

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, FEBRUARY 10, 2020
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Abraham, Berliner, Boston-Hill, Burnett, Caniano, Chun, Craig, Dippel, Dimes, Dougharty, Eads, Eliot, Elkis-Abuhoff, Ghorayeb, Harb, Hirsch, Houck, Huang, Lopez, Lotier, Lynch, McElroy, Mercado, Ortiz-Jimenez, Schlegel, Seirup, Tarson, Tompkins, Wallace

Absent: Cassar, Ciani, Crofts, Donefer, Harley, Heiss, Hernandez, Rose, Sunik

Guests: Ploran

I. The December 9, 2019 minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Report of the Provost, Provost, Herman Berliner

There was no report from the Provost.

III. Report of the Senate Executive Committee, William Caniano

Prof. Caniano reported that on the second to last night of finals, all of the coffee places on campus, including the one in Axinn Library, closed at 9:00 p.m. The University Senate sponsored a table serving coffee for the students after hours. Included on the table was information about joining the Student Affairs Committee and the University Senate. We will do this again in the spring and include additional locations.

Prof. Caniano reported that in response to the Student Government Association (SGA) proposal on library spaces in conjunction with the Library Subcommittee of the Planning and Budget Committee, the department of Facilities and Operations has released money from the capital fund to renovate the student spaces on the 4th floor of the library.

Prof. Caniano reported that in response to senator Russell Chun's request to add diversity questions to the Course and Teacher Ratings (CTRs). He met with the chairs of the executive committees. They were non-supportive of this initiative because they are not supportive of the CTRs. They would like to see some training before attempting this. He reported that he is meeting with Cornell Craig, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, and the Council on Diversity. They are creating a statement for syllabi and possibly organizing some kind of seminar. Prof. Caniano has asked Prof. Chun to join this committee.

Prof. Caniano welcomed Kathlyn Lynch, from the department of Biology to the University Senate. She is the new School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics senator until the end of spring.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Committee Reports

A. Christopher Eliot, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that in the fall the committee worked on an idea to create guidelines for graduate program handbooks. After reviewing the possibilities, it was decided to just create a general handbook with standardized input and links. The proposal was sent to the graduate directors for feedback. This semester, the committee will be reviewing revisions to Faculty Policy Series #11G -

Procedures for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Graduate Students at Hofstra University, which the committee was working on last year. The committee will also review standards for online instruction of graduate courses. This will involve what kind of standards the university currently offers for graduate online instruction and discussing whether it is adequate. The committee welcomes feedback from the Senate. Provost Berliner asked Prof. Eliot to invite Elfreda Blue, Vice Provost for Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Affairs, to a meeting to discuss the graduate student orientation. Caroline Schreiner clarified that Vice Provost Blue is already an advisor to the GAAC. A discussion followed. Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management, requested that the graduate handbook links be shared with the Graduate Admissions Team.

- B. Rina Hirsch, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that over January break, the committee reviews applications for Special Leaves and 6.19 Load Reductions. They reviewed 46 Special Leave applications and 10 Load Reduction applications and made their recommendations to the Provost's Office. She also reported that this semester the committee will discuss several items that were tabled from last semester including revisiting the Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award, as well as revisions Jennifer Mone, Deputy General Counsel and Equal Rights and Opportunity Officer made to Faculty Policy Series #47 - Policy on Personal Relationships Between Faculty/Other Employees and Students. The committee will also be discussing potential change to the title of the Secretary of the Faculty to "Deputy Speaker of the Faculty" and changing responsibilities of the position. Prof. Caniano, and George Giuliani, Speaker of the Faculty, will be attending the next FAC meeting. The committee will also discuss having faculty pictures automatically associated with Outlook and Blackboard, with an opt-out option. Provost Berliner suggested inviting Jennifer Mone to the next meeting as well to discuss the revisions to FPS #47.
- C. David Harb, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that Brandon Croft, one of the undergraduate senators, attended a community summit to learn about how the Student Affairs Committee can interact with the undergraduate community more effectively. With that, the committee will discuss ways they could improve the Town Hall Meeting with the Dean of Students. The committee has approved a 100% Smoking-Free and Tobacco-Free Campus Policy, an initiative to reduce smoking at Hofstra, which will be reviewed by the Planning and Budget Committee.
- D. Craig Burnett, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, reported that the committee will be looking at the Student Affairs Committee's smoking policy, in addition to finalizing a survey from the Environmental Priorities Committee.
- E. Kevin Boston-Hill, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, will be working on items left over from the fall, as well as revisiting the revisions to Faculty Policy Series #11 - Procedures for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Undergraduate Students at Hofstra University. They will be working in conjunction with the GAAC. The committee will also review the Mid-Semester Advisory. Provost Berliner suggested, with regard to FPS #11, that the committee look into the number of faculty who are willing to report when there are instances of students plagiarizing. A discussion followed.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 p.m.