

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, NOVEMBER 4, 2013
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present:, Bass, Berliner, Bhogal, Dresner, Eads, Elston, Espinal, Filippi, Fincham, Finnegan, Firestone, Flannery, Fritz, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Glasser, Goodman, Hoovert, Lopez, Lucito, Maccarrone, Sample, Schmelkin, Silver, Thomas, Yohn,

Absent: Angles, Balson, Davidow, Gennarelli, Johnson

Guests: Laggan, Miller

After amending a plethora of typos, the minutes of the October 14th, 2013 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that he normally starts his day by looking at the mention of Hofstra faculty in the press and in the media which he believes helps demonstrate the prominence of Hofstra faculty. Today, the following faculty members were in the press

- Russell Burke, Professor of Biology, was quoted in an article on the intelligence of octopi.
- Monroe Freedman, Professor of Law, was quoted in an article about “Stop and Frisk”
- Joel Evans, Professor of Marketing & International Business, was quoted in an article about retail’s shortened holiday season.

Given the caliber of Hofstra faculty, on almost any day of the week Hofstra faculty are being quoted.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Stuart Bass

Action Items

1. Prof. Bass presented for action a Resolution on Firearms. This policy was recommended by Jennifer Mone, Deputy General Counsel and Equal Rights and Opportunity Officer. Dr. Berliner reported that this was already a policy at the university, but was never put in writing. Senior Vice Provost Schmelkin reported that this is not a reaction to any existing incident, just that we are often asked what the policy is on bringing firearms onto campus. Prof. Silver questioned the reason for allowing pocket knives having blade of less than three inches and why that particular size. Provost Berliner reported that the Office of General Counsel reviewed a number of policies from different universities and the airlines, and that size was most typical. Prof. Giuliani reported that for discipline in public schools it is 2 ½ inches or less. Prof. Bhogal presented an amendment to include the Kirpan (a ceremonial sword worn by followers of the Sikh religion) in the list of knives that are not prohibited. A discussion followed and the following amendments were made:

b) knives, razors, and cutting instruments, other than pocket knives having a folding metal blade of less than three inches;

was changed to:

b) knives, razors, and cutting instruments, other than Kirpans and folding pocket knives having a blade of less than two and a half inches;

It was also amended to include a footnote after “Kirpan” that states:

A Kirpan is an article of faith in the Sikh religion.

The following sentence:

a) firearms and ammunition of any type (rifles, pistols, air guns, pellet guns, bb guns, etc.)

was changed to:

- a) *firearms and ammunition of any type (rifles, pistols, air guns, pellet guns, bb guns, stun guns, Tasers, etc.)*

- d) *martial arts materials*; was removed from prohibited weapons.

A discussion followed about how to enforce this policy and whether or not it may cause a problem of Public Safety searching students and the possibility of racial profiling. Prof. Bass noted that Public Safety officers are not authorized to carry weapons. Prof. Silver requested to hear input from Karen O’Callaghan, Director of Public Safety, before passing the item. Prof. Bass suggested getting the policy in place and then formally requesting Director O’Callaghan to formally address the Senate on this issue, as well as others that are allegedly difficult to enforce. Provost Berliner recommends that the Senate vote on the policy then put it on hold before it’s presented to the full faculty and invite Director O’Callaghan to attend the Senate meeting on December 9th. A motion was made to accept the policy as amended, pending a meeting with Director O’Callaghan. Prof. Goodman moved to table the motion until after the Senate meets with Director O’Callaghan. The motion to table the motion was not approved. The motion to accept the policy as amended; pending a meeting with Director O’Callaghan was passed as amended with 19 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention. The policy will not be moved to the Full Faculty until the Senate speaks with Director O’Callaghan.

- 2. Prof. Bass presented the ID Resolution from the Student Affairs Committee. This is a motion for an endorsement from the University Senate. This policy must ultimately be approved by Sandra Johnson, Vice President for Student Affairs. William Finnegan, chair of the Student Affairs Committee reported that current student identification card (“ID card”) replacement system is a scaled system, where a first replacement for a lost ID card is \$10.00, a second replacement for a lost ID card is \$25.00, and all subsequent replacements for lost ID cards are \$50.00. The committee amended the policy so that all lost student ID cards are to be replaced for a \$25.00 flat fee. This way, a deterrent remains in place, but the system does not overly penalize students who may not be able to afford more than \$25.00 for a replaced ID card. He also reported that Vice President Johnson has already approved the resolution and will be presenting it to President Rabinowitz.

Information Items

- 1. Prof. Bass presented for information a report from the Office of Public Safety which prohibits discrimination. He reported that last semester; the Senate Executive Committee had requested a formal statement from the Office of Public Safety regarding the avoidance of alleged racial profiling and discrimination against various groups on campus. This report will formally be considered at the next Senate Executive Committee meeting and ultimately brought to the Senate and Full Faculty. Prof. Bass publicly thanks Director O’Callaghan for her diligence and proactive efforts to conclude this document. She has been a fierce advocate and supportive of ensuring that no incidents of discrimination or racial profiling have taken place on the Hofstra campus. Prof. Bass reported that if such incidents do occur, they should be reported immediately to Public Safety as well as the Provost’s Office. Oscar Espinal, a student senator, reported that he is concerned about alleged racial profiling on the dormitory side, when it comes to room checks. Provost Berliner reported that it would go through the same process; the student reports the alleged profiling to the Office of Public Safety and to the Provost’s Office. Senator Espinal requested there be a way to inform the students that this is available to them. Senior Vice Provost Schmelkin reported that it may already be in the Guide to Pride. Provost Berliner reported that the Senate will ask Vice President Johnson at the next Senate meeting.

III. New Business

Prof. Ghorayeb reported that usually when students graduate from the School of Engineering they have Senior Design component, often in conjunction with a faculty member. Many times, in order to publish the work, results come in after the student graduates. However, after a student graduates, they lose access to the portal and accounts. Students will receive an alumni account but cannot access the F Drive where most of the data resides. He asks if there is anyway the university can lengthen the amount of time the student can use the system, with the permission of the faculty the student is working with. Provost Berliner reported that perhaps it can be done on an exception basis where the Dean will send forward a recommendation. Senator Espinal reported that perhaps it would be in the university's best interest to extend an alumni's access to the system beyond their graduation, as a perk. Prof. Glasser reported that a lot of the publisher E Journal packages we have excludes the university to allow alumni access. Provost Berliner reported that perhaps the Student Affairs Committee look into increasing the ties to the university on the part of our graduates.

Prof. Silver asked if the university have a policy concerning email usage and privacy/ access to email communications. Provost Berliner will follow up and report back.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Maccarrone reported that the committee has formally approved an outcomes assessments task force, and he has been meeting with selected administrators in order to move the process forward. He asks if anyone on the Senate knows of faculty who would be interested in participating to please let him know.

Prof. Maccarrone also reported that Prof. Ghorayeb has put him in touch with Michael Salatti, an adjunct professor in the Engineering Department, who is willing to have students conduct a Senior Design project to help study our parking issues. The Parking Task Force is also moving along. He also reported that the committee is planning an expanded Town Hall Meeting for the spring. Traditionally, the Town Hall Meeting is held during common hour. The committee is working on an advanced hour and ½, then the central hour and ½ (during common hour) and a follow up meeting afterwards which will lead into a continuum of dialog amongst students, administrators, faculty and staff. The theme of the meeting is "positive outcomes." This way the students will hopefully be more affirmative in delivering their messages to upper administration, as opposed to asking parochial questions about their most recent problems. The committee is also looking to expand it to graduate students as well.

Prof. Maccarrone also reported that he has met with Catherine Hennessy, Vice President for Financial Affairs to discuss correspondence relating to the recent revisions to the Planning and Budget Committee by-laws. They have agreed on a basic mechanism for regular correspondence at least once a semester and any other time there are issues with Planning, Budget, expenditures, revenues, etc., discussed reinvigorating and repopulating the Parking Task Force. He reported that Prof. Ghorayeb has informally contacted an adjunct professor in the Engineering Department who is willing to have students conduct a Senior Design project to help study our parking issues. Prof. Maccarrone also reported that he has reached out to the Catherine Hennessy, Vice President for Financial Affairs to discuss correspondence relating to the recent change to the Planning and Budget Committee by-laws. The Vice President Hennessy is just now concluding the university's year end closing with its financial statement auditing firm. He intends to meet with her in the very near future. The committee also discussed creating an Outcomes Assessments Task Force. Stephanie Bushey, Vice President for Institutional Research and Assessment, will help. Provost Berliner suggested contacting Terri Shapiro, Associate Provost for Accreditation and Outcomes Assessment.

B. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Giuliani reported that the committee discussed adjunct representation on the University Senate. The Senate Executive Committee will assemble a Blue Ribbon Panel that will assess representation on the Senate as a whole. He also reported that the committee has completed all of the items for the evaluation of chairpersons, but will look at the document as a whole at its next meeting and hopefully finalize the first draft. Prof. Giuliani will then meet with the Chairs' Caucus to gather their feedback. The committee also discussed having an Adjunct Teacher of the Year. He also reported that the committee will look at Special Leaves as well as teaching load reduction as per Article 6.19 on January 10th.

C. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Finnegan reported that the committee will be gathering student input for any parking resolutions that the university can consider. He also reported that he will be working closely with the Planning and Budget Committee to schedule the Town Hall Meeting.

D. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Fritz reported that the committee approved changes to the course withdrawal policies so that there is consistency across different terms and eliminated the need for an instructor's signature if a student withdraws from a class after 2/3 of the course has been completed. The committee voted to eliminate policy that excludes all but the first F in cumulative GPA, when a student takes the class more than once. Both of these items will be brought to the Senate at its next meeting. Prof. Fritz also reported that the committee is also working on revisions to Faculty Policy Series #10 that suggests faculty provide feedback to the student before the withdrawal date.

E. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Caroline Schreiner reported for Chairperson Davidow that the committee discussed sending the Diversity Information Item to several offices and individuals across Hofstra campus, including Multicultural and International Students Program Office, Services for Students with Disabilities, multicultural student clubs, Provost's Office, Office of Community Standards, Dean of Student's Office, graduate students on the University Senate, Deans of the various colleges, Diversity Task force Chair, General Counsel Office, and Departmental Chairs. It was also suggested that Departmental chairs read and discuss the information item with their faculty.

The committee discussed ways to disseminate information about campus-related activities and policies to graduate students. The discussion revolved around adding information to already existing Hofstra websites, with the main additions going to the Graduate Students webpage under Student Life

- Provide a selection that includes all graduate student organizations. Carole Drummer will email graduate directors to obtain the names of graduate student organizations across Hofstra's campus.
- Provide a selection for graduate assistantships, research opportunities, and funding opportunities across the campus. A website that works like "craigslist" was suggested, where faculty can add various assistantship, research, and funding opportunities as they arise. Professor Davidow will email Carrie Healy at Human Resources in order to inquire about the viability of this type of website

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25p.m.