

**MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011**  
**THESE MINUTES SHOULD BE READ IN REFERENCE TO THE AGENDA OF THE DAY**

Present: Balson, Bass, Berliner, Bhogal, Brown, Davidow, Eads, Elkis-Abuhoff, Finnegan, Firestone, Fritz, Gambord, Giebel, Giuliani, Glasser, Hewitt, Lightfoot, Lopez, Macy, Meredith, Miller, Moghadam, Sample, Schmelkin, Venuti, Zuniga

Absent: Jacobi, Johnson, Kamberova, Papper, Pillaipakkamatt, Sarno,

Guests: Nirode

The minutes of the May 9, 2011 Senate meeting were unanimously approved.

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

Provost Berliner convened the meeting by asking Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Dean of Admissions to give a brief update on the Fall 2011 incoming undergraduate student recruitment. Vice President Eads reported that the recruitment events were a huge success with an additional 250 undergraduate students over the year prior. There are 1682 first year full time students on campus right now with an average SAT score of 1172 and 3.5 GPA, which is a slight increase over last year. There are expected to be 505 transfer students this fall and recruitment for the 2012 class have already begun. Senior Vice Provost Schmelkin added that overall the graduate numbers are pacing and on target with last year's numbers. She also reported that we have launched our first completely online MBA program with 18 students enrolled this fall and looks to be very successful. In addition Dr. Schmelkin noted deans for the School of Education, Health and Human Services is also developing online programs. Provost Berliner reported that the Law School has a new high mark in terms of LSAT at 159, and a new class of over 350. He also reported that the university and the faculty have negotiated a terrific five-year contract between the university and the AAUP.

Provost Berliner reported that President Rabinowitz made a very emotional and moving speech at this morning's September 11<sup>th</sup> memorial.

Provost Berliner reported that over the summer, we lost two of our finest faculty members. Dana Brand, Professor of English and Vince Brown, Professor of Psychology. Both extraordinarily talented faculty members in terms of teaching & scholarship.

Provost Berliner highlighted a few events happening this semester

- September 15<sup>th</sup>- 9:30am, Guthart Cultural Center Theater  
Michael D'Innocenzo, History Department  
Constitution Day: Defining Government in Partisan America 1987 and 2011
- October 5, 2011, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:40 p.m., Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater  
Elizabeth Glazer, School of Law  
40th Hofstra University Distinguished Faculty Lecture - "Sexual Reorientation"

The Fall Festival begins on September 23<sup>rd</sup> with the Alumni Achievement Award

- Alumna of the Year
  - Marilyn B. Monter, J.D. '76 Executive Vice President, The Holiday Organization, Inc.
  - Alumni Achievement Award Recipients:
  - Andrew F. Corrado, M.B.A. '92 Senior Vice President and Market Manager; Market President — Nassau County Capital One Bank, N.A.

- Gerard N. Giovaniello, B.A. '64 Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Chief Lobbyist, National Association of Realtors
  - Nancy F. Kaplan, B.A. '73; M.A. '91; Ph.D. Associate Professor, Hofstra University
  - Diana E. Lake, B.A. '68; M.D. Medical Oncologist, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
  - Irwin E. Redlener, B.A. '64; M.D. President and Co-Founder, Children's Health Fund
  - Jack A. Weisbaum, B.B.A. '64 Chief Executive Officer; BDO USA, LLP
- Friday Evening: "Hofstra's Got Talent"
  - Saturday Morning: Parade of Floats
  - Saturday Afternoon: Vibe Live Concert & Carnival Opens
  - Saturday Evening: Comedian Louis CK

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

### Action Items

1. Prof. Bass presented for action the revisions to the Course Completion Ratio. Paul Fritz, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs reported that this is really just a clarification item. After the Senate & Faculty passed the revised Course Completion Policy in December 2010, the committee found a small problem with some of the language in that a first term student at Hofstra could essentially be placed on academic probation rather than the intended academic warning. These revisions would make any first term student that is below a certain threshold as established by the policy in the course completion ratio would be placed on academic warning – which has significant differences in the consequences for the student than being placed on academic probation.

A slight discussion followed and an amendment was made to include the following footnote to the policy:

*"Students should note that the completion ratio policy requirements are not necessarily equivalent to the federal aid satisfactory academic progress (SAP) requirements. Students should consult Student Financial Services with any questions."*

The policy passed unanimously as amended.

2. Prof. Bass presented for action the revisions to Faculty Policies Series 42 – Course Grade Appeal Policy. Paul Fritz, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs reported that looking at the language, which was recently modified, it would suggest a potential problem in a portion of the language that the Dean would have to either empanel or initiate a process to mediate for all cases. The Dean would not have the option to dismiss a frivolous case. The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee reworked the language to suggest that Dean's are permitted to dismiss a case if they consider it to be frivolous. However, none of the changes that the committee is proposed would change the ability for a student to further their appeal to the Provost's Office. The item was passed unanimously.

## III. Committee Reports

### A. Planning & Budget Committee

Chairperson Venuti reported that the committee will continue to discuss the possible Smoking Ban on South Campus. She also reported that she, along with Etana Jacobi, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, will be meeting with the Director of Public Safety to discuss several issues included the parking issue on campus as well as getting a traffic signal for California Avenue.

**B. Faculty Affairs Committee**

Chairperson Giuliani reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee will be looking at the idea of having evaluations of chairpersons, Deans and the Provosts. Currently there is no evaluation process so the committee will research what other institutions do, etc.

**C. Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee**

Chairperson Fritz reported that the committee will be working on the composition of the Academic Records Committees as well as investigating the idea of creating a guideline for faculty suggesting that they do not assign additional work over breaks in the semester, that isn't already outlined in the syllabus. The committee will also revisit the idea of eliminating the writing proficiency exam as a graduation requirement.

**D. Graduate Academic Affairs Committee**

Chairperson Lightfoot reported that the committee will continue with their diversity initiative and looking to incorporate the data they have collected through numerous focus groups with students of color & international backgrounds to create a faculty development series to increase faculty sensitivity and awareness around diversity issues. In addition, the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee will be working on the Unofficial Withdrawal Policy for graduate students.

**E. Student Affairs Committee**

There was no report from the Student Affairs Committee.

**IV. New Business**

There was no new business.

**V. Adjournment**

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