

SUNY/College at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes - September 7, 2001

Present: N. Rosenthal, J. Llana, K. Wood, M. Dolan, C. Wright, M. Marquez Bell, M. Barrett, R. Colon-Urban, E. McGowin, J. Edelson, C. Franco, A. Martinez, M. Teloki, A. Barbera, J. Lloyd, N. Hegde, S. Mahmoud, C. Hobson, J. Harris, H. Lewittes, G. Snedeker, V. Clarke, W. Shenouda, A. Bonnett

Visitors: L. Krause, J. Conforti, R. Brown, C. Wardell, P. O'Sullivan

Chair's Report The Parliamentarian will be Karlyn Wood. The state budget will have a negative impact on us. Some of the initiatives from last year have born fruit this summer. The Budget and Planning Committee has been meeting and reorganized with M. Dolan as Chair. And now there will be 6 faculty on the committee. The College has revived the College Council and the Old Westbury Foundation. The Foundation is a large group and seems eager to get started. The Chair is MacMillan who ran for Governor as a Conservative. The College Council is headed by Bridy Newell. The by-law changes were approved by a substantial majority of the faculty who voted.

Vacancies on some committees will be filled by appointment. We will report on this on the 14th at the full faculty meeting. In response to a question about the activities of the Foundation, R. Brown noted an upcoming fund-raising dinner at which he would like to have faculty. On October 10 there will be a symposium on doing business in China.

Approval of Minutes for May 18, 2001 Minutes were approved with the following changes:

- 1) On page 4 under the "Report on Assessment," the word "members" should be "member."
- 2) On page 4 under "Capital Plan," second sentence, the words "imposed plan" should read "proposal."

Voting Rights of Professionals A. Martinez and C. Franco received voting rights in the Senate in a unanimous vote. A third person from the professionals will be identified as well.

Welcome to SGA President The Chair welcomed the President of the student government, Mohanlall Teloki, who will serve as SGA representative to the Faculty Senate.

Election of Senate Officers The following Senators were nominated and elected by acclamation: Rita Colon -Urban for Vice-Chair; Judy Lloyd for Secretary-Treasurer, and Wagih Shenouda for Senator-at-Large member of the Exec Committee.

ARPT Report M. Barrett distributed a memo from the AVP indicating the results of faculty ARPT recommendations. She reviewed it briefly, noting the congruence between administrative decisions and ARPT recommendations. [memo is attached]

APC Report A. Barbera stated that the Committee had worked on grievance procedures and developed a draft of an honors policy, to include transfer students. By the end of the semester he

will have a proposal on this. [a copy of the Committee's report is attached]

In response to a question, Barbera said that the grievance procedure is in effect now, as of when it was approved by the faculty.

Question for VP M. Marquez-Bell We are at 100% of our FTE target. Transfers are up 10% and we have fallen just short of our goal for freshmen. The acceptance rate was 50% this year compared with 56% last year.

Senate Calendar Motion to approve the Senate meeting calendar for 2001-2001 passed .

New Faculty Introductions At this point the new faculty came into the meeting. They introduced themselves, and after a few words of greeting by the Chair, they left.

AVP Report Dr. Bonnett announced that we had an active agenda for last year. We were reaccredited by Middle States. The MOU was signed by the Chancellor. The 5-year plan is now a 7-year plan. Assessment will be big this year. The physical plant presents challenging issues, and 2 new buildings have been approved. The Student Union building is scheduled for completion no later than May. Dormitory construction has resumed. Faculty development money last year was \$70,000; we will improve on this. News on the budget is more somber than exhilarating. There is a \$1.1 million shortfall in Strategic Plan funds. We got \$3.3 million but don't know how this affects our operating budget.

Budget and Planning and Capital Plan M. Dolan noted changes in the BPC this summer; she is now the Chair. An extra faculty member has been added for a total of 6. The capital plan is being finalized and the group will turn its attention to physical facilities. There is a lot of work to do getting access to data, such as spending norms for similar schools.

We had an accelerated pace on Capital Planning, but got good help from Albany. It's a large, complicated effort with 630 projects needing priority assignments. We need \$100 million but will receive less than half of this.

Health and Safety ranks high. One-third of all the projects are energy-related. Amenities are next such as upgrading bathrooms and improving signage. Technology and site projects follow in importance.

The Construction Fund has no proposal to raze the Academic Village. This maybe came from the administration or Gruzen Samton. The CF wants to rehab Academic Village.

A new company has been retained by the Dormitory Authority: CAB Construction. We'll get underway hopefully next week, and we are hoping for some improvements in dorm design before moving ahead.

A Senator asked if the resolution against using Gruzen Samton (passed at the Senate meeting on May 18) had been forwarded to the President. No one knew.

The Chair noted that both the BPC and Capital Planning committee were operating as if the Gruzen Samton Plan was not relevant.

M. Barrett voiced the assumption that since the BPC and the Capital Plan are not going with Gruzen Samton, that the President goes along with this as well. Dolan responded that since the President created both groups, Barrett's assumption was reasonable. VP Brown said that we shouldn't take the Gruzen Samton plan as "all or nothing." We may adopt parts of the plan.

Dolan did not know the answer to questions about rehab of the dorms or schedule for completion of the Student Union.

G. Snedeker asked about compliance with ADA laws. Dolan said a lot of the projects are related to doors, which must be replaced and there was some discussion of more ramps and elevator repair.

Barrett asked whether Hudson Design would be affiliated with any new buildings that emerged from the Gruzen Samton plan. The answer was that there are no architects named for the new buildings. Other questions: Is the President on board for including LIPA projects in the dorms? Is there a plan for housing in the Day Care facility? The President met with the head of LIPA and he supported projects, but Dolan reports that no one knows who will make this decision. The President met with Thomas Murphy of the Dormitory Authority. Everyone is aware of the need for quality but the time frame is an issue.

Committee Appointments The Chair announced that M. Colaneri has been nominated by the Exec Committee to CAP, R. Buttermilch to BPC and J. Heller to ARPT. A motion to accept the nominations passed unanimously.

To insure that BPC has staggered terms for members, half of the current members will draw straws to determine the length of their commitment.

Old Business Has there been a response from the last letter to DASNY? J. Llana said yes. The same Senator asked if we have received answers to questions about consultants. Not yet, responded the chair. Another question: Where are we in resolving issues concerning chairs in lieu of governance. Rosenthal answered that this no longer seems to be a problem.

H. Lewittes will have to consult with Executive Committee regarding membership of General Education Committee. Vacancies will be filled by appointment.

New Business On behalf of the Executive Committee, M. Barrett asked about the idea of having specific parking space in Academic Village for faculty and staff. Rosenthal asked for a general sense of the meeting to have the Executive Committee take this up with the President. A discussion of parking followed. There was a rather indefinite sense that someone should study this, which will be conveyed to the President.

C. Franco asked for a place on the agenda to make a Union report. He commented on the new stripped-down budget and the problems it raises for us. He asked faculty to contact the state to

complain.

The Chair announced that she will begin future meetings on time. If we don't have a quorum in 5,6, 7 minutes she will call off the meeting. And we will end on time.

M. Barrett announced that Justice Scalia will be honored for legal ethics at Hofstra; PES will protest this. She also announced a forum on the policies of President Bush on October 10 at 7 p.m. at the Shelter Rock Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, sponsored by the LI Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives and the LI Progressive Coalition. All are welcome.

W. Shenouda announced that Dianne Stalker is the new Interim Director of the Library.