

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, OCTOBER 10, 2011
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Bass, Berliner, Bhogal, Brown, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Fritz, Gambord, Gennarelli, Giuliani, Glasser, Hewitt, Johnson, Kamberova, Lightfoot, Lopez, Macy, Meredith, Miller, Papper, Sample, Sarno, Schmelkin, Venuti, Zuniga

Absent: Balson, Davidow, Finnegan, Firestone, Giebel, Jacobi, Moghadam, Pillaipakkamnatt

Guests: Frisina

The minutes of the September 12, 2011 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that the Fall Festival held on September 23 through September 25th was extremely successful with a great turn out. This is its second year and it has become a wonderful tradition to Hofstra.

The Provost announcing that the Hofstra University will name its law school the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University to honor a distinguished alumnus with a unique, 30-year commitment to Hofstra. Recently, Deane has made a \$20 million gift for the naming which is the largest gift in the history of Hofstra University. This is also the 40th anniversary of the law school. Maurice Deane came after a successful business career and graduated first in his class. He was an extraordinary student and has been extremely generous to the law school throughout the years in addition to bring a great role model and very accomplished individual.

Provost Berliner reported that over the summer, we lost two of our finest faculty members. Dana Brand, Professor of English and Vince Brown, Professor of Psychology. Both professors are extraordinarily talented faculty members in terms of teaching & scholarship.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Stuart Bass

Action Items

1. Prof. Bass presented for action the recommended resolution regarding the traffic signal at the juncture of California Avenue and CV Starr Hall. Prof. Venuti, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee reported that the committee along with Etana Jacobi, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, and met with Karen O'Callahan, Director of Public Safety, to discuss the issue. Since this is a town road, and not a Hofstra road, the only way to have a traffic signal installed is to take the issue up with the Town of Hempstead. They have been discussing this safety issue for a number of years and feel with the significant increase in pedestrian traffic at the crossing on California Avenue at Weller and CV Starr Halls, it creates a strong possibility of an accident occurring at the crossing. The committee suggests that the University petition the appropriate offices to undertake an analysis of this problem and request local officials approve the installation of a traffic signal. A discussion followed and the item was passed unanimously.

Information Items

2. Prof. Bass presented for information the preliminary report of the Task Force on Integrity and Responsibility. This is a critical document and first major step in terms of addressing issues of academic dishonesty and integrity on campus. This task force was co-chair by Dean Warren Frisina, Assistant Dean Barbara Bohannon, Vice President Sandra Johnson and Prof. Susan Martin. Dean

Frisina reported that this has been the product of about two years' worth of conversations on the task force. They began by researching into what both peer and aspirational institutions have done, and then went into a close examination of what the Hofstra community thinks. The survey response rate was quite high giving the task force concrete evidence that academic integrity is an issue at every institution in the country but not an out of control issue. In general, Hofstra's circumstances regarding academic integrity are consistent with what has been found on most other campuses of its size and type. In an effort to extend and deepen the commitments outlined in the P.R.I.D.E. Principles, the Task Force on Integrity and Ethics is recommending that Hofstra faculty and students adopt an Honor Code. Senior Vice Provost Schmelkin reported that depending on how this plays out, in terms of the actual implementation and policies, it will have an impact on existing policies (such as Faculty Policy Series 11 and 11G,) and will have to be taken into account. A discussion followed. Prof. Bass reported that this item will be brought up as an information item at the next faculty meeting and then brought back to the Senate for a vote to be adopted as a formal policy. A discussion followed.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Venuti reported that a major thing that came out of the committee was the formation of a special task force on parking and transportation. Both Prof. Venuti and Etana Jacobi, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, met with Karen O'Callahan, Director of Public Safety, and Peter Libman, Dean of Students to discuss the parking problem on campus and agreed that it would be best to move forward with a fully-fledged examination of the demands on parking, availability of parking and ways of getting additional parking spaces on campus. Representatives for the task force are coming from the Planning and Budget Committee, the Student Affairs Committee, Public Safety, Facilities and Operations, Off Campus Living & Commuting Students, Residence Life and the Provost's Office. Prof. Venuti also reported that the committee will continue to work on the Smoking Ban. The university already has a 20-foot no smoking buffer zone, but there have been problems with trying to enforce it. There are ash trays right outside of buildings which gives a mixed message of whether or not it is alright to smoke outside of buildings. Also, she reported that public safety does not want to have the enforcement role, as they want to have more of a collegial and protective role with the students, and not an adversarial role. The committee believes that second hand smoke is a safety hazard and therefore public safety should be enforcing this ban. A discussion followed. Provost Berliner reported that ultimately it is President Rabinowitz's decision in terms of recommendations and the committee should go forward with their terms. Stuart Bass suggested that the committee recommend the ban and let negotiations go further on what the fines and penalties will be if a person is found violating this ban. Further discussion followed on creating a smoking cessation program. Jessica Eads reported that there is already a cessation program set in place.

B. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Giuliani reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee addressed three issues at their last meeting. The Faculty Affairs Committee unanimously supported making the recommendation to the Provost's Office to grant Emeritus status to Roy Simon from the Law School. The committee also discussed the idea of evaluating Deans and how it would be done and who would be monitoring it. They discussed the idea of putting all materials on Black Board and that he spoke to Amy Masnick, of the Psychology Department, because they have done something similar. Prof. Giuliani reported that the committee will be creating guidelines and some suggested templates, and Paul Carson, the Instructional Designer, will be attending the next meeting. A discussion followed.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Fritz reported that the committee has made some progress on the issue of the Academic Records Committee. Since the Dean of Academic Records has retired, we need to change the bylaws to reflect who will actually be chairing the committee. The committee will also discuss membership issues as well changing the name from the Academic Records Committee to The Academic Review Committee. The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee had a productive discussion on the role of this particular committee and the importance of it. Prof. Fritz gave a brief explanation of the role of this committee which is to assure that academic standards are maintained in the areas of readmission, grading, probation, retention, separation and graduation and, after study.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee will continue their discussion on how international and domestic students of color experience Hofstra. Since their last meeting, Prof. Lightfoot has contacted Susan Martin, Director of the Center for Teaching and Scholarly Excellence, who has agreed to sponsor some Graduate Academic Affairs Committee activity regarding its work on professional development series for faculty. The goal of these series is to increase cross-cultural and multi-cultural awareness, which the committee hopes to be an ongoing series of events in lieu of mandatory faculty participation. In addition, the Diversity Task Force has agreed to sponsor some events.

E. Student Affairs Committee

Kayln Gambord reported that the Student Affairs Committee has created two subcommittees. One will be looking at the Hofstra Shuttle, possibly adding an additional mid-week shuttle and how to improve service. The other committee will focus on the issue of smoking on campus including the smoking ban and the possibility of adding more signage across campus. Ms. Gambord also reported that the Student Affairs Committee also discussed how much influence the committee could have over Lackmann policies and resources to get more student input using virtual and physical suggestion boxes as well as surveys. They will continue to work closely with the Student Government Association on student satisfaction. A discussion followed about food prices on campus.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55p.m.