

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, MARCH 12, 2018

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

Present: Agcaoili, Balson, Caniano, Curtiss, Dippel, Dougharty, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Goodman, Hirsch, Hoovort, Houck, Lopez, Maccarrone, Mazzocco, Normandin, Sample, Schlegel Seirup, Shapiro, Simmons, Silver, Wallace

Absent: Amalathas, Chun, Cinquemani, Eads, Fritz, Herold, Imran, Miller, Persky, Ramirez, Santangelo, Wong

The February 26, 2017 minutes were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Gail Simmons

The Provost convened the meeting by welcoming some new senators. Elisabeth Schlegel, from the Medical School, and serving on the Faculty Affairs Committee. Rina Hirsch, from the Zarb School of Business, who is substituting for Anthony Basile, (who is on leave) and she will be serving on the Faculty Affairs Committee. Jayne Ellinger from the School of Health Professions and Human Services, who is serving on the Planning and Budget Committee.

The Provost reported that she spent this past weekend on campus for a variety of admissions events.

Terri Shapiro, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, reported on Middle States: committees are working on their drafts with most committees completed an initial draft. Some are more complex than others. They are on scheduled.

The Provost reported that last year, the university had quite a significant increase in submissions of grants to external funding agencies and going along with that, we are seeing a 26% increase in the dollar amount of indirect cost recoveries. Not only is the university applying for more grants, the grants we are getting are coming with more overhead. It speaks well not just our overall ability to get grants, but to get grants from agencies that tend to provide support for the infrastructure of the university.

The Provost reported that Neil Donahue, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs and Internationalization, asked her to distribute copies of the latest copy of Hofstra Horizons magazine, by the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs. She also reported some updates on undergraduate students:

- two students won Fulbright Scholarships
- one student received a critical language scholarship to Tanzania, to student Swahili

The Provost reported that there will be a significant symposium being planned for the fall semester featuring author Russell Shorto. He authored a book several years ago named *The Island at the Center of the World*. He has now written a book about the international character of Amsterdam. This year is the 25th anniversary of the university's partnership with the University of Amsterdam, and we're hoping to renew and perhaps expand our partnership.

The Provost reported that the Internationalization Committee has been meeting as well as the Faculty Advisory Council on Internationalization. There is a new Internationalization webpage that is up and running.

The Provost reported that the Mid-Semester Advisory process is in progress, due on March 16, though the system will be open until April 1. She also reported that we are in the process of working with the

American Council on Education to have a more robust way to evaluate the military transcripts for veterans who apply for admission to Hofstra. The American Council on Education has developed a panel of experts who work with your institution to develop the transfer equivalencies.

The Provost reported that regarding digital pedagogy, we are in the process of deciding which of the task forces we are going to launch first, after spring break. Also, we are working this semester to launch a Summer Math Academy pilot, spearheaded by Gillian Elston and Kira Adaricheva from the Department of Mathematics, along with Mauro Caputi and David Rooney from the School of Engineering. Students will have an online opportunity to engage in being better prepared for the Mathematics they will have to take and to be a part of an online community with current students and other newly accepted students. The object being to try to improve outcomes in the Mathematics courses that engineering students must take. The program will use Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS) which is a Web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee George Giuliani

Prof. Giuliani reported that the Senate Executive Committee met on Monday and covered a number of different issues, some they had to table:

- Associate Speaker
- Repeat Course Policy
- Senators and Absences

Action Items

1. Prof Giuliani presented for action revisions to UNIV001. Prof. Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that UNIV001 is an online module that students who are on academic probation are required to take. According to the current bulletin, the language is that they are to complete the course in the first semester they are notified they are on probation. There were also many restrictions on their enrollment. This started as a course that was done in the classroom, because of the volume of students who had to take this course lead to the instruction of the online module. Several years ago, the committee took an analysis to try to determine whether this online module had a positive outcome. The committee reviewed the data for multiple years and analyze the student's trajectory. There was no evidence that UNIV001 had any discernable impact on the student's trajectory. Many students did not complete UNIV001 in that first semester and received unofficial withdrawals. The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee ultimately decided that it was not an effective vehicle and looked at alternatives. The committee is proposing that the language in the current bulletin concerning UNIV001 be dropped, that it no longer be a requirement. Instead, students would be required to actively work with their advisors to develop an academic action plan. It would involve a host of required activities and access to resources that could be modified to the individual needs of those students. A discussion followed and the following amendments were made:

In the third paragraph

advisor was changed to *Advising Dean*

Advising Office was changed to *the Center for University Advising*

As soon as possible was changed to *at the beginning of the semester*

2. Prof Giuliani presented for action the Religious Observance Policy which is a proposal regarding the academic calendar. If a student should miss a class due to religious observances, they should notify the faculty member as soon as they anticipate it. Likewise, faculty members who anticipate

missing class for religious observance should notify students in their classes in advance. This policy is not a discussion about how one feels about the academic calendar. The policy will be in the bulletin and serve as a guideline for faculty and students. A discussion followed and the item passed unanimously.

III. New Business

Dean Seirup reported that for National Public Health Week, the university is holding events March 28 - April 11. The undergraduate Exercise Science and graduate Health Administration programs will be sponsoring the Steps Plus: Hofstra Fitness and Health Challenge - a two-week team competition. The goal of the challenge is to accumulate as many steps as possible each day throughout the two weeks. There will also be speakers during the week as well as the Annual Public Health Fair.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Donna Balson, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the committee are moving forward with the Teacher of the Year for an Adjunct Professor. The committee has also been discussing the possibility of creating a new position of Associate Speaker of the Faculty. The committee also discussed a delivery system for the Course and Teacher Ratings (CTRs), as well as discussing peer evaluations for online courses. The committee also discussed the Repeat Course Policy and the Religious Observance Policy.
- B. Debra Goodman, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee discussed the Repeat Course Policy, as well as new bulletin language for Five Year Accelerated Programs which is in-house designation for undergraduate and graduate programs. Accelerated Programs develop a common plan of study, allowing qualified students to take some graduate coursework during undergraduate and complete an accelerated master's degree. It will be online soon.
- C. Antonio Agcaoili, a student senator reported for the chair of the Student Affairs Committee. The committee discussed the Repeat Course Policy. The committee is hard at work on the smoking ban near the student center. There has also been discussion about trying to isolate smoking in areas away from the residence halls. A few weeks ago, the committee, along with the Student Government Association (SGA), held an event, "Public Safety Hears You," which was an evening dedicated to answering students' questions and addressing concerns.
- D. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee discussed the issue of the advent of certain technological changes impacting on classrooms and potential impact on pedagogical issues. The committee also talked about the need for due consultation involvement of faculty when technological decisions are being made that have the potential of adversely impacting the quality of teaching and the experience of our students.
- E. William Caniano, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, reported that the committee holding a meeting with Catherine Hennessy, Senior Vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer, and Dolores Fredrich, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

V. Adjournment

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