairs Committee: S. Daman, Chair – No report.

Area Senators: No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: C. Badurek/A. Blavos – No report.

Student Senator: T. Hunter:

- Reported that SGA has been working closely with Joint Committee on Student Interests to have a better understanding of UUP and academic freedom

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: M. Moyer, Chair – Reported that the committee will meet this Friday, 9/24/21.

College Curriculum Review Committee: Chair – No report.

College Research Committee: Chair – No report.

General Education Committee: L. Delaubell, Chair – Reported that a survey was sent out this morning requesting feedback from faculty regarding implementation guidance; any and all feedback is greatly appreciated! Deadline to submit feedback is this Friday, 9/24/21.

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: Chair – No Report.

IX. Unfinished Business:

- **Call for Nominations, Spring 2021** – Additional nominations were accepted from the floor in an effort to fill any remaining vacancies from the Spring 2021 call for nominations (*Please find document attached*).
 - There were two contested seats that will go out to ballot by the end of this week; please note that the ballot will only go to individuals representing professional staff members.
- **UFS Resolution 188.01:** Implementation of 360 Reviews for SUNY's Management Confidential (MC) Employees – Encourage engagement in 360 Review; meant as a feedback mechanism
 - Vote: 21 yay, 5 nay: resolution endorsed by the Senate
- **UFS Resolution 188.04:** Recognition of COVID 19 Pandemic Response – Need for continued support to honor everyone's hard work during the pandemic.
 - Vote: 23 yay, 3 nay: resolution endorsed by the Senate

- **UFS Resolution 188.03:** On Academic Planning for Responding to Future Crises – A comprehensive plan on the teaching aspect of responding to crises, SUNY continuity plan.
 - Vote: No Objections: resolution endorsed by the Senate
- **UFS Resolution 188.02:** Holistic Student Space – Promote dedication of specified spaces for student wellness.
 - Motion to postpone: T. Hunter
 - 2nd: R. Grantham
- **UFS Resolution 188.05:** TIAA Divestment – Response to individual SUNY campuses that passed their own divestment plans
 - Ran out of time before the Senate could debate/vote; will be put on the agenda for the meeting of 10/5/21 as Unfinished Business

X. New Business: N/A

XI. Announcements: N/A

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 on 9/21/21

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis