

**UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020**

I. The minutes of the September 16, 2020 minutes were approved.

II. Report of the Speaker of the Faculty, George Giuliani

Prof. Giuliani convened the meeting by saying the following:

“President Rabinowitz received a Juris Doctor magna cum laude from Columbia University School of Law, where he was a member of the Board of Editors of the Columbia Law Review and a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. President Rabinowitz joined the faculty of the law school at Hofstra University in 1972 and served as its Dean from 1989 through 2001. On December 20, 2000 President Rabinowitz was chosen by the Hofstra University board of trustees to serve as the 8th president of the University and assumed office in June 2001.

Under his leadership, Hofstra has created several new schools including our schools of Medicine, Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, Engineering and Applied Sciences, Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, School Health Professions and Human Services. He also founded the university's National Center for Suburban Studies and the Center for Entrepreneurship. Buildings dedicated to the arts and humanities, medicine, graduate student housing, and business have been constructed during his presidency, and thousands of square feet in laboratories, studios, performance spaces, classrooms, student services, and study areas have been renovated and made state of the art with technology enhancements throughout.

Hofstra remains the only University in the United States to host three consecutive presidential debates in 2008, 2012 and 2016. President Rabinowitz the recipient of numerous awards too many to mention here and he's been incredibly welcoming to me both as the former Senate Executive Committee chair, and now as Speaker of the Faculty.

President Rabinowitz has dedicated himself to our University in numerous roles, with the last 20 years as our president. As you are aware, he will be retiring and stepping down as president prior to the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.”

He then asked the faculty for a round of applause to express appreciation for President Rabinowitz’s almost 50 years or service to Hofstra University.

III. Address by President Stuart Rabinowitz followed by Q&A

President Rabinowitz addressed the faculty. (Attachment to be emailed at a later date).

IV. Report of the University Senate, William Caniano

Action Items

1. Prof. Caniano presented for action revisions to Faculty Policy Series #11 - Procedures for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Undergraduate Students at Hofstra University and Faculty Policy Series #11G - Procedures for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Graduate Students at Hofstra University. Since the university now has an “honor code”, the language has been updated to reflect this, including the titles of the policy series to “Violations of the Honor Code.” Both documents have been updated to reflect changes in our procedures. A slight discussion followed, and the items passed:
 - FPS #11 – 87 in favor of, 2 opposed and 14 abstentions
 - FPS #11G – 81 in favor of, 0 opposed 14 abstentions

2. Prof. Caniano presented for action a resolution to attach faculty photos to outlook and Blackboard with an opt-out option. The item was approved.

V. Report of the AAUP, Elisabeth Ploran

Prof. Ploran reported that the membership should have received an email on Thursday of last week with updates on several ongoing items. She asks that everyone please check their various Junk/Spam filters if they haven't received it. Contact AAUPHofstra@gmail.com if you did not receive the email, so that they can check their database.

The next membership meeting will be during Common Hour on Wednesday, November 11th via Zoom.

The AAUP continues to work with the Provost on guidelines for peer observations and Course and Teacher Ratings (CTRs) during this year and hope to announce agreements shortly.

As always, individuals in need of assistance can email Prof. Ploran at HofstraAAUP.President@gmail.com, Martine Hackett, First Vice President for Grievances at HofstraAAUP.Grievances@gmail.com, or the AAUP's main Senior Administrative Assistant Robyn Kolmos at AAUPHofstra@gmail.com for assistance.

VI. Report of the Chairs' Caucus, Daniel Seabold

Daniel Seabold, chair of the Chairs' Caucus, reported that the chairs are still waiting for a Memorandum of Agreement on teaching observations. The chairs also met with Evan Koegl, Registrar and Director of Academic Records, to hear plans to create several new forms for academic records in addition to the new change in grade form that has already launched. There's going to be a new online Change of Program form, they're working on an online Sub Waiver form as well as a new system for handling late course adds, after the usual online registration has ended.

Prof. Seabold reported that the chairs also received a very detailed report from Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management, on the work of a relatively new task force called "the Re-enrollment Team" which is tracking down students that seem to have dropped out or otherwise not progressing towards graduation as they should be and working with them to help boost our graduation rates.

Prof. Seabold reported that the chairs are working on the annual evaluations of faculty with an eye towards recommending either that the current policy on evaluations be modified, or that it be rescinded altogether. This is embedded in the Faculty Policy Series as well as in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA.) It's clear that departments are complying with the existing policy to differing degrees, it's clear that individual schools are complying with the policy to different degrees. For people who are taking the process of faculty evaluations very seriously, it's a big "time sink" and it doesn't seem to be feeding into our actual personnel decisions in any organized way. The chairs will be looking at this and will try to organize a recommendation that could be sent to the Faculty Affairs Committee of the University Senate.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.