

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Brown, Cordero Rubinos, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Fritz, Johnson, Lightfoot, Lodato-Wilson, Lopez, Martorella, Mellis, Nirode, Perez, Perry, Pioreck, Skerski, Sulley, Viswanathan

Absent: Catanese, Firestone, Krapp, Kulviwat, Labossiere, Moghadam, Naymark, Sarno, Schmelkin, Silberger

Guests: Maney

The minutes of the May 4th, 2009 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting on student enrollment. We are slightly under what we projected in terms of full-time undergraduate students, very slightly under what we projected in terms of transfer students, and are about what we projected in terms of graduate students. The quality numbers are perhaps the highest in the history of Hofstra University with the average SAT being 1186. 31% of our students are in the top 10% of their graduating high school class and the average GPA is 3.4. Much progress is being made in this area.

The Provost reported on the H1N1 virus, stating that he has been getting a number of emails from faculty members about getting vaccinated. The CDC has stipulated a priority order, beginning with high-risk groups, including pregnant women, children between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old, and individuals between 25 and 64 years if they have serious underlying conditions. Given the amount of vaccines available, it is unsure whether or not other individuals will get the vaccine. The Provost reported that the CDC guidelines are asking people with flu-like symptoms to self-isolate and stay home until 24 hours after the symptoms have dissipated. People are being advised not to go to the doctor if the case is relatively mild. The Provost reported that we should not ask students for doctors notes if they are absent for a few days and a faculty member should not use a student being absent due to the flu as a basis for reducing the student's grade. The Provost reported that we're going to have to make accommodations if a student is absent during the time of an exam and also, if the faculty member is absent, departments are going to have to make provisions to have exams administered. Arrangements are especially critical at finals time as well. Vice President Johnson is heading a committee who will be working on coming up with a form for the student to fill out if he or she is going to be missing class because of flu-like symptoms. A copy of this form will then be sent out to all concerned faculty. Provost Berliner reported that we are trying to deal as well as we can with a very difficult situation which will require a lot of flexibility on the part of the faculty, but no one is advocating that standards should change. A discussion followed.

Provost Berliner reported that Hofstra is now a part of the Zawadi Africa Exchange Program, and we have two women from Nairobi Kenya studying at Hofstra. They are here on a four-year tuition, room and board scholarship. The Provost read excerpts from the essays of the students who are both accomplished in academics and extra curricular activities.

The Provost reported that we are about to have a major conference in October, organized by Chris Niedt from the Sociology Department. The Diverse Suburb: History, Politics, and Prospects. Tied into this conference will be a diversity celebration to bring all of Long Island together.

The Provost reported that our original five-year plan (2005-2010) will now be a seven-year plan (2005-2012) so that we can provide all of the resources we said we would provide during the five-year plan. We will now be working on a new five-year plan for 2012-2017. We are to a great extent an intentional community, and we will be looking at how in the next five-year plan, we can accomplish even more in terms of what Hofstra University aspires to be.

The Provost reported that Dean searches will begin for deans for the School of Communications and the Zarb School of Business. We have a combined faculty, administration, and trustee search committee, which provides an excellent structure for these searches, and we are using an outside headhunter for both searches with Steve Trachtenberg, former President of George Washington University, leading this effort. The searches will be completed by the end of this academic year; the new deans should be on board by June or July 2010. The Provost requests that anyone who has any good recommendations in terms of candidates, to email him.

The Provost reported that the plans for the Medical School are underway. The first accreditation visit will be in March 2010, and the first class is scheduled to be admitted in July, 2011, once accreditation and NY state approval are secured. The Provost reported that there has been an agreement signed months ago between the university and the AAUP saying that the Medical School will not be subject to the AAUP Collective Bargaining Unit. Our medical school has decided that there will be only one rank and will not use the word "clinical." There will be no difference in faculty title between the classroom setting and the setting in the hospital. Our medical school will also have no tenure. Our medical school will of course have all the academic freedom guarantees of our Faculty Policy Series and Faculty Statutes, which will be explicitly spelled out. So far, we have close to 500 full-time faculty, that are all part of North Shore LIJ system, with an ultimate estimate of 900-1000. There will be a seat on the University Senate for a Medical School representative, and the Medical School will at this time have five votes at full faculty meetings.

A discussion followed about the H1N1 virus and whether or not it we are mandating an attendance policy. Provost Berliner reported that it is not mandated, we all need to understand that the CDC has recommended these guidelines.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

1. Prof. Nirode presented for action the laptop resolution, which states that students are not required to own a laptop. Prof. Martorella, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, reported that the committee spent some time looking at various policies and studies from other schools, as well as approaching deans, chairs and various faculty members for feedback. An amendment was made to add the following sentence:

This recommendation, however, does not preclude an individual department or program from instituting its own requirement.

This sentence was specifically added to the document so that if an individual department or school wishes to pass their own requirement, this allows them to do so. The item was passed as amended.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee is continuing their work on the library report. They are also considering changing the committee's name from Planning and Budget to something that more accurately reflects what they do. The committee will also start to plan the Annual Town Meeting and were asked to look at the possibility of implementing a comprehensive or campus-wide smoking ban.

B. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Richard Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee is still investigating the digital database, reviewing the questions from the library faculty members of how the database can be used.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lodato-Wilson reported that the committee has been asked to look at the Classroom Code of Conduct, an item that was passed by the full faculty in December 2007, to include some type of appeals process. The committee is also working on the unofficial withdrawals and how they affect the course completion ratio, how they impact students and our ability to actually support students. The committee was also asked to look at creating a statement or document promoting student responsibility to monitor progress.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow, and they are going to continue with the research on the graduate experience for students of color and international students. The committee held a focus group this past May which went well and is planning an additional focus group sometime this fall. The committee is also going to look at creating a statement or document promoting student responsibility to monitor progress for graduate students.

E. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez reported that the committee will be meeting on Wednesday, September 23 and will be reviewing the off-campus behavior resolution that was passed last spring. They will also be discussing the possibility of enforcing a campus-wide "no smoking" policy.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjournment

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

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, OCTOBER 12, 2009

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

Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Bhogal, Brown, Cordero Rubinos, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Fritz, Johnson, Lightfoot, Lodato-Wilson, Lopez, Martorella, Mellis, Moghadam, Nirode, Ostrow, Perez, Perry, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Skerski, Sulley,

Absent: Catanese, Firestone, Krapp, Labossiere, Naymark, Sarno, Silberger, Viswanathan

Guests: Maney

The minutes of the September 14th, 2009 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that the Alumni Achievement Awards Ceremony was held on Friday night. Each year, the Alumni Organization presents awards for professional achievements, and volunteer services. All of the recipients have been shaped by their experiences at the university and it is especially nice when the graduates ask faculty to join them for the ceremony or acknowledge faculty members in their remarks. One example was Kurt Lambert, class of 1988, who runs a very successful hedge fund that only invests in socially responsible industries. The first person he thanked was Barbara Bohannon in terms of the great education that she had provided him as a math major. He then went on to thank Cheryl Mwaria and a number of other faculty members. It is terrific to see the good work of members of the university community recognized.

Provost Berliner reported that Saturday was homecoming and we had a great homecoming parade and a terrific feel on campus. Today was the first open house event for prospective students filling and we filled the student center theatre. It was a very enthusiastic event. We are in the full recruiting season, with the key event being the Fall Open House on October 25th.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

Prof. Nirode presented for action the revision to FPS #50 – Classroom Code of Conduct for Students. This item was passed by the full faculty in December 2007, but the Provost requested that the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee revise the document to include an appeals policy. Prof. Lodato-Wilson, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee explained the revisions and a discussion followed about the type of grades assigned. Vice Provost Schmelkin reported that it really depends on the circumstances precipitating the removal and the timing. The appeal gives the student the opportunity to challenge the decision. Vice Provost Schmelkin mentioned that in addition, there is also a grade appeal policy for students. The item passed unanimously.

Prof. Nirode presented for action the Parking Ban Resolution prohibiting students residing in residence halls on the North Campus from parking in the South Campus on weekdays, from 7 AM to 4 PM. The item was passed by the Senate in May 2005, but never made its way to the Full Faculty. The ban does not include students who have been issued a Person First Priority Parking permit. There was a discussion about certain circumstances, such as students who may be dropping off heavy equipment. The Provost reported that if passed, the President would consult with Vice President Johnson and the Provost's Office in terms of exceptions that should be built in. There was also a discussion about the Blue Beetle's schedule and the fairness of this policy being as though there were no students on the Planning & Budget Committee when it was created. It was decided that the resolution should be brought back to the Student Affairs Committee to collect more data from the students.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee was contemplating a name change and a review of their charge. The committee is currently investigating the charge and budget aspect of it. Prof. Martorella reported that the committee was asked to consider a more comprehensive smoking policy but feels that anything more than what the university has right now, would be considered “excessive.” Since there are already enforcement issues with the existing smoking buffer zones, as well as possible serious safety issues for resident students, the committee did not want to expand the policy. Prof. Martorella reported that the Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for April 14th during common hour and the committee is still working on the Library report.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez reported that the committee was also asked to consider a more comprehensive smoking policy but feels at this time the university should not really expand on it. The committee will monitor the enforcement of the smoking buffer zone more closely and encourages the display of non-smoking signs and visual reminders of the enforced boundary. They feel strongly about educating students about the boundary itself. Chairperson Perez reported that the committee will also be discussing revisions to their bylaws and whether or not voting proxies should be allowed if the number of faculty members exceeds the number of student members in a meeting. The committee also discussed and support the parking ban but will take a closer look at it at their next meeting.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lodato-Wilson reported that the committee is working on the wording on the unofficial withdrawals. She reported that the number of UWs are within the thousands each year. At their next meeting, the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee will be discussing whether or not they want to change the wording to make it much clearer and/or to put in a limit to the number of unofficial withdrawals. A discussion followed. The committee was also asked to look at creating a statement or document promoting student responsibility to monitor progress.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee is moving forward with planning the postponed focus group on the graduate experience for students of color and international students. They are still soliciting names. The committee is also working on rescheduling their meetings to get better attendance.

