Meeting called to order at 2:02pm
Attendance: Holly Seirup, Deborah Elkis-Abuhoff, Pat Welch, Comila Shahani-Denning, Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Kevin McElroy, Mario Tomei, Michael Heiss, Rebecca Natow, Stuart Bass, Xiang Fu, Elisabeth Ploran, Sylvia Silberger

1. Approval of Minutes/Notes of 10 September meeting
   - Minutes were unanimously accepted with that one correction. Comila Shahani-Denning offered a revision: President Poser isn’t planning to have a separate meeting with the Faculty Affairs Committee as noted in the September FAC minutes.

2. Informal Report of the Special Committee on Education and Research Technology Meeting (20 October 2021)
   - **GradeScope.** Pat Welch attended a meeting about GradeScope – a grading technology that is being tested by some faculty. Elisabeth Ploran added that GradeScope can expedite grading and is seen as an eventual replacement for Scantrons (the main difference between GradeScope and Scantron is that you don’t need a Scantron certified machine to score an answer sheet). Elisabeth also mentioned that there will be a GradeScope demonstration on Monday for any interested faculty.
   - **LMS Pilot Program.** Pat’s second update centered on the Learning Management System (LMS) pilot program surveying the viability of Blackboard Learn, Blackboard Ultra, and Canvas in future semesters. According to the information Pat shared with FAC, surveyed student respondents seemed to have robust preference for Canvas. The surveyed faculty respondents, however, didn’t demonstrate a clear LMS preference with notable statistical significance.
   - **Classroom Space.** Pat’s final update was to inform FAC that there have been conversations about updating some classroom spaces around campus. Part of those conversations are attempting to grasp what it is faculty and students think they need in their classroom spaces as we look into the future.

3. Subcommittee Reports:
   - **FPS #43 – Harassment Policy** (Pat/Elisabeth): Elisabeth explained that under FPS #43, department chairs are seen as administrators and not faculty. Therefore, department chairs wouldn’t receive union protections if a harassment case was brought against them. The language in FPS #43 was cleaned up to prevent chairs from being denied these union protections in potential harassment cases (note: department chairs would lose these union privileges if the chair harassed another faculty member). The AAUP also reserves the right to deny representation to a chair in harassment cases.
   - **Part time and adjunct recognition system** (Michael Heiss): Michael briefed the FAC on the subcommittee’s discussions and considerations regarding part time
teaching recognition system (i.e. What would the recognition criteria be? Should the recognition system be consistent with the current full time recognition system? Should also be a monetary award consistent with the full-time recognition system?). Michael went on to say that attempting to build this system from the ground up could be a laborious exercise. To that end, Michael and the subcommittee proposed that the part time recognition system mirror that of the full time recognition system. Elisabeth mentioned that the FAC had tried this in the past and those past efforts have been halted at the provost level. Pat asked a question about the methodology for how the data is collected for these awards. Elisabeth explained the process as it relates to the Cap and Gown survey for graduating students (graduating students pick a faculty name from a drop-down menu). Pat also asked about whether this subcommittee considered having a requirement about the number of credits an adjunct must be teaching. Michael says that we didn’t think that a credit distinction was necessary for this award system. Pat asked the subcommittee to draw up a proposal for the senate and plan to proceed send it to the senate for a vote. To help, Elisabeth suggested that we contact Caroline to dig up the old proposal since this new amendment seems very similar to that original recommendation.

- **Digital measures (Sylvia):** Sylvia said that the subcommittee scheduled a few meetings with department chairs to get a sense of how their respective departments use digital measures. The subcommittee also met with Steve Fabiani to learn about whether it’s possible to remove digital measures and implement a new system. According to Fabiani, Hofstra possesses a baseline version of digital measures and the product can be upgraded. The subcommittee’s next plans are to interview faculty members about their experiences with digital measures and how they would like to see digital measures changed/used in the future.

- **Online Learning Ecosphere:** This item wasn’t addressed during the October 22, 2021 meeting. No update provided.

4. New Business (please let me know if you have anything)

- Brian McFadden asked for clarification the teacher of the year voter eligibility (i.e. can graduate students also vote in the teacher of the year awards). Rebecca Natow said that all graduating students are eligible and the votes aren’t separated between graduate and undergraduate students.

Meeting concludes at: 2:41