

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, OCTOBER 12, 2015
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Basile, Balson, Curtiss, Davidow, Dougharty, Dresner, Dumas, Eads, Elston, Fincham, Firestone, Gallagher, Gennarelli, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Jernigan, Laggan, Lopez, Maccarrone, Moskow, Munoz, Nirode, Persky, Sampetro, Sarcka, Silver, Simmons, Sorrentino, Wallace
Absent: Elsey, Glasser, Goodman, Guarino, Herold, Hoover, Miller, Pickering, Sample,
Guests: Bass, Mazzocco

The minutes of the September 21st, 2015 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Gail Simmons

The Provost convened the meeting by reporting on the American Council on Education (ACE) Internationalization Laboratory. Dr. Barbara Hill from ACE will be visiting campus this Thursday, October 15th and Friday, October 16th, meeting with among others, the President, Deans and the members of the Task Force. The membership of the Task Force is as follows:

- Terri Shapiro, Task Force Chair and Associate Provost for Accreditation and Outcomes Assessment
- Kara Alaimo, from the Dept. of Journalism, Media Studies, and Public Relations
- Stavroula Boutsis, Dean of International Recruitment for Enrollment Management
- Dwight Brooks, Vice Dean, Lawrence Herbert School of Communication
- Jenn Christ, Director, International Student Affairs
- Jason Davidow, from the Dept. of Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences
- Neil Donahue, Senior Associate Dean of Honors College and Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Research and Fellowship
- Brenda Elsey, from the Dept. of History
- Maria Fixell, Assistant Dean for Study Abroad Programs
- Tatiana Gordon, from the Dept. of Teacher Education
- Manuel Miranda, from the Dept. of Engineering
- Steven Richman, Senior Director of Global Initiatives, Maurice A. Deane School of Law
- Jennifer Saleta, Assistant Dean of Administration, Graduate School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies
- Anthony Santella, from the Dept. of Health Professions
- Kaushik Sengupta, from the Dept. of Management and Entrepreneurship
- Daniel Tinkelman, from the Dept. of Accounting, Taxation, and Legal Studies in Business

She emphasized that this task force will be operating very openly and will be calling to form subcommittees of faculty, staff and students, and reported that anyone interested in making a contribution to thinking about the future of Internationalization at Hofstra will have the opportunity to do so going forward.

The Provost thanked Jason Davidow, from the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences and Paul Fritz from the Department of Political Science who co-chaired the International Students Task Force. She met with them to review the results of an investigation and discussion about the situation with international students on our campus. This initiative was started two years ago at the request of the University Senate. The task force presented its report to Provost Simmons and will be presented to the Senate Executive Committee at its next meeting.

The Provost reported that she had hoped to present the membership on the Task Force on the Library but the Library is still conducting elections which close at 5pm this afternoon. She will report on who will serve on this task force as well as how it will proceed at the next Senate meeting in November. To support the work of the Task Force on the Library, President Rabinowitz has authorized \$20,000.00 for a complete collection analysis which is something that has needed to be done in the library for a number of years. The President has also authorized an additional \$15,000.00 for the purchase of digital access for the Hofstra Dissertation and Theses that is currently kept in hardcopy. As a result of this purchase, we will be able to digitize them and they will be accessible to people outside the university, who can search through our catalogue. It also means we will not keep duplicate copies in hardcopy. In addition, the Provost's Office is paying \$6000.00 to a consulting firm who specialty is designing rearrangements of libraries, where libraries are either changing the size of the configuration of their collections or changing the use of space. In addition to the intelligence of the library faculty and staff, and the faculty at-large, there will be professional help for the work of this committee.

The Provost reported on changes being made on how the university deals with continuing efforts to improve student retention at the undergraduate level. Many faculty members were involved in a university-wide Task Force on Student Retention and Student Experience. It was an extremely large group of people, who have been having discussions on student retention for quite a number of years. Looking at data, school by school there are some dramatic differences in retention and some are characteristic of the kinds of students who come to that particular school with specific goals and focus. Rather than continue to convene this very large task force, the administration is asking each of the schools to convene a school-based task force, headed by whoever is most involved with working with undergraduates (Assistant Dean, Associate Dean, Vice Dean, etc.). These school-based task forces will include faculty as well as chairs and may invite some students to be involved as well. The heads of those task forces along with other key representatives of governance will be part of what will now be a university-wide steering committee which will meet less often, but will serve to pull the information from those school-based task forces together and make sure that the task forces are talking to one another about what they are finding and what might be worthwhile to move us forward. This will be tried for a year to see what the result is. A discussion followed.

Donna Balson, an adjunct senator, reported on a concern by the Music Department, when a student or his/her professors find out over time that he/she is not a good fit for a career in music performance or teaching, the professors work hard to help the student stay at Hofstra but find a different concentration of study. The concern is that when this happens, it looks like the department is losing numbers, when actually it is working not only for the best interests of the student, but also to retain him/her at Hofstra.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Eugene Maccarrone

Information Items

1. Prof. Maccarrone reported that on October 1st, Robert Juckiewicz, Vice President for Information Technology gave a presentation to the full faculty regarding the university's information security initiatives. Caroline Schreiner will create minutes for this meeting.
2. Prof. Maccarrone presented for information, that he will be meeting with Karen O'Callaghan, Director of Public Safety, Joseph Barkwill, Vice President for Facilities and Operations, to discuss smoking on campus with regard to what we can do to better enforce the South Campus Smoking Ban.
3. Prof. Maccarrone reported that a number of representatives from the Senate met on October 7th, with W. Houston Dougharty, Vice President for Student Affairs, and representatives from Student

Access Services and the Senate regarding questions on the Sonocent note taking system. There will be a hiatus on using the system going into the spring semester, at least until such time as we can begin to get all questions and concerns addressed.

