

SUNY / College at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes - May 3, 2002

Present: N. Rosenthal, R. Colòn-Urban, J. Lloyd, K. Wood, M. Dolan, C. Butts, A. Bonnett, J. Llana, W. Shenouda, J. Edelson, I. Ahmed, A. Barbera, M. Keizer, S. Mahmoud, C. Hobson, M. Keefe, B. Kalmans, H. Lewittes, G. Snedeker, S. Kirkpatrick

Visitors: R. Welton, R. Brown, N. Sacks, C. Wardell, G. Wachman

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the April 19th meeting were accepted unanimously as submitted

2. Chair's Report (N. Rosenthal)

- a. The Executive Committee met with the President on April. Agenda items included the AVP search, scholarships, graduation schedule and the BPC. The Executive Committee agreed to specify in writing the ways in which the functioning of BPC is not in accord with the bylaws.
- b. A resolution on assessment is being drafted by other campuses. The president of SUNY Senate is discussing General Education and Assessment with the Provost.

3. Questions / Comments

The AVP search committee is in place. We have unofficial word that members are O. Hicks, T. del Giudice, J.P. Lee and R. Hoyte. The Faculty Senate was not consulted on membership or timetable. There is no information about an interim AVP.

4. Academic Vice Presidents Report (A. Bonnett)

- a. Dr. Bonnett will assist the interim AVP in the transition, until July 1st
- b. Budget problems continue. Each Division will submit budget plans for several scenarios during May or June
- c. The Provost's Office has been in communication with Old Westbury regarding future Master Plan amendments. There are issues about faculty workload, space, technology and the library to be resolved
- d. The reports of external reviewers are in. Dr. Bonnett will review these and leave his comments for the interim AVP.

5. Questions / Comments

- a. H. Lewittes lamented the fact that requests for approval of new Gen Ed courses are being reviewed in the Provost's office by unqualified reviewers. Dr. Bonnett suggested that she or N. Rosenthal voice these concerns to SUNY Senate
- b. In response to a question asking for details of the budget problems, Dr. Bonnet noted that

there continues to be a question about several hundred thousand dollars that came to the campus for grant activity, and has not been accounted for.

- c. The external review process was not great. Guidelines for reviewers were somewhat open-ended. More specific guidelines are under discussion, but cannot be finalized until assessment is further along.

6. Structure of the General Education Committee (H. Lewittes)

H. Lewittes summarized the proposed structure of the General Ed Committee, and provided the following justification for the resolution

- a. The Committee must have permanent status, and its deliberations must have integrity in the face of pressure from SUNY and campus administration
- b. The Committee chair currently is appointed by administration. In the new structure, the chair is elected by committee members, but must be an individual who is willing to work closely with administration
- c. With the change of leadership, this is a good time to solidify the structure. It is unlikely that membership or functioning will change if the proposal is accepted.

7. Discussion

- a. Dr. Bonnet spoke against the proposal, cautioning that it was unwise to change a structure that is working well.
- b. There were questions about voting of ex-officio members. The voting structure was designed to give a strong faculty majority.
- c. A friendly amendment to include one ex-officio member appointed by the Academic Vice President, with voting rights, was accepted
- d. A friendly amendment to limit ex-officio members to one-year terms was accepted

The proposal was approved by vote [14-0-2]. The Senate Chair requested that Senator Barbera take the resolution to the Bylaws Committee.

8. SUNY Senate Resolution on Academic Assessment (N. Rosenthal)

Local campuses are opposed to reporting quantitative results of academic assessment to SUNY. The does not include such information as graduation rates or retention data, only curricular assessment. This resolution was tabled at the SUNY Senate to ensure that it was in accord with earlier motions. **The Senate endorsed the Faculty Senate resolution by a vote of 14-0-1.**

9. CAP Committee Report on 3+3 Law degree program (G. Wachman)

- a. G. Wachman discussed the structure of the proposed new program to inform faculty as details are worked out in CAP. Students will take 3 years of courses at Old Westbury and transfer to Hofstra Law. They will be granted the BA degree once they have completed enough work at Hofstra to earn 120 credits, and will return to Old Westbury to graduate with their class. Few students are expected to meet the demanding requirements. The

- program will be a good recruiting tool. Some issues remain to be resolved, including how to deal with students who leave the Hofstra program without completing the degree.
- b. A. Bonnet noted that Old Westbury will provide support to students enrolled in his program in the pre-Law Society, and that Academic Affairs is trying to identify funds for LSAT Review.
 - c. N. Sacks hopes that a Freshman Seminar course will be added for pre-Law students.

The Senate wished to in principle to support CAP as it goes forward, and unanimously passed the following resolution [15-0-0]:

The Senate supports the development by CAP of a 3 + 3 program with the Hofstra Law School

10. Nominations and Elections (A. Barbera)

- a. The following names were deleted from the slate: Llana (Senate), Keizer (CAP), Wachman (CAP)
- b. The following names were added to the slate: Mahmoud (ARPT), Kalmans (Academic Standing)

11. Resolution on Disabilities Office (G. Snedeker)

- a. G. Snedeker presented the resolution to recommend that administration provide adequate funding to the Office.
- b. A senator noted that dwindling funds have created problems in all areas, and that other sources of funding should be pursued. A proposal to amend the resolution to recommend that administration investigate alternate funding sources, rejected as a friendly amendment by Snedeker, was not approved [5-7-3]
- c. **The original resolution was approved [12-0-3].** The text will be sent to Dr. Butts, the Budget and Planning Committee and Bill Lupardo.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm