

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY

Faculty Senate Meeting

Friday, September 10, 2021

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

Minutes

I. **Present:**

- **Roster of Senators Present:** Jennie D'Ambroise (CHAIR), Runi Mukherji (Incoming VCHAIR | Senator At-large SAS | USENALT), Bonnie Eannone (Professional), Laura Anker (FY), Lina Gilic (ATL SOE | EE), Jessica Williams (EN), Renu Balyan (M&CS), Alireza Ebrahimi (FRR Committee | FUAC Alternate), Angel Lara (ML), Jillian Crocker (ARPT), Oluwademilade Ogunlade (SGA1), John Estes (Outgoing At-Large Rep to EC), Martha Livingston (PH), Curtis Holland (SY), Chelsea Shields-Más (HP), Thomas Lilly (PEL), Jon Kleinman (Professional), Llana Barber (AS), Ryoko Yamamoto (CAP | Alternate Senator SY), Lorenz Neuwirth (FUAC), Rachel Brown Littenberg (Professional), Bright Emenike (CP), Dana Sinclair (Incoming ECATL2 | LI | APPC), Laurie Morris (USEN), Blidi Stern (CE), Christos Noutsos (BS), Deepa Jani (ECATL1 | Incoming ATL SAS 2), Eric Hagan (VA), Erik Benau (PY), danielle lee (LEC), Lisa Chin (ATL SAS3), Sara Williamson (MMF), Maureen Dolan (PARL | MACS Alternate Senator), Patrick O'Brien (ATL SOB), Robert Mevissen (Incoming SECTRS | Alternate Senator HP)
- **Alternate Senators Present:** Solomon Chak (BS), Svetlana Jovic (PY), shijian li (PH), Roger Mayer (AC), Andrew Mattson (AS),
- **Non-voting Members:** Timothy Sams (PRES), Duncan Quarless (PROV/AVP), Amanda Frisken (Dean SAS), Martha Santana (CFO), Jo-Ann Robinson (VPEXEC), Monica Calzolari (VP Enrollment), Shalei Simms (Dean SOB), Diana Sukhram (Dean SOE),
- **Visitors:** Michael Kavic, Jeanne Shimizu, David Glodstein, Cris Notaro, Shebuti Rayana, Jerilyn Marinan, Peter Ikeler, Sarah Smith, Sydney Williams, Tejas Bouklas, Lee Blackstone, Jody Cardinal, Laura Chipley, Patty Harris, Kinning Poon, Regina Scarbrough, Marissa Hoffmann, Natalie Caesar, Jermaine Archer, Arthur Kalish, Diana Papademas, Zulema Cabail, Marisa Glaser, Youngjoo Kim, Kathleen Lieblich, Many Mascarano, Elena Smirnova, malini kumar, Gary Levanti, Yogesh More, Keisha Goode, Jaclyn Congello, Amy Hsu, Janay Jackson, Chante Hope, Edward Bever, Samara Smith, Robert Bednarczyk, Joanne Spadaro, Patrick Cadet, Carol Quirke, Timothy Strout, Lisandra Ramos, Mohamed Khalefa, Dinorah Martinez, Erin Toolis, Claudia Marin Andrade, Ricky Guerra, Betty Berbari, Jesse Curran, Thomas Rico, Stacey DeFelice, William

Schaefer, Denée Jenkins, Rachel Kalish, Wayne Edwards, Stephanie Schneider, Jillian Nissen, Ashlee Lien, Evan Kobolakis

- **Roster of Senators Absent:** Seirrah Brown (SGA2), Hana Elgoarany (SGA 3) Xavier Marechaux (AE), Elizabeth Morphis (TLRC | SL), Sheyi Oladipo (APR), Kathleen O'Connor-Bater (HLC), Linval Franzer (AC)

II. Approval of Minutes for May 28, 2021

- Unanimously approved

III. Approval of Senate & Full Faculty Meeting Schedule

- Amendment: December 3 meeting moved to December 10
- Unanimously consent – schedule approved

IV. Faculty Senate Chair's Report

- a) Remember this is a public meeting, all comments in person and via chat remotely should be conducted as such.
- b) Encourage faculty to contact me who are looking for ways to get involved. My (virtual) door is open!
- c) I am working on an FS Chair Handbook. I will be documenting all of my experiences as Chair. I encourage all chairs to do the same so we can propagate info from one generation to the next.
- d) Assessment Technology TF decided to adopt Weave assessment technology. In order to respect faculty contract dates, this TF was completed by June 24th in order to respect faculty contract dates as much as possible (next assessment steps, including Assessment Fellows, will continue this semester).
 - i) SOB: Lingxiang Li
 - ii) SOE: Stephane Schneider
 - iii) SAS: Jennie D'Ambroise, Mike Kavic (Faculty Co-Chair)
 - iv) CAP Chair: Ryoko Yamamoto
 - v) LEC Chair: Danielle Lee
 - vi) SPAAR/SAS: B. Runi Mukherji
- e) PRODIG members were appointed: Manya Mascareno, Rahwa Haile, Deepa Jani, Samara Smith, Maria Cabail, Lorenz Neuwirth.
- f) Covid Committee (currently ongoing) faculty representative appointed: Lorenz Neuwirth.
- g) Planning and Budget Committee is currently being constituted.
- h) As a result of May 14th faculty senate meeting, electronic vote was conducted on two resolutions, and on 2021 May 21 (electronic vote) was finalized. The vote results are also posted on the FS website on the Resolutions subpage.
 - i) Resolution to Enhance and Modernize the Research Enterprise at the College at Old Westbury (15-2-2)
 - ii) Resolution for the IT Governance and Advisory Committee (17-1-1)
- i) Motion to receive Treasurer's report – seconded
 - i) Treasurer's report was received by unanimous consent
- j) Motion to receive previous chair's report – seconded
 - i) Chair's report received by unanimous consent

V. President Sams' Report

- **In-person instruction:** Resuming in-person instruction has increased anxiety even as we greet both our first-year and sophomore students for the first time
 - Make sure we adhere to evolving expectations and standards – must be transparent

- Thanks COVID committee for its work informing us and staying on top of guidance from Albany and CDC guidelines
- Power outages: Trying to isolate issues with power outages – this remains a complex issue and discovering one element this morning is also only one piece in a few issues to resolve
 - Try to be transparent – give a sense what to expect and when it'll be over
- On-campus inhabitants: Juniors/seniors living on campus – in singles
- Prep on campus to reduce density:
 - Increase casual seating around campus to reduce density
 - Getting nice spacing to invite student elsewhere – increase school spirit
- IT challenges:
 - telephones are getting a new fix- hopefully, a few weeks away from resolving
 - this will include making it easier for faculty to reach IT desk/service
- Vaccination rate: Student concerns about faculty vaccination rates – students feel unfair we're not required to be vaccinated when they must be
- Enrollment: At 90% of targets for new and transfer students, 93% overall, above targets for first-year students
- Committees: discussing presidential committees next week and Jennie D'Amboise will nominate participants in some committees
- Performance planning
 - Everyone submit best ideas to allow our campus can improve performance
 - Think big!
- Special Assistant to the President Lisandra Ramos: generating ideas will be important, present to campus and present to campus so we can
 - Proposals should be grounded in the institutional priorities established by the cabinet - priorities determined annually to support plans, missions and ask what is the future in next few years?
 - a) Check website for priorities – highlighted sections (silo-busting, environmental sustainability, etc) –
 - (1) When filling out the proposal, consider: what priorities will this help achieve?
 - b) October 20th: due date for review process:
 - (1) 6 weeks to find collaborators and put together proposal
 - c) November/December presentation to campus
 - d) January – priorities will be set
 - e) Following year – priorities will be implemented
 - f) Request for Proposal – has a form to fill out to assess it with regard to vision, goal, implementation, etc
 - (1) Can download the template from the website, fill it out, and then submit it to committee members
 - (2) Questions: PPRFP@oldwestbury.edu
 - (3) Go online: President's Office ☐ President's Initiatives
 - (4) This is very long, so some may apply to your proposal, fill those out, but if it does not apply, explain why it does not

- apply. Make sure the committee can understand your thinking – the form will help make things transparent
- (5) End has an appendix with institutional priorities
- g) Manya Mascareno asked about budget – President Sams assured that we should not worry about money for now – if a high-cost project interests the campus community, it may take longer to secure funds but it won't prohibit us from adopting
 - h) Jennie asked if there was a public hearing of proposals and Lisandra clarified that projects that move through the process will be presented to campus to discuss how to improve/build on the project – get “buy in” from community – and all can participate
 - i) Alireza Ebrahimi worried about IT/tech support – LCDs need replacement
 - (1) Supported by Runi Mukherji – problems with internet and new podium/lectern technology without training
 - j) Andy Madson asked: how does RFP relate to the need for budget planning that includes a budget planning committee within that planning process?
 - (1) President Sams: the budget planning committee will take RFPs and make recommendations to cabinet. They will determine funding (which funded and how much)
 - k) Deadline concerns – it is imminent – can it be pushed back?
 - (1) President Sams: want to get in the budget requests early enough that it'll go into Budget Process and be in the budget for next year. Because the budget process works cannot be stalled, it is critical to
 - l) Does RFP include funds for staff hires?
 - (1) President Sams: no funding for staff hires for existing projects but for proposed project
 - m) Does this facilitate long-term projects?
 - (1) President: 12-18 months for 'lift off'
 - n) Evan Kobolakis: NAB 45 classrooms updated, network and wireless updated,
 - (1) Internet outage due to power outage
 - (2) Classroom tech: Chandra has sent invites for training before August 15 and afterward
 - (3) Laminated instructions on lecterns
 - (4) Videos sent to all faculty about how to work new technology

