

SUNY/COLLEGE at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, September 20, 2002
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Room C 102 Academic Village

Present: R. Colon-Urban, K. Wood, P. O'Sullivan, I. Ahmed, A. Barbera, M. Barrett, C. Bernard, A. Blasius, S. Chovnick, J.M. Conforti, M. Crocitto, R. Jill Edelson, C. Hobson, B. Joseph, B. Kalmans, M. Keefe, M. Keizer, S. Kirkpatrick, S. Mahmoud, A. Martinez, M. Metlay, W. Shenouda, G. Smedeker, M. Teloki, C.J. Wright, K. Velsor

Visitors: C. Anderson, R. Gonzalez, M. Marquez Bell, R. Ramdeen, N. Sacks, R. Welton, C. Wardell

1. Approval of the minutes, May 3, 2002 meeting

The minutes of the meeting of May 3 were amended to read under Item #7: The Senate Chair requested that Senator Barbera take the *revised* resolution to the Bylaws Committee. They were then accepted unanimously as submitted. The Chair noted that the revised resolution was not received and promised to follow up.

2. Report from Faculty Senate Chair (Rita Colon-Urban)

The Executive Committee met with President Butts about how to improve working with the Budget and Planning Committee. Monthly meetings were agreed upon and the President provided a list of meeting dates so as to follow the pattern of other SUNY campuses. Continuing members are R. Hoyte, T. DelGiudice, Rita Buttermilch, Runi Mukherje and Rita Colon-Urban, ex officio. We need to assure continuity in membership across time and will ask for nominations.

There are new guidelines for the Old Westbury Foundation grant applications ranging from \$1,000-\$5,000. If there is justification for additional funding amounts, the Foundation will consider it. Next deadline is November 15; from now on, deadlines will be in the spring for fall grants.

The ARPT committee and the Office of Student Development (Judicial Review Board) need additional faculty members.

The parking situation in which faculty have to park a great distance from their classes and carry laptops has not changed but should improve when the new student dorms are ready. Senate will follow-up with this.

Sen. George Snedeker asked that the situation in the Office for Students with Disabilities be added as new business item on the next agenda.

3. Report from Academic Vice President (Patrick O'Sullivan, Acting)

The Academic VP explained that he assumed this interim position to assist with the goal of serving students. There is a sharing of the pain of the budget shortfall by all departments, which was done in consultation with departmental chairs.

Everyone should have been notified about the DSI that was announced to chairs for further dissemination.

Dr. O'Sullivan, Len Davis, and Mary Marquez Bell will attend a meeting in Albany on October 16th and 17th to discuss the Old Westbury budget. System Administration believes that we have not done the best with our allocation. Under the current circumstances, the College cannot go on. This year even with a \$3.3 million subsidy, we will be short \$1.7 million. The Academic Vice-President expressed his belief that our budget shortfall can be solved with collective intelligence.

The Academic Vice President is committed to maintaining faculty development for travel and research, which is especially important for young faculty. He was informed that this will prevail. Exact amounts are presently unknown.

We need some conceptual framework to guide decision making to protect and defend the integrity of all departments. It is essential we offer masters degrees to grow enrollments and maintain the TEP, School of Business, Computer Science, Media and Communications degrees while still attending to the liberal arts programs such as PES and Modern Languages. Our MOU was to double enrollments from 3100-6200 - maybe in three to five years.

Questions/Comments

Some faculty expressed concern over the short time frame allocated for the submission of files by 4:00 p.m. on September 27, 2002. Dr. O'Sullivan extended the deadline for submission of DSI files to Monday, September 30, 2002, at noon.

In response to a question about a faculty governance representative at the meeting in Albany, Dr. O'Sullivan noted that a smaller group of academic professionals was preferred by System Administration.

Barbara Joseph inquired about the opportunity to review adjunct cuts and whether the Language House will close. Dr. O'Sullivan responded that decisions were made in consultation with department chairs, reviewed, and reversed if necessary. The Language House will remain open.

The Chair noted that we need to respond to the Middle States Association on five or six points by 4/1/03 and that the process involves at least six months. The Academic Vice-President submitted a list of names of committee members to prepare the Middle States response. but will wait to reveal them. He has not yet heard back from

the President. Although the AVP remarked this would not be a very large report, the Chair noted its importance.

4. Approval of Voting Rights for Non-teaching Professionals (NTP) in Senate

The Chair stated that we need to comply with the By-Laws and certify the voting rights of NTPs. Voting rights for Ana Martinez, Candelario Franco, and Ibssa Ahmed were unanimously approved.

5. Election of Officers for Executive Committee

Last year's Executive Committee was operating at last week's general faculty meeting. Rita Colon-Urban moves from Vice Chair last year to Chair this year. Kate Velsor was unanimously elected as Vice Chair this year. Also unanimously elected were Madeline Crocitto as Secretary/Treasurer, and Karlyn Wood as Parliamentarian. Said Mahmoud and Stephen Kirkpatrick were nominated for the Senator-at-Large position with Stephen Kirkpatrick winning (11-0-0). Maureen Dolan continues on the Executive Committee because she was elected as our University Senator.

ARPT Emergency (Minna Barrett, Chair)

M. Barrett (ARPT Chair) described the unusual situation of have no untenured people available for ARPT. The members who would normally be serving can't because they are coming up for reappointment or tenure or for other reasons. Therefore, a written resolution was introduced and distributed to the faculty (see attached). It would allow the Faculty Chair to appoint temporary members to the ARPT subject to election with the next three months. The resolution passed: 20-0-1.

6. Introduction of New Faculty

No new faculty were present to be introduced.

7. Discussion of Senate Meeting Calendar

The Senate Meeting Calendar distributed at the meeting passed by acclamation.

8. Report on BPC

BPC member Rita Buttermilch had informed the Chair that there was nothing new to report since the Committee had only met once. The continuing members are R. Hoyte, R. Buttermilch, T. DelGiudice, and Runi Mukerji. President Butts asked that we send three names and he will choose two.

Willing volunteers are Judy Walsh and Sirousse Tabriztchi. Minna suggested that the Executive Committee send out a call for volunteers and wait two weeks. She presented the motion:

Whereas we charge the Executive Committee with distributing notification that there are two positions and need diversity of representation, the Committee will ask people to self-nominate or have departments nominate potential BPC members.

The motion was seconded by Stephen Kirkpatrick and approved unanimously.

9. New Business

The Student Government President announced open positions and distributed the list of student senators. He asked faculty to encourage students to respond so clubs have a budget for needed programs, especially for more on campus as well as promote greater commuter student involvement.

Craig Wright requested volunteers for Judicial Board reviews. Having more volunteers lowers the burden in terms of the number of cases per faculty, avoids burnout, and allows for a timely response to cases. The faculty expressed some concern over the timing of the hearings on Tuesday and Thursdays between 10:30 am. and 2:30 p.m., due to potential conflict with classroom responsibilities.

The Fall Convocation is October 9 at 11:00 a.m. with the theme "Rising to the Extraordinary."

Questions/Comments

Barabara Joseph inquired as to the number of students suspended or dismissed and whether this is related to retention. Craig responded that with our zero tolerance policy in effect for two years we have had 17 suspensions. Eight people were expelled from the College and 11 expelled from Residential Life. In such cases, academically students have the right to come on campus. However, he alerted to the faculty to avoid working with students on hold from the Registrar's office who should not be on campus but who would claim to be here to see a faculty member.

Mary Marquez Bell reported our target for first time to college students was met at 99% with 299 students; 98.7% or 612 new transfer; 97% continuing and returning students 2220 with 71 returns stop outs; just by numbers FTE are 12 ahead, 1% above. We are ahead of where we were last year and will adjust figures when our census is completed.

Nancy Sacks requested more freshmen level courses. The freshman class has grown and we ran out of courses this summer. She will send a prioritized request.

Becke Kalmans requested that a resolution "In Condemnation Of The Terrorization Of Hindu Minority Professors In Bangladesh," (see attached) be added to the next agenda.

A NYPIRG representative on campus, Rhesa Ramdeen, explained their emphasis on student rights, voter registration, homelessness, consumer action, environmental issues, and higher education. Previous tuition hikes of \$750 during the 1990-1995 period resulted in drop-outs. She asked faculty to inform students of the October 11 deadline for voter registration, the post card drive opposing tuition hikes, and the taping of some of their activities to be aired on PBS. She may be contacted at A113 X3046 to arrange for classroom visits. Hedva Lewittes asked about the registration location - it will be in the hall with hours varying with staffing.

There was no UUP report due to the fact that C. Franco and B. Hillary were in Albany in UUP contract negotiations.

Jill Edelson asked about the distribution of information about campus events during office hours. Craig write explained we hold one major college-wide event a month due to budget and assured that he would send a note to Michael Kinane to use the monthly calendar as a PR venue.

Anthony Barbera suggested faculty tell students to join organizations and emphasize that they will not miss class time.

The Chair announced the next meeting on October 4, 2002 and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeline Crocitto