MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, APRIL 17, 2017

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

Present:  Amalathas, Balson, Basile, Caniano, Curtiss, Dippel, Elkins-Abuhoff, Filippi, Fritz, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Goodman, Hoovert, Houck, Lopez, Maccarrone, Mazzocco, Miller, Persky, Pickering, Ramirez, Santangelo, Shapiro, Simmons, Sorrentino, Wallace

Absent:  Chun, Dougharty, Eads, Firestone, Herold, Munoz, Sample, Shepherd

The March 13, 2017 minutes were approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Gail Simmons

Provost Simmons convened the meeting by reporting:

- part of the new state budget is a program that nominally promises “free” college tuition to students within New York State, from moderate income families. She plans to circulate links to a couple of recent articles that give a fair amount of detail about what’s involved. The university is taking a close and hard look at what this is going to mean for both our current admissions season and going forward, what it will mean for Hofstra.
- Terri Shapiro, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and Stephanie Bushey, Vice President for Institutional Research and Assessment, have been meeting with each of the chapter groups for Middle States as well as with the Steering Committee.
- there has been a fantastic level of interest and support in Hofstra’s participation in the New York City March for Science being held on Saturday, April 22.
- congratulated the Occupational Therapy program in the School of Health Professions and Human Services which passed its initial accreditation visit, and was accredited for the maximum five years for an initial accreditation.
- the Campus Climate survey has been completed and the results are being analyzed. We received a decent response rate across the board. She particularly thanks Gloria Hoovert, and Local 153 which participated greatly.
- we are in final rounds of the search for a new dean for the Maurice A. Deane School of Law.
- a party is scheduled in honor of Dean Firestone as he steps back to the faculty, on Wednesday, May 17 at 4 p.m. in the University Club. A campus-wide invitation will be circulated.
II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Eugene Maccarrone

Prof. Maccarrone reported that at the last Senate Executive Committee meeting, the committee considered a request for review of Hofstra’s mass transit options with emphasize on how the local NICE bus (6X) route stops, particularly in the summer time. It was given to the Planning and Budget Committee who may hand it over to the Parking & Transportation Task Force.

The committee is also revisiting a pre-approved University Senate Budget Allocations Request Policy which came out of the Student Affairs Committee. This policy was created to support student groups and allocate funds which may not be covered under the Student Government Association (SGA.)

Prof. Maccarrone reported that both the Ad-hoc committee on Academic Calendar and Ad-hoc committee to review and update Governance Documents continuing to meet and are making progress.

Prof. Maccarrone reported that Student Access Services (SAS) has three subcommittees:
- student experience
- academic experience
- facilities and physical space

These subcommittees continue to meet.

Commencement is schedule for Sunday, May 21. The Senate has been working with the Office of Students Affairs, as well as the Physical Plant Office to try and enhance for all attendees at commencement, with better signage and some efforts at “shepherding” students, families and faculty who want to meet from the arena over to the Physical Fitness area in a way that is a bit more user friendly. He, along with William Caniano, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, will meet with W. Houston Dougharty, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Joseph Barkwill, Vice President for Facilities and Operations regarding this.

Prof. Maccarrone also reported that the Office of Student Affairs is hosting Emmy-award winning reporter and anchor of PBS NewsHour Weekend, Hari Sreenivasan, today, Monday, April 17 at 4:20 p.m. as part of Hofstra’s Seeking Purpose series. The event will take place in the newly renovated Greenhouse of the Student Center.
Prof. Maccarrone reported that Maureen Houck, from the Hofstra Northwell School of Graduate Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, will be replacing Mary Ann Dumas as senator.

A discussion followed about the ad-hoc calendar committee and the possibility of publishing all religious holidays. Prof. Maccarrone advises anyone who has concerns or suggestions about the calendar to contact Craig Burnett, a senator at-large on the Planning and Budget Committee, who is chairing the ad-hoc committee.

**Action Items**

1. Prof. Maccarrone presented for action the revisions to Athletic Policy Committee bylaws. This item was brought to the Senate at its last meeting but there was a suggestion that due to NCAA discussions five or six years ago, we should add annual to point #6. The committee considered the suggestions and made the amendments. The item was passed unanimously.

**III. New Business**

Diane Persky, reported on an interesting article she read about international student names. The article states that “if a student is given a nickname because the students name is too difficult to pronounce, or you are trying to Americanize his name, this can be construed as evidence of discrimination or harassment.” She feels we should all be aware of this because of Hofstra’s large international student populations and the sensitivities that go along with it. A brief discussion followed. Provost Simmons reported that this could be an item that could be discussed during new faculty orientation, as well as when we have various workshops for faculty about topics of dealing with sensitive issues.

**IV. Committee Reports**

A. George Giuliani, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee reported that the committee approved revisions to Faculty Policy Series #10 - Examinations, Final Grades, and Student Absences, which came to them from the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee. The committee also spent a good amount of time discussing the Adjunct Teacher of the Year award to which they made a final recommendation to the Provost’s Office in terms of what they felt would be a strong eligibility criteria. Prof. Giuliani gave a special thanks to Donna Balson, who put this initiative in motion. The committee also started discussing Course and Teacher Ratings (CTR) evaluations and looking to do a broad review of how we do CTRs, the purpose of them, in particular with Distance
Learning Classes, relative to hybrid classes, relative to brick and mortar classes. Prof. Giuliani also reported that the FAC will be rescheduling its May 5 to May 1 in order to take a look at the Mid semester Advisory Proposal.

B. Debra Goodman, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee started looking at the Basic Regulations Governing Graduate Programs located in the Graduate Bulletin. They identified a number of things that required clarification.

C. Bianca Pickering, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that on Thursday, a couple of student leaders on campus will be meeting with Karen O’Callaghan, Director of Public Safety, as well as Sofia Pertuz, Dean of Students to discuss bridging the relations between Public Safety and students. The goal is to hold a larger event where all Hofstra students will be invited to meet with Public Safety staff. Ms. Pickering also reported that student senate elections will be held from April 25-April 27.

D. Paul Fritz, interim chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee made revisions to Faculty Policy Series #10 - Examinations, Final Grades, and Student Absences to make the deadline for final grades consistent with the new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The committee also discussed the Mid semester Advisory Proposal which should come to the Senate at its next week. The committee, in consultation with the Student Affairs Committee, conducted a survey trying to assess their feelings about receiving mid semester advisory in different forms.

E. William Caniano, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, reported that the committee Will meet with Provost Simmons on April 19.

V. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 3:36p.m.