

Friday March 11, 2005
SUNY COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY
Faculty Senate Meeting
MINUTES

Present:

Executive Committee: A. Barbera, J. Edelson, R. Mukherji, C. Sawyer.

Ex-Officio: L. Davis, M. Marquez Bell, M. Rankin, P. O'Sullivan.

Representatives: I. Ahmed, C. Cocca, M. Colaneri, T. DelGiudice, A. Ebrahimi, M. Foglino, C. Franco, A. Frisken, C. Hobson, H. Lewittes, A. Martinez, M. Metlay, B. Serrano, G. Snedeker, K. Velsor.

Visitors: R. Buttermilch, R. Gonzalez, J. Heller, S. Kaufmann, M. Keizer, W. Kimmins, J. Llana, W. Lupardo, G. Wachman, R. Welton.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the last Senate meeting, which took place last week, will be appended with the current Senate meeting minutes for approval at the next meeting.

Chair's Report:

Reebok commercial featuring the Campus Center available online. Website can be found on College home page.

- Executive committee and faculty serving on BPC committee met Monday, March 7.

- On Dec. 17, 2005, the Senate passed a resolution on the Academic Village (attached), requesting that the President provide the Senate with a report by the end of February. The deadline had to be extended somewhat owing to delay in getting the resolution to his Office.

- In response to the resolution, the President has sent a letter to the Senate Chair proposing dates and times this semester for a Power Point presentation to the entire college community. Senate Chair read out a response she had drafted (see attached), concluding that the Senate would need to deliberate on whether the proposal was an adequate response to the resolution. Some comments on the President's proposal were as follows:

- At a CSEA meeting, similar questions and issues were raised; President's request for community-wide meeting to discuss plans for rehab were to address concerns expressed by whole community
- There are some conflicts with the dates that President has proposed: First Year Experience major activity is scheduled for one of the dates; neither of the dates and times coincides with a Common Hour, therefore many faculty and students would be unable to attend the presentation. Moreover, there is no suitable Common Hour for the rest of the Spring semester.
- A PowerPoint presentation to the community as a whole might not satisfy the conditions of the Senate Resolution which called for report of specific plans and detailed timelines.
- Some comments stated that the tone of the Chair's response appeared too formal and rigid.

Based on these deliberations, the Senate drafted the following

Resolution (Sponsor: T. Delgiudice; Second: J. Edelson):

Be it resolved

- that the President make a presentation during a regularly scheduled Senate or Full Faculty Meeting;
- and that a hard copy of the presentation be made available to the Faculty Senate, which includes a detailed and comprehensive plan containing the process, stages, and corresponding timetable for the rehab of Academic Village.

Approved by a vote of Yes = 13; No = 2; Abstaining = 1.

- The Faculty Senate Office will welcome a new secretary by the middle of the semester break. Her name is Dinorah Martinez, and she will be coming to us from Enrollment Services.
- Faculty member Trish McLaughlin of Visual Arts has been awarded the prestigious Guggenheim award for her work on video and electronic media (applause from floor of Senate)
- Chair contacted the Office of the Vice Chancellor for an update on the Presidential Five-Year Review process and was informed that the process was still underway, it is projected to be complete the middle of summer. She was told that the Executive Committee report prepared for the review could be made available to faculty to read in the Faculty Senate Office. Arrangements for this will be easiest when the Office has a secretary; before that time, interested faculty can schedule a time with the Senate Chair.

President's Report: (President did not attend Senate meeting)

Provost's Report:

- Extended congratulations to Dr. McLaughlin on her receipt of the Guggenheim award.
- Need faculty and student members for the Middle States Periodic Review Report Committee
- He stated that there were enormous inequity in salaries across the campus, and that this contributed to the demoralization of the faculty. He has asked the President to consider using 100% of the DSI award to address inequity in salaries of 24 faculty members on campus. The names of these 24 faculty members were arrived at by doing a regression analysis. The roughly \$100,000 that is available for the DSI would be just enough to bring the lowest salaries to par. There was some discussion about this issue:
- Some faculty felt this was an appropriate initiative.
- It was noted that this had been done under the leadership of Dr. Keen, but at that time although 100% of the DSI had been used to address inequity, Dr. Keen had been able to find some additional monies which were awarded for merit.
- Some faculty indicated that they would prefer that some, but not all of the DSI monies be used to address inequity
- Dean of School of Business stated that the Business faculty were unanimous in their opposition to using 100% of the DSI to address inequity, since merit awards are incentives to faculty performance.

Middle States Periodic Review and the Academic re-organization: Discussion postponed to the next Senate meeting in the interests of time.

New Business:

SGA representative M. Foglino introduced a resolution (attached) on the Mission Review II, based on a similar resolution adopted by the Student Government Association.

Report on Facilities by W. Kimmins: (this agenda item was postponed until after the SGA Resolution had been placed on the floor of the Senate)

- Had planned to introduce Sal Ciavarella, Director of Facilities, to the Senate, but is not sure where he is.
- Facilities has been very busy. In 1999, the Administration put together a Strategic Plan that projected 5000 students. However, the plan did not provide for any additional police officers, secretaries, personnel in Bursar or Registrar's offices, or maintenance staff. The plan to increase was put on hold; now it is in place again. Need to increase efficiency and productivity has not helped. OW is staffed at 30% of the 5 other comparable campuses in SUNY. There are new dorms and new Student Union, which is good, but this has added 30 new public bathrooms, without additional staff to clean them.

• The old dorms have been rented to Briarcliff College, and there were students from St. Georges Medical School who came for emergency housing last Fall. There were some additional 1,600 people on campus, but no additional maintenance people were added. Having the new Director of Facilities on board, we hope to improve manpower problems. Dr. Butts and L. Davis are aware of these.

Q: Why was the money from the rentals not structured to address the need for personnel? Was the income from rental insufficient?

A: It is not possible hire either full-time staff on short notice or temporary people on CSEA contracts.

Q: Isn't it possible to hire a cleaning service?

A: We now have a cleaning service contract.

Q: Space in the new dormitories is not sufficient to meet the demands of Old Westbury students. Will there be space in the old dormitories for them?

A: Yes, there is a dormitory set aside for them.

Q: What is the arrangement with New York Institute of Technology?

A: We are working to draw up a contract with them. We are reserving one new dorm for this. It has been fixed up: dorms repainted, floors fixed; doors repaired. There are some structural problems that cannot be fixed.

Announcement: A. Ebrahimi reminded the assembled that TLC was hosting a presentation following the Senate meeting, in the same room. The featured speaker was G. Wachman, speaking on a topic related to her recent book: "Other Modernists: Vernon Lee and Sylvia Townsend Warner: Imperialism, Sexuality, Revolution, and War." All are welcome.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm