

**MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, NOVEMBER 14, 2011**  
**THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY**

Present: Balson, Bass, Bergemann, Berliner, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Finnegan, Firestone, Fritz, Gennarelli, Giebel, Giuliani, Glasser, Jacobi, Kamberova, Lightfoot, Lopez, Macy, Miller, Papper B, Papper C, Sample, Schmelkin, Venuti, Zuniga

Absent: Bhogal, Brown, Gambord, Hewitt, Johnson, Meredith, Moghadam, Pillaipakkamnatt, Sarno,

Guests: Nirode

The minutes of the October 10, 2011 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

**I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner**

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that the Commission on Presidential Debates announced that it had chosen Hofstra University for the site of its October 16, 2012 Presidential Debate, which will be in the “town meeting” format. He commented that not only is this an honor to be selected twice in a row to host a Presidential Debate, but is a great experience for Hofstra’s students. All tickets to the debate will be made available to students only. The President will be watching from simulcast. In addition, there will be a series of programs scheduled leading up to the debate itself. This promises to be an exciting experience.

The Provost reported that last week, the Business Week rankings came out of the top part-time MBA programs in the country with Hofstra ranked 49<sup>th</sup> in the country which is a high and impressive ranking.

The Provost reported that we are working with accreditors coming to campus. Last week the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) visited our campus and as we speak the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET is on campus.

**II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Stuart Bass**

Prof. Bass reported that the standing committees are working on numerous issues which will be summarized during their committee reports. Prof. Bass also reported that he, along with Prof. Venuti, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee will be meeting with Financial Aid as well the director of Public Safety on two issues discussed at a previous meeting and will update the Senate as soon as possible.

**III. Committee Reports**

**A. Planning & Budget Committee**

Chairperson Venuti reported that the Parking Task Force has met twice so far and has become a very productive group. She reported that the committee continues to discuss the possible smoking ban on campus the committee is looking at moving towards a smoking ban but starting with having only designated smoking areas on campus. They are waiting to review the data collected from the Student Government Association before they make a recommendation to the Senate. Prof. Venuti also reported that the committee discussed some issues regarding students and Financial Aid to which she and Prof. Bass, chair of the Senate Executive Committee will follow up on. She also reported that the Academic Computing Committee will be meeting shortly. David Zuniga, president of the Student Government Association gave a brief summary of their results with the Smoking Ban survey. A discussion followed.

#### B. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Giuliani reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee has been discussing evaluations of Deans and how that process might work. He also reported that starting next year, according to the Collective Bargaining Agreement, faculty up for promotion or tenure will have to upload their materials to a Blackboard type of site. The Faculty Affairs Committee has invited Amy Masnick, from the Psychology Department to their next meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> to give the committee an overview on how this works since the Psychology Department has this process already in place. The administration can determine the instructions on how it will be done and then the Faculty Affairs Committee will work on guidelines based on the administrators' instructions. Prof. Giuliani also reported that there is a concern from faculty about being logged out of the network when their computer is inactive for 15 minutes. Prof. Giuliani has reached out to Bob Juckiewicz, Vice President for Information Technology, for a statement to explain why it works this way. Bob Papper reported that he did a survey of all of the chairs on campus on technology issues and problems and through his research on other institutions concluded that this is an industry standard, but not the only standard. A discussion followed. A discussion also followed regarding book orders for courses.

#### C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Fritz reported that the committee is discussing the Academic Records Committee and how it functions. The main task is to revise the bylaws of the committee. They passed a resolution which should be brought to the Senate at the next meeting that include changes such as name of the Committee to the Academic Review Committee, who chairs it, and its representation. They also altered the bylaws to better reflect what the committee does. The committee has also discussed the issue of "surprise assignments" during breaks and will create guidelines for faculty to limit these. This does not include assignments already listed on the syllabus. The committee also discussed the issue of possibly giving students credit for chairing Senate committees.

#### D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee continues working on their plans for creating a professional development series for faculty in addition to an online video archive of graduate students addressing diversity issues and looking for outside expertise to specifically address the faculty on diversity issues. Some of the committee members proposed having a sensitivity to diversity and cross-cultural conferences factored into tenure. The committee is also looking for a graduate student to serve on their committee.

#### E. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Jacobi reported that the Student Affairs Committee is looking at research and how are they determining what community is dealing with and has invited Stephanie Bushey, Vice President for Institutional Research and Assessment, to attend a meeting to report what students needs are and student satisfaction of the university. They will also be looking at Financial Aid and the quality of packages offered to students and how they are treated. She also reported that the Student Affairs Committee will continue its work on the smoking policy as well as issues with student dining.

### **IV. New Business**

There was no new business.

### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35p.m.