

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY

Faculty Senate Meeting

Friday, October 08, 2021

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Documents for this meeting and calendar of meetings are available at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/oldwestburyfacultysenate/archive>

MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

- **Roster of Senators Present:** Jennie D'Ambroise (CHAIR), Runi Mukherji (VCHAIR | Senator At-large SAS | USENALT), Maureen Dolan (PARL), Deepa Jani (ECATL1 | ATL SAS 2), Dana Sinclair (ECATL2 | LI | APPC), Robert Mevissen (SECTRS | HP ALT), Laura Anker (FY), Renu Balyan (M&CS), Llana Barber (AS), Seirrah Brown (SGA2), Rachel Brown Littenberg (Professional), Lisa Chin (ATL SAS3), Jillian Crocker (ARPT), Bonnie Eannone (Professional), Alireza Ebrahimi (FRR Committee), Hana Elgoarany (SGA 3 | APR), Lina Gilic (ATL SOE | EE), Eric Hagan (VA), Curtis Holland (SY), Jon Kleinman (Professional), Danielle Lee (LEC), Thomas Lilly (PEL), Martha Livingston (PH), Xavier Marechaux (AE), Lorenz Neuwirth (FUAC), Christos Noutsos (BS), Patrick O'Brien (ATL SOB), Oluwademilade Ogunlade (SGA1), Blidi Stemn (CE), Jessica Williams (EN), Ryoko Yamamoto (CAP)
- **Alternate Senators Present:** Solomon Chak (BS), Chris Hartmann (TLRC), Svetlana Jovic (PY), Lisa Lewin (MMF), Roger Mayer (AC)
- **Non-voting Members:** Timothy Sams (PRES), Duncan Quarless (PROV/AVP), Jo-Ann Robinson (VPEXEC), Usama Shaikh (VPSA), Diana Sukhram (Dean SOE)
- **Visitors:** Veronika Dolar, Keisha Goode, Rachel Kalish, Michael Kavic, Rahwa Haile, Denee Jenkins, Janay Jackson, Mohamed Khalefa, Samantha Kloeckener-Soszynski, Gary Levanti, Claudia Marin Andrade, Dinorah Martinez, Yogesh More, Cris Notaro, Diana Papademas, Lisa payton, Courtney Raeford, Shebuti Rayana, Frank Sanacory, Elena Smirnova, Regina Scarbrough,
- **Roster of Senators Absent:** Erik Benau (PY), Bright Emenike (CP), Laurie Morris (USEN), Elizabeth Morphis (TLRC | SL), Kathleen O'Connor-Bater (HLC), Linval Franzer (AC), Chelsea Shields-Más (HP), Sara Williamson (MMF)

II. **Approval of Minutes for Sept 10, 2021**

- Minutes approved by unanimous consent

III. Faculty Senate Chair Report

- New ITGAC members and we will add a staff member (coordinated through UUP)
- We are looking at bylaw revisions and there will be an official call for proposed changes to the bylaws
 - 1. Later a town hall, then senate review
- President Performance Planning due Oct 20
 - 1. There will be a workshop about the RFP and some faculty have already been directed to Lisandra to navigate the process
- Presidential Committees are on the website
 - 1. He wants to reinvigorate spaces on campus, such as residence halls, develop more residences on campus (perhaps students and some faculty?)
 - 2. EC has looked through all the committees to see where there is overlap with current faculty governance – we want Senate to know we're trying to ensure that committees are represented
 - 3. Contact us if interested in representation
 - 4. President Sams: he wanted to set up new committees that would help to advance vision particularly for residential life and community-life on campus
 - a) He said that Senate Chair could talk with him at next meeting about this to see where there may be unintentional overlap or discuss if there are areas that could benefit from faculty input
- Oct 22: meeting to discuss ways to integrate the new program WEAVE for assessment
 - 1. There is a new committee in the President's priorities focused on assessment
 - 2. Reached out to School of Ed assessment
 - 3. Waiting to see IEC's preparation for Middle States' response

IV. Provost Report

- 11 days from now, there will be a site visit (Oct 19-20) from Advancing Quality and Educator Prep (AQEP)
- Identify in communications ways to welcome visitors and supports efforts by School of Education for their accreditation assessment
 - 1. Quality assessment report is thorough and looking forward to visit
 - 2. President Sams and Provost Quarless visited the team and were both impressed with the team's preparation, how they lead as educators and their work on this accreditation

- In response to Middle States' Commission report: there was an additional request for supplemental information report, due at the beginning of March to respond to the concerns that arose in the team's review
 - 1. Focused on academic assessment but also non-academic assessment
 - 2. Courtney Raeford is leading efforts as co-chair of IEC, along with Dr. Robinson and Runi Mukherji
 - 3. IEC and Mike Kavic are finalizing details to include outside consultant to help this group
 - a) in institutional response, acknowledged the need to possibly bring in outside consultant to
 - 4. Preparing for March 1 deadline and efforts
- November 17th Common Hour: New Student Convocation
 - 1. New details to follow
 - 2. Faculty representation requested – in regalia (if you need regalia, attend Mary Reilly)
- Identifying planning for supports that people have requested
 - 1. One institutional priority – continual improvement of electronic and information system technology accessibility
 - 2. Ally tool indicates that much of the digital content created – while this supports learning outcomes, does not yet have accessibility rating of 100%
 - a) We're at 63.4% accessibility
 - 3. Want the consultant to work with faculty – priority courses – and we'll hear from Chandra to learn more about how to address the digital content
- E-catalog and course scheduler – automate the way we schedule courses, manage changes to minors and majors, and have those changes reflected across the electronic presence (catalog, Banner, web)
- There is a 50% rule about degree programs (configured and registered with State DOE)
 - 1. Only one program online
 - 2. All others are face-to-face, traditional modality
 - 3. We recognize after COVID-19, there needs to be more flexibility to meet needs of students but also to support continued outreach and range with regards to regional enrollment – expanding beyond just our region
 - 4. Will continue to discuss with chairs about if/how to change – to change the current description of instructional delivery for degree programs, need to process through SUNY and State Education Department, and we need to navigate fiscal constraints

- Address department chairs' requests for faculty request for sabbaticals
 1. We will support fiscally responsible way
 2. Not all will be full-year at half pay
 3. We have a rubric
 4. In context with regards to Middles States' concerns about post-tenure review
 5. Sabbatical should help support faculty development after
 6. As robust a fashion as possible
- Deadlines for FUAC awards (Barb as administrator and President's rep for FUAC)
 1. Check deadlines and begin planning for student nominations for Chancellor's award
- Midterm grades due Oct 25th
 1. Those are very important for helping us identify resource allocation to support student success (and prioritize around data from early alerts and midterm grades)
- Faculty spoke regarding positive COVID cases
 1. Cabinet discussed this week: what would create threshold for notification
 2. Final language:
 - a) Should more than one case of COVID-19 present itself in an individual class section within a 5-7 day period, the instructor for that class and the administrative head of that respective school will be contacted. The faculty member will be granted the option to move instruction to a remote setting for up to 10 days (the length of each remote period will be determined based on the dates governing the isolation of the most recent student case identified). This remote option will be limited to that specific class section only. Any additional actions will be determined in accordance with the contract tracing protocol that can be found in the campus' Fall '21 - COVID-19 Guidance (Section 5: When Infection or Violations Occur), <https://www.oldwestbury.edu/covid#covidinfection>.
 3. Contact tracing still determines what happens with regards to broader notifications
 4. Martha Livingston: UUP will bring up issue with labor management issue – why does the case have to be more than one?

V. **PARITY**

- Llana Barber presented PARITY's event programming over the last year
 1. 20 events/talk with good attendance regarding the programming

- 2. Justice Seminar led by Svetlana Jovic to discuss papers that the faculty submit
- 3. Distributed resources to help discuss racism
- 4. Rahwa Haile presented recommendations to help make OW more proactively anti-racist (institutional, assessment, resources)
- Annual Report, vote to accept
 - 1. Approved by unanimous consent to accept
- Resolution for renewal
 - 1. Resolve to extend the PARITY committee for additional year from 2021-22
 - 2. Motion to move to unanimous consent for resolution to renew
 - a) Approved for a year