E. Faculty Affairs Committee

Vice Provost Schmelkin reported for Richard Pioreck that the Faculty Affairs Committee has been dealing primarily with the review of the digital measure’s software and clarification for its use in the annual evaluation. Vice Provost Schmelkin described some of the changes in the digital database and the Faculty Affairs Committee will have a summary for the chairs by Thanksgiving/ early December.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjournment

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

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, NOVEMBER 9, 2009
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Brown, Cordero Rubinos, Davidow, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Firestone, Fritz, Giebel, Johnson, Lightfoot, Lodato-Wilson, Lopez, Martorella, Nirode, Ostrow, Perez, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Skerski, Sulley, Viswanathan, Wells

Absent: Bhogal, Catanese, Eads, Krapp, Labossiere, Moghadam, Naymark, Perry, Sarno,

Guests: Libman, Maney

The minutes of the October 12th, 2009 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that our radio station's (WRHU) 50th Anniversary Gala was held on Saturday night. Four hundred and seventy people showed up covering the 50 years some of first students working at our radio station, to the students working there now. It was a great experience for all, especially the 200 students who are presently working for the radio station. Our radio station mirrors the momentum of the university as well as the great progress we have made. Our first studio, I remember from when I came 40 years ago, was in the Spiegel Theatre basement and now we are in Dempster Hall and have outstanding facilities. WRHU has gone on to win countless awards and incredible recognition which is a microcosm of what is happening at Hofstra University at this time.

Provost Berliner reported that the search committees for the Zarb School of Business and the School of Communication will be meeting at the very beginning of December to select the candidates to be interviewed. The Zarb School has over 100 resumes already and the headhunting firm has indicated they will send to us a significant number of additional resumes. From my vantage point, we have a very strong candidate pool for both.

Provost Berliner reported that there has been an agreement signed between the AAUP and the university that the Medical School will not be covered by the Collective Bargaining Agreement. He also reported that the Medical School does not have tenure and has very different appointment and re-appointment procedures. And because the Medical School faculty have different responsibilities than other faculty, the Faculty Statutes and the Faculty Policy Series will not apply to these faculty.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

Action Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for action the Off-Campus Behavior policy and reported that about a year ago, members of the faculty who resided in the surrounding communities expressed concerns of the behavior of some of the students who do reside off-campus. They asked the administration whether or not a code of conduct could be created. The Student Affairs Committee made up of students, faculty and administrators created a set of recommendations which are included in the policy. Dean Libman reported that the Dean of Student's Office currently has an Office of Off-Campus Living and Commuting Student Services. They provide resources and education for students who live off-campus and commute about issues such as tenant's rights, being good neighbors, as well as publishing an off-campus living guide. Prof.

Nirode summarized the list of recommendations and after a discussion, the item passed unanimously.

2. Prof. Nirode presented for action the Medical School representation as part of the shared governance process both at the University Senate level, and the full faculty. The Senate is recommending that the Medical School have one representative on the University Senate and 5 representatives (voting members) at full faculty meetings. Provost Berliner reported that there are a number of faculty members that are hired by Hofstra, and they will have full voting rights at faculty meetings. The five members mentioned in this item, are those who were hired by North Shore LJJ. It was suggested to add some language to differentiate between the two. Provost Berliner reported that we should vote on this item today, accepting the University Senate representative, and approving the 5 representatives as an interim step until we refine the language. A discussion followed and the item passed unanimously.
3. Prof. Nirode presented for action a revision to the Library Committee bylaws stating that the chair of the committee should be a non library faculty member. This item passed unanimously.
4. Prof. Nirode presented for action the Unofficial Withdrawal revision. Prof. Lodato-Wilson, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee reported that the issue of unofficial withdrawals came to the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee as a huge problem. Statistics showed that Hofstra had thousands of unofficial withdrawals per year. The committee feels the university should advise students and not have the unofficial withdrawal be used in order for a student not to get an F in the class. A student can get an official withdrawal if they withdraw before the tenth week of class. After the tenth week, a faculty member should only assign a UW if the student has stopped attending the class. If a student attends passed the tenth week and then stops attending, the faculty member should assign an appropriate grade based on the work completed. After a discussion, this item passed unanimously.
5. Prof. Nirode presented for action the 2012-2013 Academic Calendar and pointed out that we do not have off the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 21st) and only one snow/study/reading day. Finals begin on December 13th and commencement is on December 20th. This item passed unanimously.

Information Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for discussion a summary of digital measures by the Faculty Affairs Committee. Richard Pioreck, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee reported the main highlights. With regard to activities versus extracting specific information from the database for defined uses, people wanted to know if they would have control over that and yes, they do. Prof. Pioreck reported that no changes can be made by anyone other than the faculty member and that this is an ongoing repository of each persons' work. Vice Provost Schmelkin added that there is an audit trail and that if anything happened to their data, we would be able to track it down.

III. Committee Reports

A. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee is getting ready for the annual review of the Special Leave applications and have tentatively scheduled a meeting for January 5th.

B. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee is reviewing their charge, agreeing to break up into small groups to review and make recommendations on each section of the charge. The committee will also be reviewing the role of the sub-committees within the Planning & Budget structure and will continue work on the Library Report.

C. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez reported that the committee is focusing on the parking ban. He also reported that Student Affairs Committee has three new members from the Student Government Association, as well as one from Greek Life and the Athletics' Department.

D. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lodato-Wilson reported that at the last Senate meeting, they had passed the revisions to FPS #50, the Classroom Code of Conduct and brought it to the full faculty. At the full faculty meeting there was quite a bit of discussion and non-consensus so the policy has been brought back to Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee to work on the timeframe for the appeal process.

E. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee has planned an additional focus group on the graduate experience for students of color and international students during the first week of December. He also reported that the committee will be meeting tomorrow to begin to look at FPS #11 & FPS #11G to consider revisions to address new technology that is available.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:13p.m.

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, DECEMBER 7, 2009

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

Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Brown, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Firestone, Fritz, Giebel, Krapp, Lightfoot, Lodato-Wilson, Lopez, Martorella, Moghadam, Nirode, Ostrow, Perez, Perry, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Skerski, Sulley, Viswanathan

Absent: Bhogal, Catanese, Cordero Rubinos, Johnson, Labossiere, Naymark, Sarno,

Guests: Maney, Miedreich

The President updated the University Senate regarding the intercollegiate athletes and the football program.

The minutes of the November 9th, 2009 Senate meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

There was no report from the Provost.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

Action Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for action the revisions to the bylaws of the Student Affairs Committee which include a slight amendment regarding the number of elector faculty senators and senator at large. Faculty members should not exceed student members. An additional change was added to the bylaws that in the absence of quorum (defined as one-half of the student committee members,) the vote on a resolution will be discussed and voted on electronically. This item was passed unanimously.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee is still looking at the charge review. The committee met on November 10th to continue discussions, looking at each point in the charge and the last meeting focused on the awarding of scholarship monies. The committee invited a representative from Financial Aide to talk about the awarding of scholarship monies. Jessica Eads and Amy Kahn agreed to meet with the committee, early in the spring. Prof. Martorella also reported that they are wrapping up the library report. The Environmental Priorities Committee currently does not have an official charge, so the Prof. Martorella has asked them to draft a charge to go through the governance process. The Library Committee has finished and transmitted their section of the Library report.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez reported that the committee is still addressing the parking ban. This past Wednesday, the committee had Charles Forrest, Associate Director of Public Safety, come in and present the current parking situation. There was a discussion about what issues should be addressed, focusing on the idea of a busing system. Prof. Bass reported that over the last several weeks, he has noticed two physical altercations between two students because of the ongoing dilemma in our parking situation. He also said that giving the fact that university financially cannot undertake any efforts to improve the situation in the immediate future, he believes that this resolution would have eliminated at least 25-40 spots on the South campus

and he implores the Student Affairs Committee to come up with a supportive resolution by the next meeting so we can move on with this proposal, get it to the faculty, and alleviate a situation that is clearly deplorable and unacceptable not only to students and the entire university administration. Provost Berliner remarked that it is a very important issue and the committee needs to do due diligence and come up with it's own recommendation. Chairperson Perez reported that for the committee it would be best to understand the entire situation and will address it as best they can.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lodato-Wilson reported that the revisions to the Unofficial Withdrawal Policy, which was past by the Senate was not approved by the faculty and sent back to the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee. The discussion focused around the second part of the revision, turning the grades into "Fs," and the faculty found it hard to accept. Lodato-Wilson reported that the committee is looking at to maybe address the probation standards along with this. Vice Provost Schmelkin reported that there are a variety of different options, one being some type of probation status. She reported that the Advisement Department was most concerned about the fact that they were reaching out to these students but there was nothing they could do to force the student to come in to see them, and no repercussions for it. A discussion followed about completion ratio and the reason for these revisions.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee held their focus group last week on the graduate experience for students of color and international students with 8 students showing up. The committee is looking to hold one more focus group in the spring. In the last focus groups that they had, the committee noticed that there were a lot of discussion on recurrent themes. A lot of students have reported that they've heard insensitive and inappropriate commentary from some faculty and discriminatory treatment. Overall, the students felt they have a great experience at Hofstra.

E. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee is ready to begin reviewing the Special Leaves applications and have scheduled a meeting for January 5th.

IV. New Business

Prof. Nirode presented for action a proposal with language supporting the President and the Board of Trustees in their decision to discontinue the intercollegiate football program. A discussion followed and an amendment was made to change the statement to:

The University Senate, in spirit and in principle, fully supports President Rabinowitz's and the University Trustees' decision to reallocate funds from intercollegiate football to academic priorities and need-based scholarships.

The University Senate also supports the decision to honor the scholarship commitments to our student-athletes and the commitments to our football coaches.

The item was passed unanimously as amended.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10p.m.

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, FEBRUARY 8, 2010
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Bhogal, Brown, Catanese, Cordero Rubinos, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Firestone, Fritz, Giebel, Lightfoot, Lodato-Wilson, Lopez, Martorella, Mellis, Moghadam, Naymark, Nirode, Ostrow, Perez, Perry, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Skerski, Sulley, Viswanathan

Absent: Ammari, Berliner, Johnson, Krapp, Labossiere, Sarno

Guests: Maney

The minutes of the December 7th, 2009 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Liora Schmelkin, Senior Vice Provost.

Senior Vice Provost Schmelkin convened the meeting for Provost Berliner. Dr. Schmelkin reported that they are busy recruiting for two Deans, one for the School of Business and one for the School of Communication.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

Action Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for action a proposal from the Student Affairs Committee to support the release of three American Hikers who were detained in Iran on July 31st, 2009. Christian Perez, chair of the Student Affairs Committee explained that this proposal was brought to him by a student who attends Hofstra University who personally knows one of the hikers and would greatly appreciate the University support in favor of releasing them. In July 2009 they accidentally crossed an unmarked border during a hiking trip in the mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan and were arrested and have been detained since. This resolution would show the University Senate's support for these hikers and hope they could go through a proper judicial process in Iran. At this time in the news there is discussion about a possible swap of these hikers for Iranian prisoners that the United States currently hold, but regardless, www.freethenhikers.org (an NGO the Hofstra student is affiliated with,) is still looking for University support to help these hikers to obtain their freedom. This resolution is not a direct action, just a statement of support that will be added to the website and has been amended by the Senate Executive Committee, from a statement the Hofstra student had created. A discussion followed

- There was concern that this type of resolution sets a precedence. We do not know enough about their guilt or innocence with respect to the charges.
- Issue of the hikers not being able to contact their families or receive any kind of due process. However, the Iranian government has claimed that some of their citizens who are in custody in the United States are diplomats and have not been given any chance to contact their families or receive any kind of due process.
- Question about SGA support - Christiaan Perez responded with given the time constraints they would like something to be passed soon and the SGA elections aren't until May, where they would create a referendum.

- There seems to be a flat contradiction between the way it's written. The first paragraph makes a very political statement.
- Since we've never passed something like this before, perhaps using this one situation to make a stand of a Universal position sets a precedent that we don't want to set at this point.

A decision was made to withdraw the resolution and explore the issue of how would one get a referendum and look at the rules in terms of how to carry it out.

Information Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for information a rewording of the Incomplete Policy, which isn't a new policy, just a reflection of the current policy that we already have. Gloria Lodato-Wilson, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee reported that the wording was changed to be in compliance with the new online method of submitting incompletes. There is no substantive change in intent. A discussion followed about the default grade and Senior Vice Provost Schmelkin clarified that the student wouldn't need to go to the faculty for the default grade since it was already indicated to Academic Records. Therefore, the student would need to go to Academic Records to receive the default grade.

An amendment was made to change the following sentence:

A student can request the default grade (especially if it is a passing grade) to replace the 'I' grade prior to the set deadline to ensure timely graduation.

to:

A student may request, from the Office of Academic Records, the default grade to replace the 'I' grade prior to the set deadline to ensure timely graduation.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee is getting ready to review its charge with the goal of reasserting a role for the committee in the planning and budget process of the university. With that, Catherine Hennessey and Dolores Fredrich have agreed to attend a special meeting with the committee on March 3rd to discuss the reallocation of the money released from the elimination of the football program. The annual Town Meeting is scheduled for April 14th during common hour in the plaza rooms and the committee will start promotion in the beginning of March through flyers, posters, ads in the Chronicle, letters to the students, event listing etc. The committee is also planning to have a webcast for students who cannot make the meeting and setting up a twitter account for these students to tweet questions, as well as contacting Bruce Avery from the radio station (WRHU).

Prof. Martorella also reported that the committee has a new agenda item; a faculty member brought to the Senate's attention the issue of course packs, which was given to the Planning & Budget Committee. The faculty member was concerned at the price of course packs through the bookstore and has asked the Senate to study the issue and see if there are more inexpensive ways.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez reported that the committee had their first meeting today and mainly discussed the parking issues and possible solutions beyond the ban on the south side of campus. The committee is conducting an inquiry on certain commuting questions. Christiaan will attend an event during common hour on Wednesday where they will be discussing commuting needs.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lodato-Wilson reported that the committee is still working on FPS #50 –A Classroom Code of Conduct for Students, and trying to clarify the process that a student has to follow in order to appeal. The committee is considering all points of view and not just those of members who sit on the committee. She also reported that they are still working on the revision to the Unofficial Withdrawal Policy.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee is meeting on Thursday to continue their work on graduate student diversity and will have a final focus group this spring. Since both prior focus groups were predominantly attended by students from the School of Education, Health and Human Services, the committee will be making an effort to include other units in the university.

E. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee met last month to review the special leave applications and have recommended all of the applicants. He commented that they were impressed by the quality and breadth of the various projects that were requested for leaves. Prof. Pioreck also reported that the committee has two new charges. They have been asked to review Faculty Statutes IV, to look at how the Medical School faculty is defined as faculty, and to look at the Affirmative Action Policy.

IV. New Business

There was a brief discussion about the appeal process with regard to students who receive parking tickets. Student Senator Miranda Sulley reported that it takes a considerable amount of time from the Student Judicial Board when they could be dealing with other trials and procedures for other students.

Prof. Maney reported that some faculty have expressed concern about emails between faculty and students particularly how often should faculty be expected to respond to students, how quickly, and what are appropriate matters to discuss over the email vs. perhaps matters that could be better resolved through face to face discussion. Along these lines, there will be a discussion on these issues involving faculty and students facilitated through the Center for Teaching and Scholarly Excellence and if anyone is interested in participating in this discussion please let him know.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, MARCH 8, 2010
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Bhogal, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Fritz, Giebel, Lightfoot, Lopez, Martorella, Mellis, Moghadam, Naymark, Nirode, Perez, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Skerski, Sulley,

Absent: Brown, Catanese, Cordero Rubinos, Filippi, Firestone, Johnson, Krapp, Labossiere, Lodato-Wilson, Ostrow, Perry, Sarno, Viswanathan

Guests: Maney, Rubey

The minutes of the February 8th, 2010 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting on upcoming major conferences that will take place this semester:

- Conference on New Directions in American Healthcare - Innovations from Home & Abroad
 - March 11th & 12th
 - This is a collaboration between Hofstra College, School of Education, Health and Human Services, the School of Law and the School of Medicine
- Child's Play - Children's Pleasures: Interdisciplinary Explorations
 - March 19th and 20th
 - The School of Education, Health and Human Services in cooperation with the Museum

The Provost commented that the Cultural Center Conferences have made an indelible mark, starting with the Presidential Series, in enhancing the national representation of the University. Hofstra has organized some of the best scholarly conferences in the country and its testimony to the good work of our faculty and to the efforts of the Cultural Center.

The Provost also reported on upcoming diversity lectures sponsored by the Provost's Office.

- Beyond Open Doors: Integrating Pregnant Women into the Workplace
 - Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. in the Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater presented by Professor of Law Joanna L Grossman.
- Update on the Hofstra/Claflin Faculty Exchange Program
 - Wednesday, March 17, 2010 - Barbara Lekatsas from Hofstra University and Ron Neal from Claflin University will discuss their exchange experiences and the importance of diversity at institutions of higher education

Provost Berliner also reported that the Medical School's preliminary accreditation visit will take place next week. If this goes well, an accreditation team will come back at the end of the first year for the provisional accreditation and then again full or permanent accreditation when the first class is about to graduate. As we expect, we will receive accreditation and the go ahead to open in Fall 2011.

The Provost went on to discuss the partnership with North Shore LIJ. The design for this Medical School ensures that will not have an adverse economic impact on the rest of the University, It will in fact, benefit Hofstra greatly and help differentiate us from other institutions.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

There was no report from the Senate Executive Committee.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee is continuing work on their charge review and the committee met with Dolores Fredrich and Catherine Hennessey this past Wednesday to discuss the financial impact of the decision to eliminate the football program and to discuss the overall planning & budget processes of the university. At the next Planning & Budget Committee meeting they will discuss the committee's potential role within that process. Prof. Martorella also reported that the Library Report is completed and she will be sending out the final draft to Planning & Budget Committee members, the Library faculty and the Library Subcommittee members to review. The annual Town Meeting is scheduled for April 14th and Prof. Martorella reported that there will not be a live webcast or twitter feed but students will be able to email submitted questions using the virtual suggestion box. The Office for Student Affairs will help to organize questions into categories and they will be answered at the meeting if time allows. If there is not enough time at the meeting, the questions will be forwarded to the appropriate administrator's offices and get the answers for the students. The radio station will be recording the event and replaying segments over the air. The Provost commented that he has suggested holding a second Town Hall Meeting a year focusing completely on the academic area.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez reported that the committee is still working on the parking issue and have broken it down to three major issues to which they will be addressing:

- The Shuttle Service
- The enforcement of current parking laws
- Visibility of parking laws

An idea is to streamlining the shuttle buses during peak class times to take students from more distant parking. Instead of having the buses make the entire route, a bus may come every 5 to 10 minutes. Christiaan will be meeting with Anita Ellis the outcome of the Commuting Students Round-Table Discussion.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Prof. Lopez reported for Chairperson Lodato-Wilson that the committee has continued its work on the addition of an appeals process for FPS #50 –A Classroom Code of Conduct for Students, and will be presenting it to the full faculty, as an information item, at next week's meeting.

The committee will be recommending that faculty who dismiss students from class permanently have to report it within 24hours to their dean, their Chair, the Provost's Office and the Center for University Advisement. The committee is also recommending that the Provost's Office contact the students and that the students be given a period of five days from the date of contact in order to appeal if they wish to appeal the dismissal. Prof. Lopez also reported that the committee has finalized its discussion on the revision to the Unofficial Withdrawal Policy

and will also be presenting it as an information item to the full faculty. Prof. Lopez also reported that the committee has also began discussion on changing current probation standards and adding language to the Guide To Pride on Advisement making it clear to students that they need to maintain their own academic progress and to touch base with advisors on an as needed basis.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee is continuing to work on the graduate student diversity project and will hold another focus group this semester. The committee took a closer look at the raw data collected from the second focus group held in December and will be making a critical connection between the graduate student survey and the quantitative data that was collected along with the qualitative data collected through the focus groups. Prof. Lightfoot also reported that the committee will be looking at the Incomplete Policy for graduate students.

E. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee began its review of Faculty Statutes IV defining what is a faculty member in light of the Medical School. The committee has also begun to review the Equal Opportunity- Affirmative Action Policy and plan to invite Margaret Abraham, Dolores Fredrich, and Jennifer Mone to their April 14th meeting.

IV. New Business

Prof. Martorella reported that the Planning & Budget Committee is planning to reintroduce the residential parking ban that was passed a number of years ago by the Senate Executive Committee and the Senate but did not make it to the full faculty. This ban is for residential students on south campus between the hours of 7am to 4pm – Monday through Friday. The committee will be happy to meet with members of the Student Affairs Committee to discuss issues they might have prior to the April meeting.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, APRIL 12, 2010
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Brown, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Firestone, Fritz, Giebel, Johnson, Lightfoot, Lodato-Wilson, Lopez, Martorella, Mellis, Naymark, Nirode, Perry, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Skerski, Sulley, Viswanathan

Absent: Bhogal, Catanese, Cordero Rubinos, Krapp, Labossiere, Moghadam, Ostrow, Perez, Sarno,

Guests: Maney, Rubey

The minutes of the March 8th, 2010 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that there was a very successful Admissions Event held on Saturday, April 10th which was the third major weekend of Accepted Students Day. It was very well attended with enthusiastic students and their parents. Jessica Eads remarked that every family they spoke with discussed how thrilled they were with the hospitality and the way the Hofstra faculty and administrators made themselves available to answer questions.

