MINUTES OF THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday, February 1, 2021


A. The minutes of the November 23, 2020 were unanimously approved.

B. Prof. Caniano reported that he and Michael Heiss, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee are working to design a summer academic academy for precollegiate students, and he has been meeting with Melissa Connolly, Vice President of University Relations, and faculty from the Music Department who want to run a percussion camp. At the moment they are in the process of negotiating it and will hopefully have something by the end of the week.

Prof. Caniano reported that he is looking for volunteers for an ad-hoc committee on continuing education for adult learners. He asks that the chairs of the standing committees solicit their committee members for volunteers to serve on this committee.

C. Discussion Item
   1. Prof. Caniano presented for discussion, a resolution from the Faculty Affairs Committee regarding faculty input in decisions. Prof. Heiss reported that this was originally brought up last semester but sent back to committee to change the language. They didn't want it to be a censure statement, just wanted it to be a note that the FAC and the University Senate in general should be would like to have some input in systems that will affect the membership themselves. The Provost reported that he is comfortable with the statement, though there are a couple of words that need to be tweaked if at all possible. Specifically, the sentence that says, “and so the existence of this reporting system has a direct impact on the terms of employment for faculty members.” He does not feel a direct impact is a correct statement because all the terms of employment are spelled out in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), the Faculty Policy Series, nothing has changed, therefore nothing in terms of the direct terms of employment has changed. When dealing with terms of employment, one is directed toward the CBA, where terms of employment are spelled out. A discussion followed and Prof. Heiss will bring the resolution back to the committee.

D. Committee Reports
   1. Kaylor Dimes, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported that the committee met over the weekend to discuss agenda items for the semester. They are still reaching out to all student governing bodies with regard to revision the SAC bylaws. They are working on setting up Zoom meetings to talk about what changed in the bylaws. She reported that Rocco Distefino, an undergraduate senator is still working on racial and equity training and is in the process of setting up a meeting with Cornell Craig, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer. The committee is looking to meet twice a month for the semester.

   2. Michael Heiss, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reported that the committee met over January break to review the special leave applications and recommend to the Provost’s Office, as well as approve Emeritus Statis for Cliff Jernigan. A discussion
followed about the number of special leave of applications the committee could approve this year, as well as a discussion on requesting a CV when deciding Emeritus Status.

Prof. Caniano reported that he would like the committee to look into and award for an adjunct professor, similar to the Teacher of the Year award. A discussion followed.

3. Prof. Boston-Hill, chair of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee would like to take a look badge study and see what the likelihood or the viability of creating badges would be for the academic program. Additionally, the committee would like to take a look at how the completion ratio is calculated as it relates to academic probation. There may be students who are actually progressing based on the number of credits that they're taking, the ratio itself may be low, but they’re doing well in the class that they are actually taking, but for some reason their calculation for their probation ratio prevents them from being from looking at it as being satisfactory completion. The Provost suggested also checking if there are any ramifications in terms of the completion ratio and the financial aid the student is entitled to.

4. Prof. Burnett, chair of the Planning and Budget Committee reported that the committee had a meeting with representatives from the Student Government Association (SGA) and Public Safety to work out a number of ways to improve some issues with the Hofstra Shuttle that students would like to see looked into such as CPR training. Prof. Burnett reported that the Provost’s Office has generously offered to provide an iPad Pro as an award for a winning group of students who help to develop an application which can improve shuttle service. The committee will discuss a survey from the Environmental Priorities Committee at its first meeting.

5. Prof. Eliot, chair of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the committee met with Mitchell Kase, Associate Director of Instructional Design, and Joseph Bartolotta, chair of the Special Committee on Educational Technology, to review all of the things that the department of Educational Technology is doing to support faculty with remote and electronic construction. The committee is impressed with the way they are supporting faculty. This semester the committee will discuss ways of sharing successful models of online instruction where faculty have succeeded in learning the lessons and carrying them out. A discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.