

**UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2018**

For attendees, please see attachment A1.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

**I.** The minutes of the December 6, 2017 minutes were approved.

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

Prof. Bass convened the meeting by reporting that there will be an information meeting regarding campus security on Wednesday, April 11 at 3 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Student Center. Joseph Barkwill, Vice President for Facilities and Operations, Karen O'Callaghan, Director of Public Safety, and representatives from the Nassau County Police Department will be in attendance and give a presentation on what emergency practices and procedures should take place in the event of an emergency on campus. The Nassau County Police Department has asked us, for security reasons, not to video record the meeting. A detailed handout of the presentation will be created instead.

**III. Report of the Senate, George Giuliani:**

**Action Items**

1. Prof. Giuliani presented for action the revisions to UNIV001. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee reported that UNIV001 is a course that is required of students who falls into our category of probationary status either based on low GPA or not having the sufficient completion ratio. The original thinking behind this course is to provide support for students who are at risk to help them move in a positive direction and get off probationary status. It is a one-credit, one-semester course. When it was first introduced, it was a class taught in a classroom with an instructor who can provide one on one support. Overtime, because of the number of students that were in this position, it was moved to be an online series of modules for students to take, pretty much on their own. The Academic Review Committee meets twice a year to review the status of students on probation. They also deal with questions of dismissal of students, review of appeals for readmission, etc. Over the last few years, there has been concern about the status of UNIV001. It appeared that for quite a while now, many students were not taking the course in a timely manner. The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee did a close-up analysis of the course and asking the question whether there is any indication that completion of the course or non-completion of the course had any impact on the students moving positively off of probation. The committee reviewed the data for multiple years and analyze the student's trajectory. There was no evidence that UNIV001 had any discernable impact on the student's trajectory. Many students did not complete UNIV001 in that first semester and received unofficial withdrawals. The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee ultimately decided that it was not an effective vehicle and looked at alternatives. The committee is proposing that the language in the current bulletin concerning UNIV001 be dropped, that it no longer be a requirement. Instead, students would be required to actively work with their advisors to develop an academic action plan. It would involve a host of required activities and access to resources that could be modified to the individual needs of those students. The item passed unanimously.

#### **IV. Report of the Speaker of the Faculty, Stuart Bass (cont.)**

Prof. Bass raised an issue about an image posted on the AAUP chapter website that was viewed as offensive and unethical by some. The image has been since, taken down. A discussion followed.

#### **V. New Business**

Prof. Caniano reported that the Student Town Hall Meeting is on Wednesday, April 25 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with the main discussion occurring during common hour, in the Multipurpose Room of the Student Center and encourages all to promote the event to their students and attend if possible.

A question was raised about campus security.

#### **VI. Report of the AAUP, Dennis Mazzocco**

Prof. Mazzocco reported that the spring membership meeting was held on Monday, March 26. Denise Radicone, the new Sr. Associate Director, Benefits Administration was introduced (Ira Kolko's replacement.)

Prof. Mazzocco reported that Dr. Julie Schmid, the Executive Director of the national AAUP came up from Washington to be a guest speaker and gave the membership updates on the state of national higher education, discussed the landscape for academic collective bargaining, the many attempts to undermine tenure, and shared governance. The AAUP's project watch list and other social webwork was also discussed.

Prof. Mazzocco reminded everyone that they are entitled to union representation if they are called to a meeting with their chair, dean or provost that might result in disciplinary action. If you are called into a meeting and were not told the reason, please call the AAUP office to arrange representation if necessary.

Prof. Mazzocco encourages all faculty members to check their pay check stubs on the portal. If there is extra income from supervised internships, tutorials, or extra paid work, please ensure that the correct pay is given, as mistakes sometimes occur.

Copies of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) have now been distributed to all full time and part time faculty, including department chairs. It is important for faculty members to know their rights under the contract.

The chapter has distributed one faculty membership cards to all members in good standing. If you have not received your card, please contact the office.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that chapter elections are underway for the office of President and Second Vice President. The Executive Council is grateful to the following who are serving on the election committee:

- Veronica Lippencott, Department of Geography
- Susan Drucker, Department of Media Studies
- Sandra Stacki, Department of Teaching, Learning & Technology Programs

Ballots need to be received by the American Arbitration Association by May 3.

Prof. Mazzocco announced that Patricia Navarra, the chapter Recording Secretary, is a candidate for an at-large seat with the AAUP's National Council, where ultimate decision-making power for the organization rests. Ballots will be closed on April 16 and we wish her the very best in the election.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that chapter leadership and senior administration met recently at a joint standing committee meeting on March 27 to deal with ongoing issues including campus safety. Christina Ventura DiPersia, Second Vice President for Collective Bargaining reported on the subject and one of the concerns is that it is impossible to survey every single door on campus to see what the handle is, or if there is a window, etc. Faculty have come to the AAUP with concerns about various safety issues such as the location of Hagedorn and walking around at night. Prof. Ventura DiPersia reported that she has taken all information and informally surveyed people if they are comfortable with their doors, etc. If faculty have any particular concerns, she urges them to reach out to her.

Prof. Mazzocco reported that during the question and answer period of the last faculty meeting, the Speaker of the Faculty asked him if he wanted to comment on a current investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor regarding the results of last semester's elections. That complaint sought to invalidate the election in which Benita Sampedro was elected. He reported that as of March 15, the Department of Labor found no cause to overturn the election and he has the letter from the Department of Labor if anyone would like to see it.

## **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.