

SUNY/COLLEGE at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, October 18, 2002
12:30 p.m.-2: 30 p.m.

Room C 102 Academic Village

Present: R. Colòn-Urban, K.Velsor, M. Crocitto, K. Wood, P. O'Sullivan, L. Davis, M. Marquez Bell, M. Barrett, J. Conforti, R. J. Edelson, C. Bernard, C. Franco, I. Ahmed, A. Martinèz, B. Joseph, S. Pryor, B. Hillery, M. Keizer, C. Hobson, M. Keefe, R. Kalmans, H. Lewittes, G. Snedeker, S. O'Connor, C. Bernard, M. Miller-Lamb

Visitors: C. Wardell, M. Kinane, R. Gonzalez, N. Sacks, M. Rankin

1. Approval Of The Minutes for Friday, October 4, 2002

The minutes were unanimously approved with the correction of typographical errors and attachment of the resolution *In Support of Civil Liberties at SUNY New Paltz*.

2. Report from Faculty Senate Chair (R. Colòn-Urban)

- a) The resolution concerning New Paltz was not added to the minutes of the previous meeting. The Chair requested that any resolutions be brought to the Executive Committee at least one week before presentation. This allows for a wide distribution and examination by all senators who may have a better understanding of the proposed resolutions.
- b) The University Senate is meeting in Purchase 10/18 and 10/19. The Executive Committee is always invited. They will be discussing the budget process, campus allocations, etc. Randy Daniels (trustee friendly to Old Westbury), Chancellor King and David DeMarco will be attending. Maureen Dolan, our University Senator, will present a report on the campus budget process. She will give the Old Westbury Faculty Senate a summary as an agenda item for the November 1st meeting. Joe Hildress noted this meeting is important, as next year will be more difficult than this past year.

Alfred State College will merge with Alfred University. Their Faculty Senate has not approved the merger and there are union concerns.

- c) The Old Westbury Foundation held a breakfast for new members. Mea Knapp, an alumna who has also worked in our Admissions Office, is now a member. The nominations for membership are open. Nominations should be sent to Richard Brown's office.
- d) The College Council met last Wednesday. Dr. Butts gave a report about enrollments and provided information already shared with Senate.
- e) There was a legislative breakfast supported by UUP for local legislators so that they will support our case when the budget comes up.
- f) In the University Senate there is a Local Governance Leaders Association which tries to coordinate issues, policies, and practices of individual campuses with those of the full Faculty Senate. They collect information about By-laws, etc. The Old Westbury Chair worked on a developing a Faculty Senate Website. The site includes members of the

Committee, By-laws and the University Senate By-laws. University Senate is reviewing local campuses for "best practices" guidelines. We can post announcements on our website and offer links. One link suggested by Stephen Kirkpatrick is to the Chronicle of Higher Education. Any other ideas about what should appear on the Faculty Senate website, please e-mail urbanr@oldwestbury.edu

3. Report from the President

The President was representing the College at the Community Development Corporation of Long Island, which precluded his arrival before the end of the meeting.

4. Report from the Academic Vice President (P. O'Sullivan)

- a) The State Education Department (SED) will likely conduct a readiness review site visit in November. Cannot get SED approval without a visit and cannot advertise without such approval. It is an evaluation as to whether the institution is ready to deliver a Master's level program at the quality, operational, curricular, and faculty level. They also look at the Library, technology, and individual degree programs. SED will intensively look at Business and Teacher Education.
- b) The consolidation and merge of CIS, math, business will proceed without major issues. The AVP expects it should be finished without problems by the end of the semester.
- c) Concerning Middle States, Judy Walsh, Chair and Rita (was Co-chair of last Middle States Committee and participated in writing the report) will meet and set up an agenda for the first meeting. This is for the update report due April 1, 2003.
- d) Dr. O'Sullivan expressed his appreciation to the DSI Committee, which will complete their work later today. The report will be sent to the Office of Academic Affairs, which will review it and send recommendations to the President, probably next week. The AVP noted that historically, there is little deviation from the recommendations of the Committee and the actual awards.

