

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, November 2, 2020

Present: M. Abraham, H. Berliner, K. Boston-Hill, C. Burnett, W. Caniano, C. Eliot, R. Hirsch

Absent: K. Dimes

A. The minutes of the October 5, 2020 were approved.

B. Prof. Caniano reported that he, along with Steve Fabiani, Vice President for Digital Innovation and Technology, Mitchell Kase, Associate Director of Instructional Design, and Joseph Bartolatta, chair of the Special Committee on Educational Technology is looking to partner up with the Council of Diversity Committee to find a grant to fund a proposal to provide laptop and similar items to economically disadvantaged students. Possibly through the National Endowment for the Humanities. A slight discussion followed.

Prof. Caniano reported that he had a meeting with Terence Ryan, Senior Program Director of Hofstra Summer Camps, Jessica Dease, Associate Director, Youth Programs, and Dom Lavin, Director of Campus Operations, Physical Plant, who is looking to jump start the camps through more non- credit academic offerings.

C. Action Items

1. Prof. Caniano presented for action the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar. Evan Koegl, Registrar and Director of Academic Records reported that for all practical purposes is exactly the same calendar that we approved for the 2020-2021 year prior to when things were shifted around. It is a Wednesday start, prior to Labor Day, there is an adjustment for Columbus Day to better accommodate Admissions events. There is room for flexibility as well. A discussion followed, and the calendar was approved.

D. Committee Reports

1. Caroline Schreiner reported for Kaylor Dimes, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that the committee:
 - is moving forward with messaging the undergraduate recognized governing bodies
 - met with Professor Eliot to discuss how to move forward with graduate students (decided that it would be best not to create another committee, but instead figure out how to have better graduate student representation in both SAC and GAAC)
 - will be in contact with Stan Cherian, Associate Director of Student Leadership and Engagement, who advises the graduate student organizations in order to get representation for graduate students
 - will be working with the Student Government Association on a few student initiatives that were brought to the committee that deal with SAS and Academic Affairs (this is in the early stages, more information to come)
2. Rina Hirsch, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the committee discussed faculty concerns regarding the new EthicsPoints reporting system and the lack of faculty input into the adoption process, the discussion will continue at their next meeting. She also

reported that the committee will be looking at Faculty Policy Series #46 - Peer Observation of Teaching to put some general guidance together for online and hybrid courses.

3. Prof. Boston-Hill reported that the committee discussed how they can further facilitate and promote the collaboration between the Student Government Association and the Black Faculty Council with regards to the equity training. They are also looking into whether or not there is a protocol on how to deal with issues as they arise. Right now, the committee is working on the awareness aspect, and want to focus on the response aspect as well. Prof. Boston-Hill reported that the committee also had a discussion on students repeating courses because of academic dishonesty. It seems the language is ambiguous.
4. Prof. Burnett, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee reported that the committee met with the Provost and Jessica Eads, Vice President for Enrollment Management, regarding enrollment trends and challenges that Hofstra will ultimately have to face. They hope to return to this discussion with more concrete data and what happens if enrollment numbers keep going down in the Northeast, which is what most people expect. They would like to discuss means for Hofstra's medium to long term planning. The committee also received some good news that there is potential for graduate programs to increase during the recession. The challenges will be making sure that they are competitive and in an online format. There is a nice opportunity perhaps to do Lab Sciences that will create synergies between the Biology Department and health-related degrees that we already offer and will be offering in the very near future. The committee also had a discussion of research grant administration practices. The committee plans to meet next week to discuss retention efforts in the current climate.
5. Prof. Eliot, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee will continue to work on exam security, the advice the university gives to online instructors, in particular the role of universal design for learning, and support the university provides to graduate study overall. Prof. Eliot also reported that he met with the Student Affairs Committee about graduate student representation on Senate committees.

E. New Business

Prof. Caniano reported that faculty leadership would like to institute an award for faculty who are doing a good job teaching remotely. This is in the early stages of planning, and a discussion followed.

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