

SUNY/COLLEGE at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, February 21, 2003
12:30 p.m-2:40 p.m.

Room C 102 Academic Village

Present: R. Colón-Urban, K. Velsor, M. Crocitto, K. Wood, C. Butts, III, P. O Sullivan, R.J. Edelson, I. Ahmed, A. Martínèz, M. Keefe, B. Joseph, C. Hobson, G. Snedecker, M. Dolan, M.Colaneri

Visitors: M. Rankin, B. Serrano, R. Ramdeen

1. Approval of the Minutes for January 31, 2003

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

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

The Chair had nothing new to report.

3. Report from the President (C.O. Butts, III)

The President thanked everyone for their patience with the parking challenges during the inclement weather and commended the staff of Buildings and Grounds for their work.

The State Education Department will visit the campus March 27th and 28th which is an important step in the approval of our graduate programs.

Our enrollment targets have been met except for first-time to college and part time students. Enrollment projections are consistent with SUNY and show continual growth over two years.

Although we need a tuition increase, we are still the best value of the state universities in the tri-state area. The President expressed his concern about changes to programs such as TAP and C-Step. We did not want to lose administrative staff and adjuncts. Students have not suffered, although there is some increase in class size. We need to reduce costs while maintaining the integrity of our degrees. He is working with the BPC to review priorities.

The President has met with three of the candidates recommended by the Vice President for Academic Affairs committee and commended chair Bob Hoyte for his work.

VPAA Patrick O'Sullivan will chair a 23-person task force examine the three and four credit course models.

Two of the five dorms are ready and students are enjoying them. We have not yet received control of the Student Union. The gates on Rt. 25 are closed for security purposes.

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

The readiness review on March 27th is to determine the soundness of our undergraduate and proposed graduate programs. The Site Committee Team members may visit any department and examine the library, registrar, student services, etc. Departments will receive the SED full itinerary as soon as it is available. The list of Site Visit Team members was distributed (attached).

There is a first draft of the Middle States Report and we will meet the deadline.

Would like an augmented and more predictable summer schedule to appeal to the large number of students returning to Long Island during the summer who are interested in taking courses. One issue is that of faculty pay, which is lower than that of neighboring schools. We may be offering an incentive.

In response to a question about the process of the task force to analyze the three- and four-credit model, the AVP noted some people who are on the task force are also on other committees. We should reconcile the task force findings with CAP and Faculty Senate.

5. University Faculty Senate Report (M. Dolan)

M. Dolan distributed a report (attached).

6. UUP Report

This report was deferred because our UUP Representative was in Albany. The time was allocated to Rhesa Ramdeen from NYPIRG. Rhesa publicize a rally for higher education on March 11. She asked faculty to announce it to students and excuse absences from class for rally attendance on that day. A summary/sign-up form was distributed (attached).

7. Discussion of the 3- 4-Credit Model (R. Colón-Urban)

The Chair reminded senators to ask their departments to discuss the three and four credit course models. Any recommendations must come from CAP to the Senate. A motion to postpone this discussion to the next Senate meeting on March 7th was unanimously approved.

8. Resolution from the Teacher Education Program

A "Proposed Resolution on the Proposed Teacher Education Graduate Program" was distributed (attached). Discussion ensued about the accuracy of point 4 of the resolution, the process in which the proposal for the graduate program may have been sent inappropriately to SED rather than SUNY, whether there would be an approval before a site evaluation, and issues that were incomplete in the proposal. The President noted that we asked for further discussion and advocated the TEP proposal for approval as of September 2003, but SUNY arrested the process.

A motion was raised to table the resolution to give time for the VP of Academic Affairs and Chair of TEP to meet and bring the issues back to the Senate. It passed: Yes 9; No 4; Abstain 0.

9. SGA Report

There was no SGA report due to a conflict in scheduled meeting times.

10. Old Business

None

11. New Business

There will be a poetry reading with Joan K. Levine, an author and alumna of Old Westbury, on February 26th during Common Hour (10:50-12:40 p.m.) at the Poetry Center.

An on campus performance of "The Vagina Monologues," will be held March 5th and 6th at the Maguire Theater as part of V-Day Worldwide/College Campaign to raise money for organizations that work to stop violence against women and girls.

Old Westbury is a member of the New York Metropolitan Area Service Learning Institute. Faculty were invited to join in the service learning initiative.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.