VI. UUP Report

- Martha Livingston: first time in 2 years that UUP hosts picnic till 3:30
- Meeting with administration about labor-management issues (issue of positive case notification)
 - 1. This shouldn't be a question of proximity
 - 2. We don't need to know *who* is infected but that *someone* is infected so instructors can make a decision about going online
 - a) Arbitrarily 2 or more cases seems problematic
- Professionals have issues with being in person and keeping on masks
- Discussion about efficacy telecommuting – are there environmental benefits and productivity for some
- Notifications about the pensions – if you're not properly enrolled in plan, contact UUP
- Nov 1 (NOON): UUP on campus/ remote visit with Brett Benjamin (U Albany) the lead negotiator
- Wed Nov 3: Stoneybrook contract meeting

VII. Faculty Governance Orientation, Continued

- **Promoting Recruitment, Opportunity, Diversity, Inclusion and Growth Initiative** (PRODiG) Rahwa Haile presented the efforts to recruit and retain faculty from underrepresented groups and identify efforts that inhibit those efforts and Deepa Jani added the group's efforts to study the data for understanding what is inhibiting goals and what resources are needed to address this
- **Open Educational Resources (ad hoc) Committee** (OER) Veronika Dolar presented what OER is (course content that is in open access to advance students' right to access education)

1. Presentation by members to see how to adopt materials Wed. Nov 3 during Common Hour
- **Green Committee** (Maureen Dolan) college-wide committee that advance the campus toward its green goals – faculty can just volunteer to join
 1. Academic, operational, engagement
 2. Student representation can be suggested by faculty and appointment by SGA
 3. Regional Clean Energy Hubs (proposals due Nov 23) to bring clean energy to disadvantaged communities disproportionately affected by pollution and climate change
- **Auxiliary Service Corporation** (Lorenz Neuwirth) works with College Foundation – opportunities to facilitate student activity (charging stations, WiFi, Panther cards, laundry, food options) needs brought forth by SGA
 1. Vending machines and shops serve community needs
 2. Updated student union and improve spaces as needed
- **Student Conduct Committee (formerly Faculty Judicial Committee)** Lina Gilic described the committee's work to investigate student infractions on campus – faculty, students, and administration involved. Students present perspective and faculty ask questions to get clearer idea of situation.

VIII. Committee Annual Reports

- FUAC (Lorenz Neuwirth)
 1. Clarified award guidelines and nomination processes
 2. Updated the historical records
 3. December 7 and 21 for the Faculty teaching awards and Chancellor awards
 - a) Alireza and Lorenz will offer Zoom meeting to discuss
 4. FUAC Annual Report accepted by unanimous consent
- CAP (Ryoko Yamamoto)
 1. Working on 5-year reviews
 2. Lots of proposals for program reviews
 3. 14 line requests and assessing those requests – discussed ways to make decisions clearer
 4. SPS has a Faculty Advisory committee to submit annual review report
 5. CAP Report accepted by unanimous consent
- TLRC (Eric Hagan)
 1. Detailed list of the workshops and attendees

2. TLRC annual report accepted by unanimous consent

IX. Tau Sigma National Honor Society (Rachel Brown Littenberg)

- Week 18th October, Transfer student events
- Food drive for the Panther Food pantry
 1. Box in Campus Center H-208

X. Special Agenda Item (not on agenda) SGA (Janay Jackson)

- Trying to make campus more 'positive' for students returning to campus
 1. Some concerned/on edge, SGA wants them to feel more comfortable
 2. More inclusive, get the 'sense' of community back – more events in person and get on campus life back to how it was
- Cultural representation and LGBTQ events that will be offered

XI. Sharing of Concerns/Announcements

- How to make these conversations more conversational – anything?
- Deepa Jani: Justice seminar is looking for a call for papers (Oct 11 deadline)
- Alireza Ebrahimi: bylaw revision group – wants to end task by end of the academic year and wants faculty from each stakeholders to review
- Usama Shaikh: this Wednesday at Common Hour – conversation about adopting Indigenous Peoples' Day on calendar and focus on programming in the future for indigenous peoples from around Long Island

XII. Adjournment

- Unanimous consent to end meeting