

## **MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, APRIL 7, 2014**

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

Present: Angles, Balson, Bass, Berliner, Bhogal, Dresner, Eads, Elston, Finnegan, Fritz, Gennarelli, Ghorayeb, Giuliani, Glasser, Goodman, Hoover, Johnson, Lopez, Maccarrone, Sample, Schmelkin, Silver, Thomas, Yohn

Absent: Davidow, Espinal, Filippi, Fincham, Firestone, Flannery, Lucito

Guests: Laggan

The minutes of the March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

#### **I. Report of the Provost, Herman Berliner**

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by reporting that as he indicated at the last Senate meeting, that St. Baldrick's fundraiser held by the men's roller hockey club, has crossed the \$25,000.00 threshold and has raised \$36,000.00. The fundraiser raises money for childhood cancer research.

The Provost also reported that given the winter we had this year, and Hurricane Sandy last year, he would like the Senate to start thinking about what we can do differently if we have inclement weather. With technology being as advanced as it is, perhaps we should look at closing the university and hold classes online, using the Blackboard Technology Management System or another course management system. Pre-K12 schools have adopted iPads and tablets, which have allowed differentiated instruction on an individual basis. The Provost feels we should focus more on what capabilities technology allows us to access and how we can use that to the benefit of the education we provide.

#### **II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee Chairperson Stuart Bass**

Prof. Bass reported that the Senate Executive Committee has come up with what they think is a fair and yet comprehensive policy statement regarding sanctions for those who violate the smoking ban on campus. He added that the proposal was not added to the day's agenda as the Senate Executive Committee felt it was indifference to the two major unions on campus and want to be sure there are no procedural rights being denied or infringed upon. Prof. Bass will be meeting with Gloria Hoover, Local 153 Shop Steward and Dennis Mazzocco, President of Hofstra's AAUP chapter on Wednesday, with the hopes of resolving any potential conflicts with differences. The policy will be formally presented at the next Senate meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Action Items**

1. Prof. Bass presented for action, the evaluation of chairs by the Faculty Affairs Committee. George Giuliani, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that about a year ago, the committee was charged with creating an evaluation of Deans' policy. Upon completion, the next charge to the committee was to create an evaluation of chairs. The committee started out by looking at about 15-20 chairperson evaluations throughout the nation as well as looking at the Faculty Policy Series that is very specific to what are the responsibilities of the chair. Ultimately, the committee came up with different statements that qualify for chair people. The committee came up with common themes:
  - Administrative Responsibilities
  - Be able to communicate
  - Be able to make decisions

- Have to evaluate
- What Faculty Policy Series #13 requires
- Show Leadership
- Be trustworthy

After creating its final draft, the committee handed the policy over to the Chairs' Caucus for concerns/feedback. The content of the evaluation was not amended. There were concerns with whether or not to have a chairperson evaluation to begin with. The Faculty Affairs Committee's role was to create the evaluation not to determine its purpose. The recommendation is three-fold:

- The SEC and FAC agreed this evaluation will go "as is" in terms of the content
- The FAC recommended it would be done annually, while the SEC recommends that this evaluation be administered in the spring semester of the 2nd year of the chair's 3-year term.
- The FAC it would be done through scantron and pencil and paper format (not online) while the SEC recommended it be done online like the Deans' Evaluations

Susan Yohn, chair of the Chairs' Caucus reported that the point many of the chairs made was to remember that chairs actually get evaluated multiple times. They are asked annually to do faculty evaluations like everyone else. Members of the department have the opportunity to "weigh in" before someone is chosen as a chair, as well as when the chair term is renewed. A discussion followed and it was decided to send the item back to the committee to work on the process and procedure of administering the evaluation. Prof. Giuliani reported that the committee will be meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> and requests that any concerns/questions be emailed to him by then for the committee to review.

2. Prof. Bass presented for action, the Standing Committee Chairs Resolution. He reported that that given some of the very sensitive information and detailed information that needs to be dealt with by the standing committees, it is important overall for a tenured elected faculty senator to chair these committees. However, the Senate Executive Committee recognize that in any given year, the faculty pool who are tenured may not allow for each standing committee to be subject to getting themselves a tenured faculty member. Therefore, he believes some mechanism should be put in place such as allowing the Senate Executive Committee to appoint an appropriate elected tenured faculty member to fill those spots. A discussion followed and the resolution was amended as follows:

***BE IT RESOLVED**, that effective Fall 2015, the chairs of all standing committees (with the exception of the Student Affairs Committee,) including the chair of the Senate Executive Committee, shall be an elected faculty senator with tenure.*

*Until September 2015, the Senate therefore recommends that where possible, each standing committee of the Senate elect a tenured elected faculty senator as chair of that committee.*

The item passed as amended.

### **III. Committee Reports**

#### **A. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee**

Chairperson Fritz reported that the committee continued its discussion on Departmental Honors, but were unable to reach a resolution and tabled the item. The committee also started a

discussion on multiple majors. Academic Records provided data that suggests that there isn't much of an issue in terms of double counting of courses and advisement issues so no action was taken. The committee also started a discussion on Transfer Credits – T- Designation. This is an issue where there is not really credit given to a student in most cases but still appears on the transcript and is awfully confusing to students, faculty and some administrators.

#### B. Student Affairs Committee

Chairperson Finnegan reported that the committee continues to discuss parking issues and are looking forward to making additional recommendations, pending the results of the parking survey. The committee also discussed the smoking ban which is reflected in the forthcoming resolution, and are turning its focus on the North campus smoking ban. He also reported that promotional materials for the Town Hall meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup> will be coming out shortly. In addition, the Student Affairs Committee will be advertising the Town Hall meeting, along with the upcoming elections for student Senate representative within the next week. The committee is also reviewing its bylaws.

#### C. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Maccarrone reported that he has been working with the Student Affairs Committee, the Student Government Association, Caroline Schreiner, Senior Support Specialist, Vice President Johnson, and Gloria Hoover, Local 152 Senator on the specifics of the Town Hall meeting. He asks that all faculty start encouraging their students to attend. . It will be expanded from 10am until 3pm with the central discussion, with senior administrators happening during common hour. Prof. Maccarrone also reported that the committee will have its next meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> where Michael Salatti, from the Engineering Department, will be presenting results of his students' senior project. In addition, a recommendation was made by the Provost to invite the Dean of the Medical School to the next Planning and Budget Committee meeting to get mutually oriented. He will arrive at the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at 12:30. He also reported that the Outcomes Assessment Subcommittee was formed and core populated by the following:

- Oscar Espinal – Undergraduate Student
- Keun Lee – Department of Marketing & International Business
- Dennis Mazzocco - Department of Radio, TV & Film
- Eugene Maccarrone – Department of Accounting, Taxation and Legal Studies
- Comila Shahani-Denning – Department of Psychology

He asks that if anyone is interested in outcomes assessment, to please contact him.

#### IV. New Business

Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management, reported that the department held several admitted students' day during the last few weeks, and are trying to remind faculty and everyone else on campus that when they see these groups visiting the campus, feel free to say hello. It leaves a lasting impression.

#### V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33p.m.