

UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017

For attendees, please see attachment A1.

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm.

I. The minutes of the November 28, 2016 minutes were approved.

II. Report of the Speaker of the Faculty, Stuart Bass

Prof. Bass convened the meeting by reporting that on November 14 and February 1, information meetings regarding the mid-semester assessment took place with robust turnout and tremendous and very meaningful exchange of ideas. There will be an additional meeting scheduled.

Prof. Bass introduced Prof. Sonfield, Parliamentarian, who presented the following:

- According to Faculty Statutes IX – Faculty Meetings, meetings shall follow *Roberts Rules of Order*
- The term “friendly amendment” is often used to describe an amendment offered by someone who is in sympathy with the purposes of the main motion, in the belief that the amendment will either improve the statement of effect of the main motion, presumably to the satisfaction of its maker, or will increase the chances of the main motion’s adoption. Regardless of whether or not the maker of the main motion “Accepts” the amendment, it must be opened to debate and voted on formally.
 - a motion on the table can be amended, but it still requires debate and a separate vote on the amendment
- The chair should not call for abstentions in taking a vote since the number of members who respond to such a call is meaningless to abstain, to mean not vote at all, and a member who makes no response if “abstentions” are called for, abstains just as much as the one who responds to that effect.

A discussion followed about eligibility on voting.

III. Report of the Senate, Eugene Maccarrone:

Prof. Maccarrone reported the following:

- the Academic Calendars for 2017-2018 & 2018-2019 were approved by President Rabinowitz on December 12.
- The President reported the following at the December 12th Board of Trustees meeting
 - we received a clean opinion on our 2015-2016 financials from our independent auditors
 - the endowment is doing well
 - financial health is evaluated as “good”
 - a \$500,000 in New York State Economic Development grant has been approved for a Behavioral Research Lab (will be used in the Frank G. Zarb School of Business building)
 - Hofstra University approved as a "Start Up New York" site for behavioral research
- At the last Senate Executive Committee, held on February 6th:
 - the revisions to the Repeat Course Policy was tabled to consider further how the repeated course option effects lower classmen.
 - The SEC asked the Planning and Budget Committee and the Student Affairs Committee to investigate a full campus smoking ban and how it should be done
- Russell Chun, from the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication to replace Carlo Genneralli, who has stepped down from the Senate

- Two new ad-hoc committees for the Senate are meeting for the first time on February 28
 - Ad-hoc committee to review and update Governance Documents (By-Laws, Faculty Statutes, and Faculty Policy Series).
 - Bob Brinkmann, Office of the Provost (serving as a liaison with Legal Counsel)
 - Marc Silver, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
 - Amy Catalano, Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
 - Lisa Filippi, Faculty Affairs Committee
 - William Caniano, Planning and Budget Committee
 - Ad-hoc committee on Academic Calendar and Religious Observance
 - Neil Donahue, Office of the Provost (serving as a liaison with Legal Counsel)
 - Marc Silver, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
 - Gina Sorrentino, Faculty Affairs Committee
 - Craig Burnett, Planning and Budget Committee
- The Senate will discuss with the Provost's Office, as well as the Office of Student Affairs ways of enhancing the commencement experience by creating a forum where students, families and faculty can meet in a way that is not chaotic
- The Town Hall Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1st in the Multipurpose Room of the Student Center from 10:30a.m. – 2 p.m.

IV. Report of the AAUP, Dennis Mazzocco

Prof. Mazzocco reported the following:

- work continues on negotiations between the AAUP and the administration on revisions to the Graduate Directors compensation agreement.
 - Proposals and counter proposals have been exchanged since the last full faculty meeting in November.
 - Have met three times through December and January
 - Hope to announce the new agreement soon
- Elections for Chapter Officers, Steering Committee, and unit representatives for all schools and colleges will be announced next week
 - Nominations will open in March and ballots will be counted in May
 - William Caniano, Sandra Stacki and Peter Goodman have been asked to serve as the election committee
 - James Reif, a national expert on election procedures and protocol for the Department of Labor, will serve as counsel for this committee
- The AAUP strongly recommends that all faculty, full-time and part-time attend one of the Provost's Title IX Workshops
 - Considered to be a professional responsibility to know what the expectations are for Title IX compliance with the Department of Education
- The university has announced its participation in the Tuition Exchange Program.
 - Full-time faculty who are interested must submit their form to Human Resources by February 28
- Questions on the new retirement exit incentives or retiree healthcare in the new contract please contact the AAUP office.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that the AAUP would like to express its appreciation to President Rabinowitz for his communication to our community on January 25 about the University's continued commitment to our core values of tolerance, inclusiveness and respect for all members of our community.

This was by the President's message on February 15 regarding the establishment of Hofstra's Deportation Defense Clinic that will protect immigrants who are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of increased deportation enforcement. The clinic will concentrate on two high risk populations:

- Immigrants with removal orders against them
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Prof. Mazzocco reported that as AAUP president, he has personally communicated his appreciation to the president for taking affirmative steps to address the significant anxiety among our faculty, students and staff here on his campus since the November election.

V. New Business

The following resolution was presented by Prof Silver:

In light of the executive orders and proposed policies put forth by the Trump Administration pertaining to immigration and deportation; and especially in light of the disruption, fear, insecurity, pain, and loss these actions have already inflicted on people nationally and internationally, the faculty of Hofstra University wish to affirm the following statement:

As members of an institution of higher education we value deeply the principles that provide the foundation for learning, research, and scholarship: inclusion, equality, tolerance and rationally informed discourse and decision-making. The faculty of Hofstra University thus reject political policies born of prejudice and ideology unsupported by data and cogent analysis, and that appear to be designed to isolate, vilify, and target the weakest and most vulnerable segments of our society. We thereby stand in solidarity with our colleagues, staff, students, and others who have already been adversely affected by the actions of this administration or who may likely be so affected in the future. We reaffirm the stance previously expressed publically by President Rabinowitz that Hofstra needs to be a "safe place for scholarship and tolerance." Moreover, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that all who work at Hofstra University – its students, faculty, staff and administrators- can contribute to the goals of higher education in an atmosphere of security, acceptance, and mutual support

A discussion followed and the resolution was passed with 17-in favor of, and 2-opposed.

It was noted that the number of adjunct faculty who work on this campus were not represented in this resolution, since they are not represented at full faculty meetings.

Report of the Chairs' Caucus, Kathleen Wallace

Kathleen Wallace, chair of the Chairs' Caucus reported:

- the chairs are continuing to work with their Departmental Personnel Committees (DPCs) to implement the new procedures in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).
- met with Bob Brinkman, Vice Provost for Scholarship and Engagement, to discuss Information Technology and faculty support and appreciated some of the improvements that were made in response to chairs' suggestions, which will help with the support of faculty in the classrooms. Changes included:
 - extended the faculty computing support hours during the semester to 8:30a.m.
 - added the ability for connecting to faculty computing support services if you call the help desk after 5 p.m.
- this semester the Chairs' Caucus hopes to meet with representatives from:
 - Library
 - Faculty Computing Services
 - talk about additional ways of improving and developing the support that faculty computing services offers to departments

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04p.m.