Provost Berliner reported that the Medical School Accreditation Team was on campus three weeks ago from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME.) Accreditation goes through three stages: Preliminary provisional, and then full accreditation. The preliminary accreditation (plus New York state approval) is what you need to get before you can even accept a student. The visit went very well and our expectation is that we will receive preliminary accreditation at the beginning of June, recruit the first class of Hofstra University students and the school will open on schedule in 2011.

Provost Berliner reported that the awarding of the Guru Nanak Interfaith Prize will be held tonight. The recipients this year are Arthur Schneier, the spiritual leader of the Park East Synagogue, and Religions for Peace, a worldwide multi-religious coalition.

Provost Berliner also reported that the Day and Night for Haiti will be held tomorrow. The program will start with welcoming remarks and then there will be a discussion regarding responses to the emergency. There will be a celebration of the culture of Haiti in the evening. He encourages everyone to attend. The conference begins at 9:30am in the Cultural Center Theatre and the celebration at 7:00pm in the Main Dining Room in the Student Center.

Prof. Filippi from the Department of Biology reported that the Dean, in partnership with Larry Levy, and the National Center for Suburban Studies, has agreed to provide funding for a field site on campus, near the Law School, south of Gittleson Hall. This field site will be used for insects and many plants and endangered species. Other Biology courses will be able to use it as experiments in labs. Provost Berliner reported that in addition, there will also be a honey bee hive situated at the bird sanctuary.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode

Prof. Nirode presented for action, a revision to the Guide to Pride, regarding the Center for University Advisement portion adding some additional language to inform students that they have the ultimate responsibility to review and understand their DAR and academic progress. The item passed unanimously.

Prof. Nirode presented for Information the revision to FPS #50 – Classroom Code of Conduct for Student and the revisions to the Unofficial Withdrawal Policy. These items were brought to the faculty on March 18th for information. At that meeting the faculty made slight amendments to FPS #50 and moved both items to action items and passed them.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that regarding their charge review the committee members agreed that their charge should stand as it is and they do not want to make any revisions at this time. The committee sees it's role as set forth in the charge as important and would like to get more involved in the five-year planning process. The committee also has an upcoming meeting with Jessica Eads and Amy Kahn on May 7th to learn about the awarding of scholarships at Hofstra, as the committee is interested in possibly tracking over time the amounts of money going into needs-based scholarships as result of the elimination of the football program. Prof. Martorella reported that the Library report has been completed and should come to the Senate at the next meeting. The committee also discussed issues revolving around South Campus parking and the resolution they have put forth. They spoke with the students and will be presenting a revised resolution to the Senate Executive Committee at their next meeting. Prof. Martorella also reported that the committee was asked to look into the issue of coursepacks and the expense of having them put together by the bookstore. They learned that the contract with the bookstore has recently been renewed, so the committee will begin discussions about possible alternatives in preparation for the next contract negotiation. Prof. Martorella also reminded everyone that the Annual Town Hall Meeting is on Wednesday, during common hours in the Plaza Rooms.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Miranda Sulley reported for Chairperson Perez that she and Christiaan have met with members of the Planning & Budget Committee to discuss specific concerns with the parking resolution and came up with a revised resolution to which they will discuss at their next meeting on Friday. She also reported that the Center for Civic Engagement is working on having a refugee camp on South Campus for approximately 4 days starting April 25th as well as a Hunger Banquet to take note of the amount of hunger there is around the globe. Provost Berliner reported that they have secured Jean Kelly is the executive director of The Interfaith Nutrition Network as a guest speaker.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lodato-Wilson reported that the committee is still looking at the completion ratio and tried to raise the standards to include incompletes and failures. They did some projective numbers of how many students this would effect today, if we had the new policy which turned out to be a lot of students.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee has scheduled its next and last focus group for graduate students of color and international students for Wednesday, May 5th. They are also working on reformulate the incomplete policy for graduate students. Trudy Cucciniello, Dean of Academic Records, attend the last Graduate Academic Affairs Committee to help gather data related to the policy. She will also attend the next Graduate Directors meeting to gather their input.

E. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee has been redrafting Faculty Statutes IV defining what is a faculty member in light of the Medical School. The committee will also review the Equal Opportunity- Affirmative Action Policy on Wednesday with Margaret Abraham, Dolores Fredrich and Jennifer Mone in attendance.

