

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, APRIL 9, 2018
THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Present: Agcaoili, Balson, Caniano, ChunDougharty, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Filippi, Fritz, Giuliani, Goodman, Hirsch, Houck, Imran, Lopez, Maccarrone, Mazzocco, Miller, Normandin, Sample, Santangelo, Schlegel Seirup, Simmons, Silver, Wallace

Absent: Amalathas, Cinquemani, Curtiss, Dippel, Ellinger, Ghorayeb, Herold, Hoover, Persky, Ramirez, Shapiro, Wong

The March 12, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the Provost, Provost Gail Simmons

The Provost convened the meeting by reporting that this week is the launch of a pilot program. It is an Association of Chief Academic Officers (ACAO) Digital Fellowship, offering incoming students in the School of Engineering & Applied Science the opportunity to be part of an online community and to use some of adaptive learning software to hone their math skills to try and position themselves to be as ready for their majors as possible. This is entirely without cost to the student. It is a joint effort among faculty in the Math Department, the School of Engineering & Applied Science, the Office of Orientation and the Office of Admissions. The goal is to improve outcomes for students who express a desire for a major in SEAS, making it possible for more of them to complete the major in four years. Our hope is that, if the pilot shows promise, we will be able to extend the experience in future years to all students planning a major in a math-intensive discipline. The Provost, along with Kira Adaricheva and Gillian Ellston from the Department of Mathematics, are traveling to New Orleans for the third convening of the ACAO Digital Fellowship program where they will be reporting on what we are doing at Hofstra and hearing from 30 other schools in the project as to what they are doing.

The Provost reported on behalf of Robert Brinkmann, Vice Provost for Scholarship and Research, and Dean of Graduate Studies, and Andrew Parton Executive Director of the Cradle of Aviation Museum, with whom are launching a joint venture for the next several months to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. We are hosting an academic conference in April 2019 called “Apollo 50” with the Hofstra Cultural Center. A call for papers will be going out shortly. This is a truly interdisciplinary effort.

The Provost reported that based on a lunch meeting about digital pedagogy with Casey Green, founding director of the Campus Computing Project, a couple of task forces about digital pedagogy, and use of digital platforms are being formed. Terri Shapiro, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs will be working with Laura Martin, Director of Educational and Research Technology Services, to host a discussion group about pedagogy and curriculum and digital technology. The Provost has also asked Neil Donahue, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs and Internationalization, to put together a discussion group about the use of analytics and pedagogy and retention.

The Provost reported that the spring response rate for the Mid Semester Advisory was 77% up from 74% in the fall semester. There were quite a number of later responses. We want to continue to communicate that this is not designed to be quantitative. The earlier that a faculty member notices problems in class, whether they are related to work on an assignment, or just general behavior, the better. Faculty should not feel they need to accelerate assignments they are not ready to give, but they also shouldn't wait for those assignments to file.

II. Report of the Senate Executive Committee George Giuliani

Prof. Giuliani reported that the revisions to UNIV001, which were passed at the last Senate meeting, will be presented to the faculty at tomorrow's meeting. He also reported that the Senate Executive Committee met on April 2, and had a lot of discussions, though there are no action items at this time.

III. New Business

Dean Seirup reminded everyone that it is National Public Health Week and there will be numerous events on campus.

Prof. Maccarrone reminded everyone that the Town Hall Meeting is on Wednesday, April 25 in the Multipurpose Room of the Student Center.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Donna Balson, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that at its last meeting, the committee moved forward with a way to implement an Adjunct Teacher of the Year Award. Adjuncts will be eligible after teaching nine credit hours over at least three semesters within four academic years. The committee is also working on the creation of a new position. It was originally to be a deputy speaker of the faculty, but opted to recommend the creation of a Elections and Communications Officer, which will take place of the Secretary of the Faculty. This new position will have duties in the Special Committee on Recruitment, Elections and Nominations (SCREAN) and also have duties to supervise the taking of minutes, etc. Further discussion is needed. Prof. Balson reported that the committee is still working on the pilot program for the delivery system for the Course and Teacher Ratings (CTRs). The committee went through the current guidelines for the regular CTRs and just made some suggestions. The Provost reported that her office has received the recommendation from the Faculty Affairs Committee about the Adjunct Teacher of the Year Award. However, it is too late in the semester to implement for this year. She also reminded everyone that this year, for the first time, there will be a Teacher of the Year for each of the four schools in HCLAS.
- B. Debra Goodman, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee was not able to meet this month but will continue to collect data around doctoral programs and looking at the graduate bulletin copy. The committee will meet again on April 19.
- C. Antonio Agcaoili, a student senator, reported for the chair of the Student Affairs Committee. The Student Affairs Committee is working on a few projects right now. One senator hosted an event on Friday with the Student Health and Counseling Center (SHACC) to provide students a casual environment to ask questions about the services available to them. A conversation with Karen O'Callaghan about the smoking ban extension will take place later this week. The committee is in the beginning stages of University Senate elections and trying to get more students to run for senator positions. The committees next meeting is on Wednesday, April 18th during Common Hour. Senator Agcaoili reported that the Town Hall Meeting will be on April 25 during common hour, and he, along with Caroline Schreiner will have a table in the Student Center on April 18, during common hour, to promote the event.
- D. Marc Silver, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee engaged in discussion on a number of continuing matters, including the revisions to UNIV001, which will go before the full faculty at tomorrow's meeting. Prof. Silver reported that he met with Jean Peden-Christodoulou, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, about some of the

logistical aspects of bringing the structure into reality, assuming it is passed by the faculty. Prof. Silver reported that at it's the prior meeting, the committee discussed what was announced as a conversion of CV Starr to eliminate hard wired laptops and work stations and substitute software program through Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI). As chair of committee, Prof. Silver has had meetings with Robert Juckiewicz, Vice President for Information Technology, and a separate meeting with Laura Martin, Director of Educational and Research Technology Services. The Provost reported that the computers will not be taken out of CV Starr this fall. She, along with, Terri Shapiro, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, had a meeting with Vice President Juckiewicz and Director Martin to talk about the many concerns that have been expressed, particularly for faculty teaching and certain disciplines. They are considering the possibility of developing a specialty high performance computer lab that would support specific pieces of software for faculty who are teaching with those kinds of software. For more generalized software, that doesn't have quite the same demands, they will continue to look at how we can roll out some kind of a virtual desktop initiative because it does have big advantages for students. They can use the software anywhere and not limited to using it in a lab on campus.

Prof. Silver also reported that last year, the full faculty passed a change in how departmental honors would be dealt with in terms of the final transcript and part of that proposal was a blanket course change for departmental honors courses, so the committee received an update from Neil Donahue, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs and Internationalization, about the roll out of that. He reported that most all of the changes have been put into the bulletin and most of the courses have been changed both in the bulletin and in the system. There seemed to have been some delays for some unknown reason with certain department's courses that are still not coming up for the fall semester and the sense was it may have had to do with students having already enrolled in them with the old name and it didn't convert. By next spring it should be a uniform completion of that policy that was passed.

E. William Caniano, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee, reported that the committee met with Catherine Hennessy, Senior Vice President for Financial Affairs and Treasurer, and Dolores Fredrich, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

- Net revenues were stable but not expanding
- The Excelsior program is negatively impacting transfer students
- Undergraduate admission as of last month was tracking well
- The overall Moody's outlook for higher education is negative for the Northeast
- Bond rating seems to be stable
- Endowment is almost \$600,000,000.00

Prof. Caniano reported that the Town Hall Meeting is April 25. He also reported that Facilities is thinking about taking down Weller Hall rather than renovating it once the new Zarb building is complete.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.