

SUNY / College at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes - October 12, 2001

Present: A. Barbera, M. Barrett, E. Bever, A. Bonnett, S. Chovnick, M. Colaneri, R. Colòn-Urban, M. Dolan, J. Edelson, A. Frisken, J. Harris, C. Hobson, M. Keefe, M. Keizer, C. Keyes, H. Lewittes, J. Llana, J. Lloyd, S. O'Connor, N. Rosenthal, W. Shenouda, M. Teloki, K. Wood

Visitors: R. Gonzalez, M. Miller-Lamb, P. O'Sullivan, N. Sacks, R. Welton

Approval of Minutes

- ▶ Under New Business, the first sentence should read, "The English Language Studies Department presented a resolution on facilitating *computer* ownership".
- ▶ The Minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

Chair's Report (Rosenthal)

- ▶ Change in agenda: no report on Faculty Fund, Budget, General Education, Committee Replacements
- ▶ DSI: The Chair thanked Mr. Kimmins for providing salary information for applicants. Dr. Bonnett agreed that candidates need not explicitly apply for equity to be considered.
- ▶ R. Buttermilch has identified inconsistencies in student evaluation reports. A meeting is planned with Academic Affairs on October 23 to discuss this issue. The chair requested a faculty volunteer with expertise in statistics to attend.
- ▶ The chair announced that invitations are in the mail for the upcoming tribute to the McIntyres: October 25, Common Hour, Recital Hall.
- ▶ President Butts responded to our request for a list of consultants (attached).

Question: A senator asked the Executive Committee to investigate the source of funds for rehabilitating the 4th floor offices.

Academic Vice President's Report (Bonnett)

- ▶ The AVP portrayed a bleak budget picture for the year. Academic Affairs has been asked to cut back 50% on OTPS, but will continue to attempt to preserve faculty development funds. Academic Affairs will fight for funds for replacement lines and 4 strategic lines in Business, Teacher Education and Criminal Justice.
- ▶ The MS in Accounting passed in CAP
- ▶ A procedural issue in ARPT has arisen concerning the right of a candidate to view the file after it leaves the Academic Vice President's office. Most other colleges appear to have this step in their procedures. Academic Affairs is discussing the issue with Senate leadership and ARPT.
- ▶ SUNY Central has requested that campuses use mental health professionals to ease stress associated with recent WTC events. Our psychology faculty have volunteered, and several faculty have posted reactions to the events on the SUNY website.
- ▶ Faculty are invited to attend the Taste of Long Island fund raiser. Cost: \$150, of which \$100 is tax-exempt.

- ▶ DSI: The AVP honored the faculty committee's rankings on merit. Equity rankings were based on several criteria, including years in rank, years in service, and nationwide trends in faculty salaries. Equity raises will be a lump sum; merit raises will be a percent of salary.

Questions:

- ▶ In response to questions about DSI, Dr. Bonnett explained that merit will be addressed first, and equity increases will be distributed from funds remaining. No additional funds will be added to the pool. Several Senators spoke against the plan to award merit raises as a percent, a practice that compounds inequity, and a resolution was offered to urge administrators to award lump sums instead. The resolution (attached) was approved unanimously [17-0-0].
- ▶ Dr. Bonnett elaborated on the budget situation, adding that he believes system administration may be using the budget crisis to make unpopular decisions, that there may be mid-year cuts and lost lines. He stressed that he will not willingly accept these cuts. He noted that funds for EOP will be cut, including department tutoring funds.
- ▶ Regarding psychological services for students in connection with the WTC attack, Student Health services are available, and the Psychology department will publicize the willingness of faculty to provide assistance.

Report from CAP (Bever)

Ed Bever summarized CAP's activities for the 2000/2001 academic year (attached).

Questions:

- ▶ R. Welton reminded CAP that a procedure is needed to notify Academic Affairs when new minors are approved. Senate will devise a procedure for doing so.
- ▶ A. Bonnett commended CAP on its work, but expressed his strenuous support for external members on 5-year program reviews, which CAP has voted against. Senate will take up this issue at a future meeting.

Report on Student Government Activities (Teloki)

- ▶ Plans are underway for a student / faculty dinner in connection with the Count Taylor dedication, and activities in connection with Hispanic Heritage Day and the Disabled Student office.
- ▶ SGA is having trouble conducting business because of the suspension of their vice president, and are working hard to rebuild student government after a difficult year.

Old Business

- ▶ Addressing our earlier discussion of bookstore problems, Dr. Bonnett reported that the bookstore has filed for bankruptcy protection, but intends to continue operations through the end of Spring. Academic Affairs will oversee their activities.

New Business

- ▶ A resolution was presented to name the Writing Center after Dr. Charshee McIntyre. The resolution (attached) was approved unanimously [16-0-0].

Several Senators voiced concern that we have no regularized procedure for naming rooms, buildings, and programs. The Senate Executive Board will discuss this issue.

- ▶ A resolution was presented to condemn the actions of CUNY administrators after a teach-in on the WTC attacks (attached). Several Senators were unwilling to support the resolution without further information, and a suggestion was made that future resolutions be accompanied by supporting documents. The resolution was approved, with the first and second paragraphs switched [10-3-3].
- ▶ A motion was presented concerning the suspension of a governance leader at SUNY Maritime:

Motion: The Old Westbury Senate requests that the SUNY Senate investigate the circumstances surrounding the suspension of a faculty governance leader at SUNY Maritime.

The motion passed [16-0-1].

Announcements

- ▶ The dedication of D190 in the name of Count Taylor is scheduled for November 13, common hour.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm