

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, DECEMBER 8, 2014
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Atkinson, Balson, Bass, Berliner, Davidow, Dougharty, Dresner, Eads, Elsey, Espinal, Fincham, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Glasser, Goodman, Hoover, Jernigan, Lopez, Lucito, Maccarrone, Mehta, Olson, Sample, Sarcka, Silver

Absent: Elston, Filippi, Firestone, Gennarelli, Laggan, Morales, Yohn

Guests: Mazzocco

The minutes of the November 10th, 2014 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner reported that the administration is busy working on a new program in nursing in the Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine. This particular program is a graduate program with a degree in Nurse Practitioner. He reported that the goal is to have the program in place by September and even though it will be operating under the umbrella of the School of Medicine, it will be taught by Hofstra faculty, and not North Shore LIJ faculty. A discussion followed.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Stuart Bass

A. Action Items

1. Prof. Bass presented for action, the revisions to Faculty Policy Series #43- Hofstra University Harassment Policy. Dolores Fredrich, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, reported that this is a long standing university policy governing claims of sexual harassment and other forms of prohibited harassment. The primary changes to the policy have to do with the Appendices on the policy that spell out the procedural rights of the person making the accusation and the person against whom the accusation is being made. These procedures became a matter of negotiation between the University and the AAUP. Both parties agreed Hofstra needs a strong policy and that our present policy was not ideal in some respects. A discussion followed. Provost Berliner recommended that the Senate pass the revisions and any additional feedback and recommendations be sent to the Joint Standing Committee (JSC) for further discussion. The item was passed with 8-in favor of, 5-opposed and 3 abstentions.
2. Prof. Bass presented for action the revisions to Fall 2015 Calendar. A request was made to not start the Fall 2015 semester a full week before Labor Day, therefore the calendar has been amended to start on Wednesday, September 2nd, hold classes on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 25th) and cut back on one of the Snow/Study days. The item passed unanimously. The item passed with 15-in favor of, 1-opposed and 1-abstention.
3. Prof. Bass presented for action the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar. The item passed unanimously. Prof. Bass reported that there has been ongoing discussion whether or not to restructure the Academic Calendar and non-secular holidays.

4. Prof. Bass presented for action revisions to University Degree Requirements. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee reported that a reference to the minimum GPA of 2.0 for introductory courses in the University Bulletin was deleted and definitions of introductory courses were added. The item was passed unanimously.

III. Committee Reports

A. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Caroline Schreiner reported for Chairperson Davidow that the committee discussed Faculty Policy Series #36 – The Use of Human Subjects in Research, which deals with the Institutional Review Board and its procedures. With the creation of the School of Health Sciences & Human Services, the language needed to be updated.

B. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Giuliani reported that at its last meeting, the committee revised its bylaws and will bring the revisions to the Senate Executive Committee shortly. He also reported that the Chairpersons Evaluations were passed by the Full Faculty last Friday. At the same meeting, the revisions to Faculty Statute VII – Adjunct Representation was passed, increasing the number of Adjunct senators from one to three. He thanks Donna Balson, the current Adjunct Senator, for all her hard work in getting this accomplished.

C. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Maccarrone reported that the committee has met with Vice President Hennessey on November 5th and had a discussion on the revisions to the Planning and Budget Committee bylaws to establish communication and consultation between Vice President Hennessey's Office and the committee. It was decided that to be more effective and efficient throughout the year, the committee will establish a timeline of when the committee will meet with Vice President Hennessey, the Provost and other members of the administration, as well as the types of things that should be discussed throughout the year. Prof. Maccarrone also reported that the committee met with Dean Fanelli, from the School of Education, and Dean Smith, from the School of Medicine. The committee will try to continue meeting with the various deans on campus to discuss resource needs and allocations.

Prof. Maccarrone reported that on November 24th, he, along with Stuart Bass, chair of the Senate Executive Committee, and William Nirode, Speaker of the Faculty met with W. Houston Dougharty, Vice President for Student Affairs, and student leaders to discuss issues affecting the university calendar as well as the current Student Government Association budget and the appropriations process. He also reported that the Senior Design Presentations Campus-Wide Parking Study Phase 2 which will include Evaluation and Recommendations, is being held on Thursday, Dec 11 at 12:10 – 12:50 in 208 Adams Hall and that the Town Hall Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4th.

D. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Silver reported that the committee is undertaking a study of the question of average class size and adjunct overload ratios and the potential impact and quality of undergraduate education. He also reported that the committee passed revisions to Departmental Honors and will be bringing them to the next Senate Executive Committee meeting. Prof. Silver reported that the committee was asked to consider the establishment of

mid-term grades. The Registrar's Office will be collecting data on what other institutions do and the committee will discuss issues such as identifying "at risk" students, etc.

Prof. Silver also reported that the committee has started discussion on the presence of curricular or non-curricular substitutes for what the School for University Studies (SUS) provided for its students. This is in light of the University disbanding SUS and moving towards SAT-optional admissions.

E. Student Affairs Committee

Senator Jared Sarcka reported for Chairperson Laggan, that the committee discussed the Academic Calendar and would like to do more research on what our aspirant and peer schools are doing. The committee also discussed ways that it can help Hofstra Concerts and/or secure more funding for the spring concert. Mr. Sarcka also reported that the committee discussed the North Campus Smoking Ban and hopes to have a resolution by the beginning of next semester.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjournment

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The meeting was adjourned at 3:54p.m.