IV. New Business

Prof. Lodato-Wilson reported that two professors have approached her about what course of action they could take with a student who is constantly on the cell phone. She is hoping that FPS #50 – Classroom Code of Conduct for Students can be disseminated to the faculty as soon as possible. Provost Berliner reported that once it is approved by the President, they will discuss ways to disseminate to all of the faculty and how it can be communicated to the students as well.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, APRIL 26, 2010
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

- Present: Ammari, Bass, Berliner, Brown, Cordero Rubinos, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Fritz, Giebel, Giuliani, Glasser, Johnson, Kania, Lightfoot, Lopez, Martorella, Mellis, Miller, Naymark, Nirode, Perez, Perry, Pioreck, Schmelkin, Simmons, Skerski, Sulley, Viswanathan, Wells
- Absent: Bhogal, Catanese, Firestone, Krapp, Labossiere, Lodato-Wilson, Moghadam, Ostrow, Sarno
- Guests: Libman, Maney, O'Malley, Rubey, Yelverton, Zewou

The minutes of the April 12th, 2010 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner

There was no report from Provost Berliner, but he offered to answer any questions at the closing of the meeting.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Will Nirode
Action Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for action, the proposed parking resolution prohibiting resident students from parking on the South Campus on weekdays, from 7 AM to 3 PM. In addition there is also a proposal to improve the shuttle bus service between the north end of campus to the south end of campus. Under this proposal, there is also a one-time temporary permit that resident students can request if they do need to park on the south campus for some reason such as dropping off/picking up equipment, etc. Georgina Martorella, chair of the Planning & Budget Committee reported that this proposal was approved a number of years ago by the Senate Executive Committee and Full Senate, but because of an oversight, never made it to the full faculty. Prof Bass of the Planning & Budget Committee clarified that the request for a temporary pass is not limited to a one time pass, and is up to Public Safety's discretion. The item has been reviewed by both the Planning & Budget Committee and the Student Affairs Committee extensively. Peter Libman, the Dean of Students and advisor to the Student Affairs Committee reported that the Student Affairs Committee does not support the resolution and feels it is not supportive of the student's point of view. Prof. Bass reported that Public Safety has assured them that there will be an ongoing, periodic permanent schedule, whereby the students on the North campus at Colonial Square and Nassau/Suffolk will be picked up on a 15 to 18 minute basis, starting at 7AM dropping them off at the Student Center, Gallon Hall and in front of the Hofstra Deli. Christian Perez, chair of the Student Affairs Committee questioned why this resolution is being discussed before they get the consensus from the student body about what their feelings would be on such a resolution. More discussion followed and the resolution was defeated with 7 approved, and 11 opposed.

Information Items

1. Prof. Nirode presented for Information the Library Report from the Planning & Budget Committee. Georgina Martorella, chair of the Planning & Budget Committee reported that after the West Campus Library had to move over and we had to consolidate collections and personnel into the Axinn building, the committee was asked to report on the future directions of

the Axinn Library. The committee looked at library services, collections and space in a lot of detail. The Planning & Budget Committee used the LibQual+ Survey which is a standard assessment instrument in academic libraries administered in spring, 2007. The results of the survey, both the numbers and the comments, were examined very carefully by the committee. The committee also followed this up with a series of focus groups to clarify and understand some of the information received from the survey. The Planning & Budget Committee focused on three broad areas: space, services and collections. Prof. Martorella summarized some of the results from these surveys and focus groups, as well as important resolutions in the executive summary of the report. Provost Berliner pointed out that in the fall, the Senate will not be voting to accept every single point of the resolution, but that they support the report in principle, and encourages much of it to be adopted as can be. This item will be on the Senate agenda when the University Senate resumes in the fall semester, and Prof. Martorella, whose term as Planning & Budget Committee chair expires this semester, will return in the fall to answer any questions raised.

III. Committee Reports

A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Georgina Martorella reported that the committee had their Annual Town Hall meeting on April 14th and the turn out was good but the questions were very slow & coming. The issues raised included:

- paying for food by credit card
- budget transparency
- conditions in residence halls after the storm

The committee is meeting on May 7th with Amy Kahn and Vice President Eads to discuss the scholarship process.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Perez, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that the committee has been reviewing the pros and cons of the proposed parking ban, as well as some SGA resolutions. The committee will continue researching possible solutions to the parking situation, in the fall semester.

C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

Prof. Fritz reported for chairperson Lodato-Wilson, that the committee is still working with probation standards. The committee has some good data from Academic Records but need more to understand what the impact would be with any changes the committee is considering. They will meet sometime next week.

D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, and are in the initial stages of reviewing the incomplete policy for graduate students. Dean Cucciniello of Academic Records was invited to the committee's last meeting and she supplied data that was distributed to the Graduate Directors' meeting last week. The Graduate Academic Affairs Committee will be studying this data. Prof. Lightfoot also reported that the committee is holding their final focus group for graduate students of color and international students for Wednesday, May 5th.

E. Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson Pioreck reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee is holding their final meeting on Wednesday and will continue to discuss what defines a faculty member. The committee also met with Margaret Abraham, Dolores Fredrich, Jennifer Mone and two students from the Law School to their last meeting to continue reviewing the current compilation of the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Policy. The committee will wait for the Diversity Task Force to give them some information before approving the final policy.

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Adjournment

The 2009-2010 was adjourned at 3:54p.m. The Provost then asked the members of the 2010-2011 Senate to elect a chair for their committee. The chairs are as followed:

SEC	William Nirode
GAAC	Jonathan Lightfoot
UAAC	Paul Fritz
P & B	Stuart Bass
FAC	Richard Pioreck
SAC	Kenny Cordero-Rubinos

In addition, the following students were assigned to the following standing committees:

Shantai Yelverton – Planning & Budget Committee

Miranda Sulley – Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee

The rest of the student Senators and Senators-At-Large will serve the Student Affairs Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17p.m.