4. Prof. Maccarrone reported that the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar will be an action item at the upcoming October 19, 2015 Full Faculty meeting. President Rabinowitz will also be addressing the faculty.

III. New Business

Diane Persky, adjunct senator from the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, reported that she would like to request that the senate initiate some conversation regarding campus security. She is particularly concerned about recent shootings on other college campuses. Prof. Nirode reported that this issue was brought up at the Planning and Budget Committee and they have started to hold discussions with Vice President Barkwill and Director O'Callaghan. Prof. Giuliani reported that the Senate did hold a discussion and passed a Weapons Policy about two years ago. The minutes of that meeting will be circulated. A discussion followed about lockdowns and procedures. The Provost suggested that the Senate invite Vice President Barkwill and Director O'Callaghan to the next Senate meeting.

Dennis Mazzocco, Chapter President of the AAUP, reported that the union is concerned with decisions made over the summer which shared governance was not a participant.

- Decision on replacing the Dean of the Library with a Director
 - Other competing schools in the area all have deans
- School of Education will no longer have a dean as of next year, and will no longer be a school, but absorbed into HCLAS.
- The formation of the new Kalikow Center which includes four academic departments including one that was formally in the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication.

Prof. Mazzocco is asking the leadership of the Senate to renew its commitment to transparency and the integrity of shared governance at Hofstra University.

IV. Committee Reports

A. George Giuliani, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee reported that that he, along with Prof. Silver, Prof. Wallace, Vice President Dougharty, Jean Peden-Christodoulou, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, and Julie Yindra, Director for Student Access Services on Wednesday to discuss the Sonocent Audio Note Taking System. He also reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee will look into the draft of a policy formed by the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee regarding mid-semester grades. Prof. Giuliani reported that the committee discussed concerns with the process of the School of Education going over to HCLAS and the transparency issue as well as the idea of the possible "switch" from Hagedorn Hall to Weller Hall.

The committee also discussed an issue raised about the Special Committee on Athletic Policy and the item was brought to and discussed at the Senate Executive Committee meeting.

The committee discussed voting rights and privileges as well as the Academic Dean appointed to the Faculty Affairs Committee as opposed to a different committee.

A discussion followed about the note taking system.

- B. Jason Davidow, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee had its first meeting and finished discussing Faculty Policy Series #36 – The Use of Human Subjects in Research, which deals with the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and its procedures. The committee made some recommendations which will be sent to the Senate Executive Committee shortly. He reported that Provost Simmons is currently reviewing them. The committee also discussed graduate directors and concerns with requests to increase their enrollment after the application procedures were over, some people got an email in June, July and August asking to increase the number of incoming graduate students and some were concerned about what that means as far as their programs and accreditation. The committee also discussed ways to perhaps move scholarships into fellowships and what those terms actually mean by themselves and what is allowed with scholarship money, etc.
- C. Jared Sarcka, chair of the Student Affairs Committee reported that the committee will sponsor a table along with the Resident Student Association (RSA), in the Student Center on Wednesday, October 14. This is to survey residential students on satisfaction, so the committee may form a concrete agenda catered to student interest and concern. The committee will also work on creating an “open forum” to discuss public safety issues such as the shuttle to Mineola, customer service, how a student can file a complaint, the ways Notice to Appear (NTAs) are given out, and other type of issues the students would like to discuss with Director O’Callaghan. Gabriella Munoz, student senator, elaborated on the student open forum about public safety. Another initiative the committee is working on, led by student senator Jeremy Moskow, is creating weekend events that can act as alternatives to the bars. Chairperson Sarcka also reported that the committee is discussing ways to get involved in Student Appreciation Week, which is November 16th – November 20th. They would like to get faculty involved as well.
- D. William Nirode, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, reported that the committee has also been discussing the shuttle bus to the Mineola train station and will involve the Student Affairs Committee on this discussion. The committee also discussed the smoking ban, and whether or not to move towards a full, smoke free campus, as well as overall campus safety.
- E. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that as previously stated in the Faculty Affairs Committee report, the committee has completed a draft of a policy regarding mid-semester grades and it shall move forward to the FAC for review. He also reported that the committee is reviewing its bylaws but has put it on hold barring the discussion on where the Academic Dean senator is appointed. As of now, the UAAC bylaws state the dean’s representative is appoint to its committee although the Senate Executive Committee may nominate the academic dean for a one-year membership on a standing committee other than the UAAC. The committee will also continue to work on the issues of Departmental Honors and reporting on transcripts. Prof. Silver reported that he will be meeting with Provost Simmons and bring her up to date on this issue. In addition, the committee will continue to look at the effectiveness of UNIV 001 course that is mandatory for students who fall under academic probation. The committee is also discussing the note-taking issue.

Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management, reported that today was the Admissions Department’s first recruitment event on campus and reminds everyone that if they see prospective students and family members holding blue bags (which are given out by the department,) to make an effort to say hello and/or introduce yourself.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm