

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, MARCH 11, 2019
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Berliner, Burnett, Caniano, Chun, Dippel, Eliot, Ellinger, Elkis-Abuhoff, Fritz, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Hirsch, Houck, Lotier, Maccarrone, McElroy, Ramirez, Seirup, Tarson, Wallace, Ward-Ciesielski

Absent: Basile, Boston-Hill, DeTora, Doan, Dougharty, Eads, Gershman, Hinson, Hoover, Kurtz, Miller, Normandin, Schlegel, Shapiro

Guests: Ploran

The February 11, 2019 minutes were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Herman Berliner

The Provost convened the meeting by reporting that the Hofstra basketball team is the #1 seed in the CAA men's basketball tournament and continues tonight with a game against Delaware. This is a terrific team and we wish them the best. The Provost noted that about 40% of our athletes are on either the Dean's List or the Provost's List. These are huge accomplishments which clearly demonstrates the quality of our students, both on the field and in the classroom.

The Provost reported that the administration is in the position of completing the search for Hofstra's first Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer (CDIO). – The President announced the next day that the appointment of Cornell L. Craig, assistant dean for diversity and inclusion at Pace University.

There is also a search underway for the Executive Director of the Hofstra INTO program. Dr. Frank Gaughan of our Writing Studies Department will be the Academic Director of INTO and I am very pleased that he was willing to assume this critical position.

Middle States arrives on campus on March 31st and there will be two full days of meetings on April 1st and 2nd. We are well prepared for this visit thanks to the hard work of everyone involved.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee George Giuliani

Prof. Giuliani reported that the Senate Executive Committee met on March 4th and that the individual standing committees have been meeting and working on their agendas.

Action Items

1. Prof. Giuliani presented for action, revisions to Faculty Policy Series #46 - Peer Observation of Teaching. Prof. Hirsch, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the policy was revised so that it is applicable to peer observation of online courses in addition to regular courses. An amendment was made to section V. B. to change "In class observations.." to "In-class observations..." The item passed as amended with one abstention.
2. Prof. Giuliani presented for action, criteria for the Course and Teacher Ratings (CTRs) pilot program. Prof Hirsch reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee has established the criteria and unanimously approved it for the CTR pilot program. They are as follows:
 - Faculty from across the schools will be able to volunteer in the pilot with a total of at least 10% of faculty in each school.
 - Each faculty will have no more than one course in the pilot and that course must have CTR scores available from the previous two years.

- Both tenured and non-tenured faculty may volunteer for the pilot program, but pilot results cannot be used for the purposes of granting tenure, promotion, or reappointment.
- Adjuncts may volunteer if they teach more than one section of the same course or more than one course during the semester of the CTR pilot program.

A discussion followed and the following amendments were made:

..a total of at least 10% of faculty in each school

was revised to:

*..a **goal** of at least 10% of faculty in each school*

Both tenured and non-tenured faculty may volunteer for the pilot program, but pilot results cannot be used for the purposes of granting tenure, promotion, or reappointment.

was revised to:

*Both tenured and non-tenured faculty may volunteer for the pilot program, but pilot results cannot be used for the purposes of granting tenure, promotion, or **full-time or adjunct** reappointment.*

It was decided that Prof. Hirsch will create a summary of the program itself to insert before the action item. The item passed as amended.

III. New Business

Prof. Maccarrone reported that that students have increasingly shared with him discomfort in being overwhelmed with what they perceive to be liberal but anti conservative political bias on campus including in class, and in one case apparently anti-Christian bias. Also in statements made by administrators, including on social media. A discussion followed.

Prof. Maccarrone reported on a concern about an apparent lack of concern for recycling on campus, particularly in the buildings. A discussion followed.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Rina Hirsch, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the revisions to FPS #46 on Peer Evaluations and the Criteria for participation in the online CTR pilot program were unanimously approved. She also reported that Jennifer Mone, Deputy General Counsel and Equal Rights & Opportunity Officer, met with the committee to discuss revisions to FPS #47 - Policy on Personal Relationships Between Faculty/Other Employees and Students. The committee had a lively discussion on the topic. Jennifer will come back to the committee with revisions to the FPS consistent with what other schools have in place and based on the suggestions made by the committee. Also at that meeting, Steve Fabiani, Vice President for Digital Innovation and Technology, presented the pros and cons to using Qualtrics vs. Campus Labs as our vendor for the online CTR pilot program. The committee unanimously approved the recommendation of Campus Labs as the vendor for the pilot program. The committee unanimously approved the recommendation of Emeritus Status for Kathleen Scott. At its next meeting the committee will:

- discuss revisions to FPS #36 – The Use of Human Subjects in Research, university guidelines with respect to journal/book publications as described in FPS #15 – Ad Hoc Committee on Tenure
- review the applicability of our existing CTR instrument for use in online/hybrid delivery classes
- discuss creation of a rubric to assess online CTR pilot program results
- discuss adding CTR criteria to evaluate instructors' diversity initiatives in curriculum and/or support for an inclusive classroom environment.

- B. Erin Ward-Ciesielski, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee met on February 13 and a big part of the discussion were the revisions to Faculty Policy Series #11G. The committee also received updates from Robert Brinkmann, Vice Provost for Scholarship and Research, and Dean of Graduate Studies, related to rolling out and outline for programs for graduate handbooks. The committee also discussed graduate enrollment numbers.
- C. Carissa Ramirez, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that senators were working through the break on their initiatives. Two senators have successfully finished their initiatives.
- D. Paul Fritz, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that at the February 15 meeting, the committee approved revisions to FPS #11 and a revised Global Citizens Designation. The committee then engaged in a discussion of the completion ration and completion ratio probation, brought to the committee’s attention because some students not being picked up for probation despite low completion rations. Discussion on this issue will continue after information on how the process currently works is presented to the committee. He also reported that the committee also addressed an issue with the Hofstra University Bookstore, where it was effectively promoting online sources that could be used for cheating and other violations of the Honor Code. It was noted that the bookstore addressed this problem quickly in Spring 2019, but the committee agreed that it will pursue a resolution that will state educational contracts with outside vendors must be consistent with Hofstra’s academic policies. The committee also addressed the January session withdrawal deadline and voted unanimously that current policy that states withdrawal should be “Prior to the final exam – last day to withdraw from a course with instructor’s permission” to a policy of “two days before the last session”. During this discussion, the committee also agreed to a review of the Bulletin regarding withdrawal policy.
- E. William Caniano chair of the Planning and Budget Committee that they have received an update from Joseph Barkwill, Vice President for Facilities and Operations:
- New School of Business is now open.
 - Weller Hall is the process of being renovated estimated completion in the Summer 2020
 - Future residents will be INTO and the Career Center
 - CV Starr to be renovated over the summer of 2019
 - The Library Curriculum Material Center will be moving into the Axinn Library. The space vacated will be used for a virtual anatomy lab.
 - Student Center East will be undergoing some landscaping
 - The intersection near the University Club will be reconfigured to address traffic/accident issues.
 - Starbucks in the Student Center will be moving from its corner to where TD Bank is currently. They will have a full café.

Prof. Caniano reported that Catherine Hennessy, Senior Vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer, and Dolores Fredrich, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, reported on the following:

- Tuition net revenues are stable
- Retention rates are stable but not stellar at approximately 82%

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08p.m.