

Faculty Senate Minutes #6

May 2nd, 2017

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

Senators and Members Absent: C. Widdall, S. Strause, O. White, M. Seyfried, C. Kuretich, T. Phillips, D. Duryea.

Guests: J. Ouellette, J. A. Felton, III

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from April 18th were approved.

II. Senate Actions: There were no Senate actions.

III. Chair's Report: Chair, K. Lawrence, opened the meeting by announcing that there is still a vacancy for the position of Vice Chair, since J. Ouellette will take over as the acting Chair of Faculty Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year after Commencement. The Chair then noted that almost all of the committees are almost all full for the 2017-2018 academic year. K. Lawrence asked all current committee chairs to please submit an annual report to the Senate by June 2nd, 2017; she explained that having an annual report on file each year is informative for new members that are interested in joining the committee. There will be an email sent out within the next week or so to remind all committee chairs about submitting an annual report. The Chair thanked all of the committee chairs for all of their hard work and commitment to the Senate throughout the year.

IV. Vice Chair's Report: Vacant.

V. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, M. McGuire – No report.

VI. Secretary's Report: Vacant.

VII. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum

- Thanked and commended K. Lawrence for all the time and effort she has put into serving the Faculty Senate as the Chair throughout the past three years.
- Announced that the city of Cortland is going to be milling Graham Ave. and Prospect Terrace, which will begin on May 8th, 2017; he explained that the city will be paying for the majority of this project, but that the College will help fund a portion of it as well.
- Announced that V. Levine and C. Van Der Karr sent out Middle States report; encouraged feedback from senators on the Middle States report.

- Introduced SUNY Cortland's new Chief Diversity Officer, James A. Felton, III.
- Discussed the recently passed Excelsior Scholarship; explained that FAFSA must be filed and that TAP and PELL Grants would be applied prior to receiving the Excelsior Scholarship. President Biiterbaum also explained that about 80% of families in NY state will be eligible for this scholarship program.
- Announced that President Trump has recently passed a bill that allows year-round PELL grants to students.
- Announced that Whittaker Hall is now open, and encouraged members and senators to go and see the newly renovated building.
- Announced that Brown Auditorium will be closing to begin renovations over the summer; the College received a \$700,000 grant from Governor Seward to go towards the Brown Auditorium renovations.
- Corey Union will also renovations this summer on the lower level; as a result Raquette Pizza will be temporarily moved to Hilltop, and the Dunkin' Donuts will be closed during the renovation period as well.
- New SUNY Chancellor will arrive in September 2017.

IX. Standing Committee Reports:

Student Affairs Committee: T. Phillips, Chair – Please see “Announcements.”

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

Planning Committee: M. DiVita, Chair – Please see “Unfinished Business.”

Educational Policy Committee: C. Widdall, Chair – No report.

Professional Affairs Committee: I. Jordak, Chair – Reported on the committee's work regarding the President's Discretionary Award (PDA) as well as their work in trying to establish a promotion ladder for professionals (*Please find full report attached in email*).

Area Senator: No report.

SUNY Senator: A. Fitz-Gibbon – Reported on the SUNY Faculty Senate Conference, which was held at SUNY Canton; items discussed at the meeting were as follows:

- Excelsior Scholarship – the general consensus regarding the scholarship program was that the scholarship will benefit SUNY institutions and, more than likely, hurt private institutions.
- Eleven resolutions were passed in total.

- One of the eleven resolutions was concerned with the idea of contingent faculty being involved with campus governance.
- The next SUNY Faculty Senate Conference will be held sometime in September 2017 in Oneonta.

Student Senator: M. Braun

- Recognized K. Lawrence and commended her on all her years of commitment as serving as the Chair of Faculty Senate.
- Also recognized SUNY Cortland's Faculty Senate as being the best within the SUNY system in regard to the relationship it maintains with its students; more specifically, Braun commented on the superb relationship our Senate maintains with its SGA representatives.
- Braun then recognized G. Hulede as the new SGA Executive Vice President (EVP).
- G. Hulede thanked M. Braun for all his dedication and hard work while serving as an SGA representative for the past two years.
- G. Hulede reported on the SGA's Relationship Violence Walk that took place this past weekend; she explained that SUNY Cortland came in 2nd place, with 5.3 million yards, and SUNY Oswego came in 1st place, with 5.8 million yards.
- G. Hulede announced that the SGA has eight newly-appointed student officers, who will be introduced in the upcoming academic year.

K. Lawrence also commended M. Braun on his leadership with the SGA over his past two years serving as the president, and also congratulated G. Hulede on becoming the new EVP of SGA.

X. Other Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Awards: J. Mosher, Chair – No report

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

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

General Education Committee: J. McNamara, Chair – No report.

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

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

XI. Unfinished Business: The Planning Committee's proposal to eliminate the committee was discussed; following a brief discussion, the proposal was then voted on and carried by the Senate (*Please see proposal attached in email*).

K. Lawrence recognized M. DiVita for her commitment in service to the College, explaining how DiVita has served as the chair on both the Planning Committee and the College Curriculum Review Committee simultaneously.

The proposed Handbook Amendments regarding Policy Committee Chairs was discussed; the proposal was then voted on and carried by the Senate (*Please see proposal attached in email*).

XII. New Business: There wasn't any new business.

XIII. Announcements:

- K. Lawrence announced, on behalf of the Student Affairs Committee, that Gloria Hulede and Anna Gorall were both chosen to receive the Faculty Senate Memorial Scholarship.
- On behalf of J. Curtis, it was announced that on May 23rd and 24th there will be a Green Dot Workshop taking place on campus; the workshop focuses on decreasing campus violence.
- Faculty Senate recognized and thanked K. Lawrence for her hard work and dedication to the Senate for the past three years, serving as the Chair.
- K. Lawrence thanked S. Anderson for all of his hard work and dedication to the Senate, serving as the Parliamentarian.
- K. Lawrence also thanked everyone who serves on the Steering Committee for all of their commitment to the Faculty Senate.
- K. Lawrence also thanked A. DeChellis for serving as the recording secretary to the Faculty Senate.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:07pm on 5/2/17

Minutes submitted by,

Amy M. DeChellis