

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, August 29, 2016

Present: N. Donahue, G. Giuliani, D. Goodman, E. Maccarrone (Chair), B. Pickering, M. Silver

A. The minutes of the April 25, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

B. Chair's Report

Prof. Maccarrone convened the meeting by reporting that he attended Trustees meeting on April 23rd. The President indicated that the 2015-2016 will end on budget, subject to audit by their independent auditors, with a positive margin (net increase in net tuition revenues) however, the increase is less than 1%. He also mentioned that wages and benefits have increased by 3%. A small discussion followed. The 2016-2017 budget depends on enrollment, so a final census will not be done until at least October 1st, but right now the university is pacing well. Undergraduate freshman are being paced at 1650 with no change in the discount rate in tuition. The SAT/ACT combine scores puts us into the 77 – 78 percentile at 1181, which is down somewhat from 1192 from last year. The President attributes this to the discount rate staying the same. The President noted that 41% of incoming students self-identified as “students of color,” approximately 50% live within the state, and 95 students are new international students (this is up from 71 last year). Retention is pacing at about 81%. Undergraduate graduation rate is in the low 60s. Continuing undergraduate and graduate looks strong and new graduation entrance seems “ok.” The Law School is down 60 students below budget. The President reported that there are two new programs which were approved:

- Family Nurse Practitioner and Mental Health
- Masters in Medical Informatics
- The President reported that the AAUP negotiations are ongoing, sane and rational and does not anticipate any problems. The President also reported that because of the Presidential Debate being held on September 26th, the Fall Festival has been moved back to October 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Prof. Maccarrone reported that Catherine Hennessey, Vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer, gave a brief report.

- Preparing for the 8-30-16 closing
- \$469,000,000.00 in total investments (endowment and other)
- 3.17% return on endowment investments

Prof. Maccarrone reported that Howard Graves, Senior Assistant Dean of Library Systems, just sent out a brief update on the repurposing of the third floor of Axinn Library:

- Book compression is going well, but a bit slower than original plans.
- Floors 6-8 are complete and current compression floor 5
- The project will go into the fall but not interfere with any refurbishment plans.
- Approximately 13% of the collection was weeded.
- The Library Faculty made all weeding selection, and I [Graves] am confident the integrity of the collection has been maintained.
- The Provost's Library Task Force will be meeting in September to bring the design phase to a close.

A discussion followed, including one on the downsizing of the Curriculum Materials Center (CMC Library), as well as faculty lines not being replaced when faculty have retired or moved on from the University.

C. Action Items

1. Prof. Maccarrone presented for action the University Senate Budget Allocations Checklist. Back in May 2015, the Senate passed a resolution is for the Student Affairs Committee (SAC) to appropriate funds from the University Senate budget and act as a co-sponsor for events that promote student success/retention; as well as ones that exemplify Hofstra's Pride Principles. A request was made by a student group last March for funds that following Friday. Prof Maccarrone reported that he, along with the Provost, the SAC, Cliff Jernigan, Prior Senior Vice Provost, and the Planning and Budget Committee created a checklist to help streamline the process and the student group maximizes their chance of receiving funds on a timely basis. A discussion followed and the following amendment was made:

the following sentence:

Verifications / Acknowledgments / Approvals, approvals, as appropriate, by or from the Student Affairs Committee, The Planning and Budget Committee, the Senate Executive Committee, The Senate, the Provost's Designee, and SGA.

was changed to:

The decision to approve requests for supplementary funds will be made by or from the Student Affairs Committee, The Planning and Budget Committee, the Senate Executive Committee and The University Senate, with notification of results to the SGA.

The item passed as amended.

2. Prof. Maccarrone presented for action the Audio Recordings Policy. This item was worked on by an ad-hoc committee that included himself, members of Student Access Services (SAS), Legal Affairs, and members from the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee. This language has already been published and will be amended for next year, once the Senate approves it. The item was approved unanimously.

D. Information Items

1. Prof Maccarrone presented for information, the 2015-2016 Senate Annual Report. He thanks everyone who participated. A link to the report, as well as past reports, can be found on the University Senate website.
2. Prof Maccarrone presented for information, the Grievance Committee amendment to the bylaws that was unanimously passed by the Senate Executive Committee via email prior to this meeting (a request had been made by the Provost's Office to amend the bylaws of the committee and populated. Since a grievance was filed, it was urgent this get done.) This change was made in anticipation of a possible Senate grievance or grievances that may be brought. A discussion followed on the make-up of the committee since as of September 1, the School of Education will be under HCLAS. The item will need to be amended at the September 12 Senate meeting. Prof. Goodman had a question as to why the School of Health Professions and Human Services was included with the Hofstra Northwell School of Graduate Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies. The item was amended to read:

*..the Hofstra Northwell School of Graduate Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies
or the School of Health Professions and Human Services....*

The item was amended and will be brought to the Senate as an action item.

E. Discussion Items

1. Prof. Maccarrone presented a discussion on a student survey. Bianca Pickering, the chair of the Student Affairs Committee (SAC) reported that her committee would like to administer a survey to students asking them how they felt about Spring Fest in an attempt to get students more involved in the planning and/or which artists are booked. Questions would be simple such as whether or not the student attended Spring Fest, to rate their experience, and whether or not they would pay a small fee for Spring Fest if a more popular artist is booked. A discussion followed. A suggestion was made to research how much money was spent on past events for certain artists. Members from the SAC will reserve a table in the atrium to survey the students.
2. Prof. Maccarrone presented a discussion regarding the occurrence of a proposal for publishing wording about religious observance accommodation policy as relates to the Academic Calendar accommodations. He expressed concern that this was brought by the administration during the summer when it was difficult to have it considered by University Governance. He proposes that members from the Faculty Affairs Committee, Student Affairs Committee, the Provost's Office (in communication with Legal Counsel), can work on minimizing the wording. Prof. Silver requests that the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee also be involved. A discussion followed.

F. Committee Reports

1. Bianca Pickering, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that the committee will work on a number of items including how to make the residential side of campus more student friendly, (such as artistic freedom) as well as more inclusive, specifically for students of color. A discussion followed. Prof. Giuliani suggested that Ms. Pickering look into being appointed to the Campus Climate Committee which survey and propose actions to improve the campus climate.
2. Debra Goodman, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee will continue discuss how many credits can be applied to a secondary master's degree at Hofstra as previously reported. She also reported that she would like to try and attend Graduate Directors' meetings so she can get an idea of what issues are coming up.
3. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee will be meeting before the Senate meeting. One hold over issue is a request to clarify procedures concerning acts of academic dishonesty and grade penalties and the distinction between major and minor offenses. Another long standing issue the committee will be working on is Departmental Honors. He also reported that he and Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management, spoke about forming a subcommittee of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee on Admissions, or who could be called upon to play a more active role in the admissions process. Caroline Schreiner reported that there used to be a committee like this about 10 years ago.
4. George Giuliani, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the committee worked on the issues of the Grievance Committee and have one carry over issue from last year. They will be looking at how Course and Teaching Ratings (CTRs) operate for students who are taking distance learning type courses.
5. Eugene Maccarrone reported for the Planning and Budget Committee that they will be meeting shortly to elect a new chair since William Nirode has become chair of his department and can no longer serve on the Senate

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.