A

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 2016

THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Amalathas, Balson, Caniano, Curtiss, Dippel, Dougharty, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Firestone, Fritz, Gennarelli, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Goodman, Lopez, Maccarrone, Mazzocco, Persky, Pickering, Ramirez, Sample, Santangelo, Shapiro, Shepherd, Silver, Simmons, Wallace

Absent: Basile, Dumas, Esteban, Herold, Hoovert, Miller, Munoz, Sorrentino,

Guests: Pertuz

The November 14, 2016 minutes were approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Gail Simmons

Provost Simmons convened the meeting by reporting that commencement will be held on Wednesday, December 21.

The Provost reported that for a third month, grant applications are at an all-time high.

The Provost also reported that the following events were sponsored by her office:

- The Provost’s Scholars Event which is in celebration of students who have achieved a 4.0 grade point average in the previous semester.
- The Peer-Teacher Event, which celebrates the work of students who have acted as peer teachers

The Provost reported that her office is in the process of putting together the Steering Committee for Middle States, identifying people who are interested in serving. Terri Shapiro, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, just returned from the Annual Middle States Conference in Philadelphia, PA. More information and detail about this process will be given starting in the spring semester.

The Provost reported that it had been her intention to have a final presentation by the Library Task Force before the semester ended, to talk about the nearly final design for the space on the third floor of Axinn Library. Unfortunately, it fell behind schedule because of the debate, so a presentation will be given as soon as possible in the spring semester. She reported that the Writing Studies Program, which has a representative on the task force have shown interest in involvement of the design and possibly holding some regular hours, as well as holding some Writing Center Events in the new space. The Senate Office and conference room will also be moving to the 4th Floor to a newly renovated
space. She thanks Howard Graves, Senior Assistant Dean of Library Systems, who has been very helpful finding space for offices to be moved around.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Eugene Maccarrone

Prof. Maccarrone reported that the Speaker of the Faculty held a special informational faculty meeting on Tuesday, November 22 regarding the mid-semester grade policy. An additional meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1.

Prof. Maccarrone reported that at the last Full Faculty meeting on November 28:

- the mid semester grade proposal was sent back to the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
- revisions to the Repeat Course Policy were passed but were sent back to committee by the Provost’s Office
- 2017-2018 Academic Calendars were passed
- 2018-2019 Academic Calendars were passed

Prof. Maccarrone reported that there is a Board of Trustees meeting being held on Tuesday, December 13.

III. New Business

There was no new business.

IV. Committee Reports

A. George Giuliani, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee reported that the committee has nothing further to report as the committee will meet on Wednesday. He also reported that the committee will meet in January to review Special Leave Applications.

B. Debra Goodman, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee completed its work on the issue of overlapping credits in graduate degrees if students received their first degree at Hofstra and came up with a potential proposal after looking at a number of plans of study as well as talking with Graduate Directors. The proposal basically eliminated advance certificates from limits on overlapping credits. An item was added that under advisement of the program director, coursework taken for a prior graduate degree may be applied to additional
master’s or certificate degrees. In the case of master’s degrees, at least 50% of coursework must be unique. The proposal was brought to the Senate Executive Committee and it was decided to reach out to the Deans from the various schools and colleges for input before presenting it to the Senate.

C. There was no report from the Student Affairs Committee.

D. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee finalized wording on the Departmental Honors designation and its appearance on transcripts. He also reported that the issue of the Repeat Course Policy and Grade Point Average (GPA) exception in the context of acts of academics dishonesty was passed by the Senate and full faculty but sent back to the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee by the Provost’s Office for further review. The committee discussed the item and moved forward with a new proposal which will be brought to the Senate Executive Committee in the spring semester. Prof Silver also reported that the mid semester grade proposal was sent back to committee by the faculty. The committee began to reconsider the proposal. He reported that there is an important role to be played by students to solicit further information while we contemplate the formulation of the revised policy. The Student Affairs Committee will issue a survey to students and will work jointly with the UAAC on this issue.

E. Prof. Caniano, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee reported that the committee met on November 7 with Robert Juckiewicz, Vice President for Information Technology, who gave a presentation to the committee. Over the next ten years, Hofstra will be moving towards a complete “cloud computing” environment. On December 5th, the committee met with Joseph Barkwill, Vice President for Facilities and Operations who updated the committee on various renovation projects across campus.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.