Questions/Comments

Issues discussed at the October 16th meeting will be reported on by Dr. Butts. The AVP recommended the exhibition in gallery and thanked Cathy Wardell for her work on it.

5. Report from Secretary/Treasurer (M. Crocitto)

The Faculty Fund is at \$1,050.81. The Faculty voted unanimously to donate \$50.00 to the Old Westbury Foundation Suzanne Anderson Poetry Award and to send a fruit basket to a faculty member.

6. Report from UUP (C. Franco)

- a) We are in the process of negotiating a new contract as our present one expires June 30th. A visit to our campus from the negotiating team on October 10th was to get input about what we would like to see in the new contract.
- b) The UUP co-sponsored an administrative breakfast for legislators to advocate for the college in their home districts. The budget next year will be more difficult than this year due to an \$8 to \$12 billion dollar deficit. After 9/11/01 we had an \$8 billion gap, but had a \$4 billion surplus to address needs. There is no surplus this year.

- c) We will stand-by to see what issues arise from the merger of Alfred State. If mutually convenient we will go along with it and if not, resources will be used to benefit members.

Questions and Discussion

Alfred will remain a public school but not sure which half will be public and which half private. We would like to keep our resources within the SUNY system.

There was a question as to why long term adjuncts, i.e., more than six semesters over three years, who are contractually entitled to full-year contracts have received semester contracts. The College may award that because language in the contract is vague and doesn't create an obligation on the part of the College for such contracts. C. Franco spoke to Human Resources about this as was informed the College needs options to close the deficit. This issue has been raised in new contract discussions.

Questionnaires may be filled out in paper or on-line version in time for results to be used at the November 8-10th meeting. B. Hillery noted UUP now has software to compile results so they are more flexible about the deadline.

Regarding political endorsements, NYSUT membership split and they didn't endorse a candidate. Most NYSUT members are K-12 teachers and Governor Pataki has been good to them. In NYSUT, we are the only local who negotiates directly with the governor's office. The Board of Directors of NYSUT surveyed members who recommended McCall, but NYSUT decided not to endorse anyone. UUP delegates wanted to support McCall 5 to 1 but didn't come out and support anyone.

7. Assessment (H. Lewittes)

- a) There are two kinds of assessment.
- 1) Assessment of major within the department
The plan and results are reviewed by the assessment committee and are tied to CAP's five-year review process and external evaluation. We are required as part of the five-year review process to have external evaluators. Last June, we submitted the first round of assessment, which was accepted. We are working on the departmental assessment for this June. The assessment plan has to be available a year in advance in order to be available for review by CAP and the external evaluator.

CAP tried to separate the process out for a year for assessment and self-study. SUNY is adamant in that they want the external evaluator and assessment reports submitted together. In order for external evaluators to have the assessment, it has to be accomplished a semester before, minimally, and, preferably, a year before. SUNY is asking for a June submission - if we wait to end of semester have two weeks in May to have assessment done.

Other due date is April when Middle States visits. Each department has to have a viable assessment plan. Right now we do not have it, maybe have a total of five.

2) General Education

Assessment of General Education is now accomplished through the Committee and domain representatives. SUNY mandates a three-year cycle. Within two years we have to assess all of the knowledge areas part of the SUNY program, or all of the courses

accepted by SUNY, or all courses in a domain plus an approved Social Science and Humanities course approved by SUNY. Data collection is this semester and again in May make it tight to reach the June deadline.

It started as a plan where General Education corresponded with a department and, therefore, could use either a single course or a measure that applied to all courses. For example in Math, can use proficiency exam as measure. Now some domains have courses in two or three departments making it difficult to develop a uniform measure; each course will have its own measure.

Anyone teaching a course in General Education will have to participate in the assessment. Will take a sample; if your course isn't in sample, will help with scoring.

- b) Assessment is becoming a workload issue. SUNY has provided no funds. All people in departments and Gen Ed Committee have to do this. This is particularly an issue for departments with adjuncts who will have to assess their course. Asking adjuncts to participate in scoring goes beyond the pale. This is an issue now with ELS, whose adjuncts can't get through without teacher evaluation and who will pay adjuncts for this extra work.

Farmingdale was held as a model for General Education Assessment Review Committee. Their administration made it a major initiative but faculty are doing the work. This is an issue for untenured faculty with one-year contracts who are less able to raise objections. Centralized somewhat arbitrary control is coming from GEAR (General Education Appointed Review Committee), which is an appointed faculty committee to review General Education assessment plans. Each subgroup makes decisions and it isn't clear which decisions are coming from the subgroup or entire committee. We don't have access to the process or the substance of Committee discussions.

SUNY-wide Senate and Old Westbury Senate voted that we should not report what percentage of students met the standards. However, a form from GEAR asks that we report the percentages. The union, Statewide Senate, and AVP, are going to have to take a stance on what we will and won't do.

Questions and Discussion

In response to a question about the involvement of adjuncts with one-semester contracts who are paid less and asked to do more, H. Lewittes noted we are asking adjuncts for measures but not scoring. C. Hobson noted a request for money for norming sessions to provide interobserver reliability went without a reply. Outside evaluators come in for a day and get paid \$300 - \$500 dollars. You have a right to choose the external evaluator. H. Lewittes will bring up questions to the Gen Ed Committee and report back to Senate.

8. Resolution regarding OSSD (K. Velsor)

The attached resolution was read.

Questions and Comments

The AVP asked if there was study done to assess impact of shift services to Academic Affairs. K. Velsor noted a recent UUP report recommended disabilities services for

students should be housed in Academic Affairs as academic services are provided. This is the case at CUNY. AVP noted it was not so at Stony Brook and Farmingdale. Is there a set of problems that will fixed with shift to AA? M. Barrett stated there are problems providing technology to accommodate disabled students. Most services that OSSD provides are academic services analogous to Math Lab, etc. Some SUNYs have the office report to Student Affairs, others Academic Affairs. May be 25% of our students have unrecognized special needs. Also issue for students who are not recognized can't go anywhere on campus to get help.

The AVP wanted on the record that he is not sure that the presumption that problems can be handled and resolved quickly would be done, given all the constituencies they have to serve.

M. Barrett wanted the resolution clarified in the case of hiring of the Assistant Director of OSSD so that the job's tasks and responsibilities in the majority provide direct service to students. Vote: Yes (20), No (1), Abstentions (0).

9. Student Government Report

No representative from Student Government was available and there was no report.

10. Old Business

The resolution *In Opposition to the Bush Administration's Plan for War against Iraq* was brought forward by a group and needs no second.

Questions and Comments

There was a discussion about energy supplies, the spread of the war to other countries in the Middle East, and whether credible evidence exists about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. A friendly amendment by Mari Miller-Lamb that the resolution include a Whereas, going to war would put our students and family member in the military at risk was unanimously approved. The resolutions passed: Yes (16), No (2), Abstentions (2).

11. New Business

Kate Velsor thanked the Safety Aides for their assistance in evacuating the building during the fire alarm on 10/16.

Please view the exhibit organized by D. Papademas in the library.

Nancy Sacks invited attendance to the on-campus play "Greenwood" produced by Mandy Friskin in American Studies.

M. Barrett requested assistance for a needy student with excess contributions going to the Faculty Fund.

B. Joseph asked that a resolution dated October 9th be distributed.

J. Edelson. Copies of Catalyst are not distributed in C Wing.

S. O'Connor invited faculty to attend the Common Hour activity in D 228 at 10:50 a.m. "How to Integrate Technology in the Classroom."

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.