

## **MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, OCTOBER 14, 2019**

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

Present: Abraham, Berliner, Caniano, Chun, Ciani, Craig, Crofts, Dippel, Dimes, Dougharty, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Ghorayeb, Harb, Harley, Heiss, Huang, Lopez, Lotier, McElroy, Schlegel, Seirup, Shapiro, Tarson, Tompkins

Absent: Boston-Hill, Burnett, Cassar, Eliot, Hernandez, Hirsch, Houck, Miller, Ortiz-Jimenez, Rose, Wallace

Guests: Hom, Ploran, St. Leger

**I.** The September 9, 2019 minutes were unanimously approved.

### **II. Report of the Provost, Provost, Herman Berliner**

The Provost convened the meeting taking place in the IdeaHub by reporting that he has asked Sharon Goldsmith, Vice Dean for Entrepreneurship & Business Development, to attend today's meeting and give the Senate an update on what happens there. Vice Dean Goldsmith reported that at the Center for Entrepreneurship has been established since 2015 to assist students, faculty, staff and local entrepreneurs to improve their entrepreneurial skills sets. Some of the programs include the Digital Remedy Venture Challenge which is a series long business plan competition starting in the fall and made possible through the donation of a Hofstra Board Trustee and CEO of Digital Remedy, Mike Seiman. Some of the other programs focused on students include a student-run record label: Unispan Records which has twenty spots to fill every year. Also included are programs such as MakerPark, a fun way for students to get exposed to maker space technology. The Center works with Educational Technology and Engineering Education and students can stop by to try out the latest maker technology, including robots, virtual reality headsets, 3D printers, arts & crafts projects, games, and more. The center is also hosting a 3D workshop this year, partnering with our Educational Technology office. There is also an Entrepreneur-in-Residence program, and programs that support our local communities such as Ascend Long Island, led by the University of Washington's Consulting and Business Development Center and funded by JP Morgan Chase. The center just finished this year's Healthcare Entrepreneurship Community Challenge, where they partnered with the Hofstra School of Health Professions and Human Services, the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Northwell Ventures, Digital Remedy, the Office of

the Provost, and the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, to solve community health issues. This year's topic was about creating wellness, and the winners received \$60,000.00 in prize money that was sponsored by Northwell Health.

The Provost reported that Fall Festival was a huge success and the spirit on campus was outstanding. He congratulated W. Houston Dougharty, Vice President for Student Affairs, and the Office of Student Affairs, for it really gave a very positive feeling in terms of the whole community.

The Provost reported that last week there was a major Sikh Conference: *Guru Nanak's Ek-Anek Vision: Beyond Relativist and Plural Diversities of the Musical Word*, to celebrate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak. This was the 12<sup>th</sup> Sikh conference on our campus since the establishment of the Chair in Sikh Studies and then subsequently, the Chair in Sikh Musicology.

The Provost reported that we've had two indigenous people's day events. One sponsored by the Center for Civic Engagement and the other sponsored by the Center for "Race," Culture and Social Justice. There was also a program on understanding Gandhi's legacy. In the School of Health Professions and Human Services, there was a major program on the State of HOPE (Healthcare Opportunities and Policy Exchange), moderated by former New York State Senator Kemp Hannon. In addition, also in the area of health, the third annual Zarb School of Business Distinguished Lecture was delivered by Michael Dowling, president and CEO of Northwell Health

### **III. Report of the Senate Executive Committee, William Caniano**

Prof. Caniano reported that Jayne Ellinger, has stepped as senator representing the School of Health Professions and Human Services, and Gioia Ciani, from the Department of Occupational Therapy will be taking her place until the end of the spring semester. After which an election will be held for the remainder of Prof. Ellinger's term which ends in 2021.

#### **Action Items**

1. Prof. Caniano presented for action, the revisions to the Environmental Safety Committee bylaws. Wendy Hom, the Environmental Health and Safety Officer, reported that she felt

that the way the bylaws are written is not reflective of what the committee does. She proposed changing “Analyzes production of potentially hazardous waste materials. Proposes policies for dealing with such materials.” to: “Reviews and monitors the effectiveness of Hofstra’s Chemical Hygiene Plan and recommends revisions and updates as necessary. She also proposes policies for best practices in generation, handling, storage, and disposal of potentially hazardous and non-hazardous materials.” Other revisions included changing “Chemical Hygiene Officer” to “Environmental Health and Safety Officer,” addition of a representative from the department of Occupational Therapy, and elimination of the member from the School of Law. In addition, lab directors of various departments have traditionally been attending the meetings, they were added as Ex-Officio members. The Associate General Counsel was also added to act as an adviser to this committee. Prof. Caniano reported that Kathleen Wallace, chair of the Chairs’ Caucus, who could not attend today’s meeting suggested to add in addition to faculty representatives from the named departments, a faculty senator-at-large. She thinks it would be helpful to have that broader representation from a non-science or other chemical use department. Prof. Caniano reported that he felt it is better that there would be more reporting from the committee, rather than adding more members. There was a discussion whether to include the School of Medicine since they are a partnership between Hofstra and Northwell and in a lot of cases, they have their own individuals handling areas that the rest of the university would handle differently. Prof. Schlegel will follow up. Prof Chun reported that there should be a representative from the Radio, Television, Film department on the committee since the department deals with set designs similar to the Drama and Dance department. The department was added as a friendly amendment. A question was asked about the Creative Arts Therapy department, since they work with art materials. Ms. Hom said they would have to see what kind of materials the department works with and will follow up.

2. Prof. Caniano presented for action revisions to Faculty Statute VII. B. 1. – Ex-Officio members of the University Senate. The revision was to add the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer as an ex-officio member. There was a discussion about the President of the Graduate Student Organization (GSO), since this organization no longer exists. Caroline Schreiner reported that this organization was created back in 2005 and fizzled out within a

few years. It was decided that since the organization no longer exists, the member will be eliminated from the statute. The item passed as amended.

#### **IV. New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

A. There was no report from the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee.

B. Caroline Schreiner reported for Rina Hirsch, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee who sent the following report:

- The FAC met last on September 18, 2019.
  - The committee unanimously approved a revision to Faculty Statute VII. in the Senate by-laws to include Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer as an Ex-officio Member of the Senate.
    - On a related note, this statute also mentions the President of the Graduate Student Organization, which is not currently active. Caroline is looking into whether there is interest in reviving this organization so that we can fill this Ex-Officio seat.
  - While the committee unanimously approved striking FPS #28 on Retirement from the record, upon discussion with Provost Berliner at our last SEC meeting, the policy will have to come back to our committee for a closer look because some items may not be covered by the CBA as originally thought.
  - The committee discussed the “Suggested Minor Modification to Existing Class Schedule,” focusing in particular on the impact of the “Rules” section of the Policies of the Class Schedule.
  - The committee started to discuss potential changes to the existing CTR instrument for use in online and hybrid courses. The committee will continue its discussions at our next meeting.
  - The topic of anti-Semitism on campus was brought up and the committee decided to invite our Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, Cornell Craig, to speak to the

committee about what can be done to develop faculty sensitivity to our Jewish population and other groups on campus (e.g., politically conservative students).

- An email has been sent out to the University's DPC Chairs that highlights the importance of considering the predatory publication ecosystem when considering faculty for reappointments as well as promotion and tenure.
- The next FAC meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2019 and hope to address the aforementioned items as well as:
  - Discuss adding CTR criteria to evaluate instructor's diversity initiatives in curriculum and/or support for an inclusive classroom environment.
  - Discuss changing the title of the Secretary of the Faculty to Deputy Speaker and changing the responsibilities of the position with the goal of serving in an outreach capacity and formalizing the reporting apparatus for special committees.
  - Discuss having faculty pictures automatically associated with Outlook/Blackboard accounts with an opt-out option.

C. David Harb, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that he and Caroline Schreiner are still recruiting members to serve on the committee and have received emails from fifteen students who may be interested. All will be invited to tomorrow's meeting. Initiatives the committee will be looking into include creating a 100% smoke-free campus. He requests if anyone has opinions on this to please email him at [SAC\\_Chair@pride.hofstra.edu](mailto:SAC_Chair@pride.hofstra.edu) or contact to Caroline Schreiner and she will put you in touch with him. Part of this initiative is to develop enforcement policies, and to create cessation and treatment policies for students. Mr. Harb has met with President and Vice President of the Student Government Association (SGA) and they will collaborate on a survey to send out to students during Student Appreciate Week. Other ideas the committee is looking at is to increase the frequency of the Mineola Train Station/Hofstra Shuttle and looking into converting from Blackboard to Canvas software. Mr. Harb clarified that the smoking ban will include e-cigarettes. Prof. Dippel reported there has been an issue with students using e-cigarettes on south campus, where smoking is already banned. Prof. Caniano said he will advise the Planning and Budget Committee to investigate this.

- D. Caroline Schreiner reported for Craig Burnett, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, that the committee: has not met since the last Senate meeting. Their next meeting is on Monday at 9:05. The committee continues to investigate ways in which we can increase connections between Residential Life and faculty. Prof. Burnett has met with several individuals within Residential Life (including W. Houston Dougharty, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Gabrielle St. Leger, Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs) last week to help advance these discussions. The committee will spend most of its meeting next week working on these issues, with both Dean St. Leger and Vice President Dougharty confirmed to attend.
- E. Prof. Lopez reported for Kevin Boston-Hill, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee that the committee has a number of items on their agenda for the year.

## **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.