VI. Resolution on EC Elections

- Overview:
 - Bylaws specify that annual election of EC members (Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and At Large Representative to EC) will occur during a meeting of Faculty Senate no later than September 15th
 - a) Faculty Senate Chair is elected at end of previous academic year, no later than June 15th

- b) SUNY Senator is elected every 3 years during regular election cycle.
 - c) The Parliamentarian is appointed by the Chair (and may serve under various Chairs)
- Additional (2nd) At Large Representative to the EC (refer Article V: section G)
 - Nomination/election of additional (2nd) At Large Rep to EC is pending outcome of Resolution.
 - a) Precedent exists for Senate approval of additional At Large Representative to EC (2020-2021)
 - b) Rationale stated in Resolution is based on evolution and increase in EC responsibilities, use of technology and electronic media, and overall growth in programs, FTE and shared governance.
- Expansion of Eligibility Criteria (refer Article V: section D and section B line 8)
 - The expansion (broadening) of eligibility criteria for Secretary/Treasurer position and the At-Large Representative(s) to the Executive Committee is also pending the outcome of resolution.
 - a) Vice Chair nominee(s) must meet eligibility criteria for Chair-Elect (i.e., faculty Senator of academic rank.)
 - Precedent exists for nomination and election to the EC of contingent faculty and UUP professionals.
 - a) Alternates have not, to date, been eligible for nomination/election to the EC, during three decades of Faculty Senate governance structure.
 - b) Precedent exists for Senate service by alternates, contingent faculty and UUP professionals as temporary note-takers, although such service to Senate did not entail election to the EC.
 - c) Rationale stated in Resolution, for expansion of eligibility criteria, cites increased participation and attendance by alternates and senators at Senate and Faculty meetings held remotely (since Spring 2020).
- Results:
 - Physical:
 - 6 For
 - 0 Against
 - 0 Abstain
 - On-line:
 - 20 For
 - 0 Against
 - 1 Abstain
 - Total:
 - 26 For
 - 0 Against
 - 1 Abstain

VII. Nomination and Election of EC members

- Vice-Chair – Runi Mukherji elected by acclamation
- Secretary-Treasurer : Robert Mevissen elected by acclamation

- At-Large Representative to the EC: Deepa Jani elected by acclamation
- Second At-Large Representative to the EC (proposed new position)
 - This is a technology appointment
 - Christos Noutsos nominated/self nominated
 - Dana Sinclair self-nominated
 - Christos 13 votes, Dana 17 votes – Dana elected

VIII. UUP Report:

- Martha: real concerns – goals/wishes are different than the reality
 - Masking/distance problematic
 - Tech issues are a mess – no real notifications about heads up
 - a) Hard to see a disconnect between what one is capable of doing at home and what one is capable of accomplishing on campus with the problems
 - Pension plans: work with admin about correcting these issues
 - Carol Quirke wondered what the UUP is doing to support faculty ☐ not knowing about outbreaks (what are we supposed to do if exposed?)
 - a) There was a petition that went to the president and that was just addressed
 - Academic Advisor Jon Kleinman discussed the disparity – student demand for online classes exceeded supply – wants to see that change in spring
 - Runi Mukherji: psychology department is crafting a resolution to revise spring courses (since we submitted preferences last spring 2021)

IX. Justice for Fraud Victims Project - David Glodstein

- Start at Xavier U – looking at real world cases and students assist those who can't afford a full digital forensics team
- Only school on east coast and in New York undertaking this work
- Fits OW mission – integrity (we care about social justice, despite what faculty believe)
- Helps victims across Long Island – seek restitution
- Partnerships: SUNY OW admin supports, certified board examiners are mentors/liaison, law enforcement (Nassau/Suffolk county PD), legal community,
- Members of community – LI Hispanic chamber of Commerce, African-American Chamber of Commerce,
- Handling cases for small businesses and non-for-profit business (accounting students have expertise)
 - Need to look at how fraud affects victims
- Provides experiential learning (they get experience, real-life experiences, unstructured learning)
 - Improve writing and communication and interpersonal communication skills
- Wants faculty to champion the projects – wants increased enrolled and exposure/publicity at school – any ideas how else to advertise?
- There is a social media account – FB, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram
- Victims of fraud can complete a form on our website (Report Fraudulent Activity)

X. SGA Report

- SGA President Oluwademilade Ogunlade: the SGA is almost full but want more members

- Sept 17 @ 11 am
- There will be a week of events at the end of September, early October
- Implementation of Community Affairs committee – police and campus community
- Campus collective – leadership network
 - a) Dealing with socializing on campus, avoiding rape, dealing with issues of consent
 - b) Students looking for work – what opportunities exist
 - c) External community service requirements
- Lisa Chin asked what the student sense is of remote learning: what can faculty do to address student preferences
 - a) Olu Ogunlade: many students do not want to get vaccine, students do not like that they are being de-enrolled for not getting vaccinated,
 - b) Jennie wants a meeting just on COVID related issues – hopes it will address all these questions
 - c) Public Health faculty will work with students to overcome vaccine hesitancy

XI. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn and seconded