

**UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011**

For attendees, please see attachment A1.
The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m.

I. The minutes of the May 6, 2011 meeting were approved.

II. Report of the Speaker of the Faculty:

Prof. Nirode convened the meeting by calling attention to Attachment B, the Financial Status Report from the Board of Trustees Finance Committee. Prof. Nirode then introduced President Rabinowitz, who addressed the faculty (Attachment to be emailed at a later date).

III. Report of the AAUP, Dennis Mazzocco

Prof Mazzocco reported that the AAUP is delighted to have a new contract in place, and he took a moment to introduce members of the 2011 Negotiating Committee. The committee spent an entire year developing, researching, and engaging in negotiations. As a result of their hard work, the membership was very well served. He also noted that as delighted as we all are, this year was the first strike authorization vote in 23 years on this campus.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that the AAUP is delighted to hear that retention is up from last year and he believes that faculty is a huge reason why. Faculty is also a reason why enrollment is up as well. The AAUP is proud of its role in this experience. Prof. Mazzocco reported that while diversity numbers are up, he would like to see some meaningful effort made in increasing the diversity numbers of colleagues. He urges the administration to consider doing something about the diversity in upper administration as well

Prof. Mazzocco reported that in the contract, the AAUP gained the right to have automatic dues deductions for the adjunct faculty. The AAUP will be reaching out to the adjunct population over the next couple of months to request that they sign up for automatic dues deductions.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that there are 3 new committees that the AAUP will be involved in

- Healthcare committee – This committee is in need of representatives from the union and will meet four times a year, once during each quarter. The administration will also be participating in this committee. This committee will discuss how to save the university money by taking advantage of opportunities such as wellness campaigns.
- University-Wide Committee of Graduate Directors – This committee will look at the structure of compensation and their purview as graduate directors.
- School for University Studies – Even though it fluctuates in terms of enrollment, it is still an incredible part of this university and will continue to be. Faculty have expressed concerned over their working conditions.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that the AAUP would normally have held chapter elections in the spring, as per the AAUP's bylaws and constitution. Since it is a contract year, they could not hold elections until the contract was ratified by the membership. The AAUP has announced the call for nominations to the membership in the beginning of October. The closing date for nominations is November 1st at 5 p.m. The following offices are open:

- Vice President for Grievances

- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer
- One member of the Steering Committee

Prof. Mazzocco reported that another element that has come out of the negotiations structure has been a call for administrator evaluations. This was brought up due to discussions with the membership over the past year. It was agreed by both sides that this would be dealt with through the shared governance process. The issue was introduced at the last Faculty Affairs Committee and Prof Mazzocco expects the committee will do some important work in this regard.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that though the Center for Civic Engagement there will be a Day of Dialogue on Wednesday October 26, at 10:00 a.m. in room 246 East Library Wing. The schedule will include presentations in which Presidents and Representatives of the various unions on campus address students about the key issues in collective bargaining, and what it means to have these unions on campus. They will discuss how the unions function and how they are connected to workers' struggles off campus. Speakers include: Dr. Dennis Mazzocco, AAUP, and Dr. Greg DeFreitas, Professor of Economics, and Director of the Center for Labor History.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that the first General Membership meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, November 2nd during common hour.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that they are working on organizing a DPC and Chair workshop on November 9th during common hour.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that before the end of the semester the AAUP is considering holding two adjunct mixers, possibly in November and December.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that starting in May, the AAUP became aware of several tenure cases that were being challenged by the Provost's Office. In such cases, candidates have passed all of the approval ladders in the steps towards the recommendation of tenure but were then reevaluated. As soon as the AAUP learned of this, they started to work behind the scenes to ensure all candidates would be given a fair and rigorous review by their rights under the contract and Faculty Policy Series. The AAUP will continue to advocate for these members.

IV. Report of the Chairs Caucus, Bob Papper

After giving a brief overview of what the chairs' caucus does, Prof. Papper reported that the caucus is reviewing several ongoing issues including undergraduate advisement. They are working with the Provost's Office to examine additional guidelines regarding faculty advisement to the undergraduates. The caucus continues to work on issues regarding admissions and admissions events. Prof. Papper also reported that the caucus spent some time discussing E-Time. The caucus is looking at room scheduling and will issue a report regarding this in two to three months.

New issues include adjunct rank and pay and discussing issues of new and replacement faculty lines. They will also examine faculty web skills and how to encourage faculty to have websites.

Prof. Papper reported that the caucus is also working on a technology survey where they have reached out to all of the departments to find out what technology issues need to be addressed and to identify the technology concerns of the departments.

V. Report of the Senate:

Information Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for information the preliminary report of the Task Force on Integrity and Responsibility. This is a critical document and a major first step in terms of addressing issues of academic dishonesty and academic integrity on campus. This task force was co-chair by Dean Warren Frisina, Assistant Dean Barbara Bohannon, Vice President Sandra Johnson, and Prof. Susan Martin. The report was the product of two years' worth of conversations on the part of the task force. Prof. Nirode provided a brief overview of the process for gathering the data and he summarized the findings. The report will put into place an honor code that makes visible, Hofstra's commitment to academic integrity and a standing body of individuals whose job it will be to take up the conversation and carry it forward. The proposal will hopefully be carried over to an action item at the first faculty meeting held in the spring. A discussion followed.

Action Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for action the Guidelines for Faculty Email created by the Faculty Affairs Committee. The committee is proposing guidelines for email exchange between faculty members and their students. These are just guidelines and not a mandate. The guidelines include encouraging faculty members to state on their syllabi how they will answer e-mail (thus defining what constitutes a timely manner), matters of e-mail etiquette and style, and what issues should be covered in an e-mail (as opposed to scheduling a personal meeting). The item passed with one opposed and one abstention.
2. Prof. Nirode presented for action the Dean's List Recommendation created by the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee. He reported that the committee did comparisons with peer aspirants and discovered that Hofstra is way below its peer institutions regarding the requirements. Through their research, the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee proposes to increase the grade point average requirement for inclusion on the Dean's List to 3.5, regardless of class standing, and to eliminate the sliding scale. The item passed unanimously.
3. Prof. Bass, Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, presented for action a recommended resolution regarding the traffic signal at the juncture of California Avenue and CV Starr and Weller Hall. They have been discussing this safety issue for a number of years and feel that with the significant increase in pedestrian traffic at the crossing, there exists a strong possibility of an accident occurring at the crossing. The University Senate suggests that the University petition the appropriate offices to undertake an analysis of this problem and request local officials approve the installation of a traffic signal. The item passed unanimously.

Action items #4 & 5 will be tabled until the December faculty meeting.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.