

SUNY/COLLEGE at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, January 31, 2003
12:30 p.m.-2:10 p.m.

Room C 102 Academic Village

Present: R. Colón-Urban, K. Velsor, M. Crocitto, K. Wood, C. Butts, P. O Sullivan, J. Conforti, R.J. Edelson, I. Ahmed, A. Martinéz, M. Teloki, A. Barbera, B. Joseph, S. Pryor, C. Sawyer, C. Hobson, J. Harris, M. Adams, C. Bernard, S. Kirkpatrick
Visitors: J. Llana, N. Sacks, R.J. Welton, M. Marquez Bell, R. Brown, L. Davis, M. Rankin

1. Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2002; December 13, 2002

The minutes of the meetings of November 15, 2002, which were deferred due to the lack of a quorum at the previous meeting, and the minutes of the meeting of December 13, 2002 were unanimously approved.

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

The Executive Committee met with M. Rankin and P. O'Sullivan in January. The Committee reiterated the Senate's position that merit and equity are two separate issues for DSI awards. The Administration's position is that there has to be merit in order to have equity. This remains a point of discussion.

SUNY Senate has requested that the Executive Committee provide information about campus procedures to evaluate administration. Administrative personnel are reviewed through the chain of command. The Chair was unable to find any forum in which faculty have participated in an evaluation of the administration. The President is evaluated by the Chancellor and we have no information about what the evaluation is.

Candidates for the Academic Vice President position are presently being interviewed. The Chair urged senators to participate in upcoming interviews on Feb. 13, 20, and 27 as arranged by the Search Committee. Faculty will also be welcome in any other meetings at which faculty are present. The times and dates at which the AVP candidates will be available will be sent to faculty.

The Chair announced an opening on the BPC committee, which is now temporarily filled by S. Kirkpatrick.

The President sent a thank-you note to the faculty for their gifts and expressions of concern. As was noted in Newsday, Bob Hoyte, Distinguished Teaching Professor received the Martin Luther King Memorial award for his years of research and training designed to encourage minority students to pursue careers in education.

3. Report from AVP (Patrick O'Sullivan, Acting)

The AVP addressed eight points:

SED will conduct a readiness review tentatively scheduled for the week of March 10. Accounting will be reviewed. The MS in Education has been withdrawn from SUNY and will be resubmitted in time for classes to commence September 2004. Assessment criterion will include the soundness of undergraduate programs.

There is excellent progress in organizing the report to be submitted to Middle States by April 2003. The AVP thanked the committee chairs.

The Presidential Task Force on the three-credit system will meet Feb. 7. Letters of invitation have been sent out. It is time for an open, honest discussion in terms of how the number of credits per course impacts competitiveness, how various majors and programs work under this model, and general education. The AVP will keep faculty informed.

Due to mandated 5% cuts, Academic Affairs reduced the number of adjunct sections by 22. Distribution analysis will be shared with chairs, who participated in discussions. The AVP expressed his appreciation to the chairs.

Academic Affairs has asked for an expanded summer school program to allow us to pay for adjuncts. It is up to individual chairs and departments to organize the best and most expanded schedule possible.

All faculty up for tenure and promotion to associate and full professor will need external evaluation letters per p. 47 of the By-Laws.

The AVP encouraged faculty to submit grant proposals with appropriate lead-time for proposal evaluation. Proposals should be submitted at least a week before the grant deadline to obtain signatures and avoid last minute running around. Submissions should be complete and accurate.

As of December 1, we have a Math and Computer Science Dept.

In response to questions, the AVP noted SUNY withdrew the TEP proposal from SED, and that we withdrew from SUNY to complete details. The Math Department Tutoring Lab will not move this semester, but there is no definitive information about space allocations. We will increase demand for summer school by targeting students who live without our area but attend school elsewhere. The minimum number of students needed for a class to run will be brought up at the upcoming chair's meeting.

4. Report from the President (Calvin O. Butts, III)

The President thanked the faculty for their gifts and cards. He will conduct a tour of the new dorms for Newsday. The capital budget allocations are intact concerning building a new Academic Crescent building. What is under our consideration is whether to continue with the process of building a new Academic Crescent or use the funds for Academic Village.

5. Enrollment Report (Mary Marquez Bell)

We were 103% above our FTE goal before financial cancellations; if half re-register we will be at 98%. We expect strong enrollment for the spring semester. Our annualized FTE for funding will be above our goal for this year, which will increase revenues. The head count was 3084 before cancellations, full-time 2637, about 2500 after cancellations.

In response to a question, M. Marquez Bell noted that cancellations were delayed until financial aid funds were transmitted. The problem is that students register and do not pay or make a partial payment and then do not complete it. Have tried posters, flyers, announcements, and reminders at the beginning of semester to make appointments for financial aid. New students enter and don't look at deadlines. Nancy Sacks started a separate list of first-year students to be called before they are canceled.

Students' names are supplied to the INS. It is a Federal law we must abide by in order to participate in study abroad programs and accept students on F-1 visas. Our files are in compliance. Have to report on a weekly basis any change such as telephone, address, change of major, or status. INS is responsible for enforcement.

Our first time to college goal was 41 students, we have 28. Exceeded full-time goal of 24 but have 26, anticipated 17 part-time students but only have 2. Transfers are 4% above our 383 goal, with 397 continuing and returning; 2% ahead with 2612 expected, have 2659; FTE 2637 targeted 2556, and registration hasn't ended. No breakdowns by major.

6. Student Government Report

Major issues – new dorms are beautiful and cost more. Unsure about opening date for the new Student Union. A tuition increase may impact enrollments. Close to 1,400 students receive TAP which will be cut by one-third. STEP and C-STEP programs are also impacted. The Student Assembly voted against the trustees' resolution on a tuition increase. SGA will assign a liaison to work with Faculty Senate, especially on the issue of how cuts in faculty will influence students' graduation. The student senate meeting agenda will be distributed to Faculty Senate. There will be a second call for student involvement, asking applicants for a letter of intention and resume. Student Government has been involved in the committee to select outside vendors for the Student Union. There is a problem with insufficient student volume.

Len Davis reported there were on-going discussions to house C.W. Post students on a one-semester basis and a larger proposal with Nassau Community College.

The University Senate informed Rita Colón-Urban that in addition to a possible tuition increase, tuition assistance awards would be withheld until a student graduates.

Len Davis commented that the tuition increase is to compensate for cuts per student, at a cost of the \$1200 increase. They are still modeling population gains from the private schools and losses due to TAP.

7. Report from Secretary-Treasurer (M. Crocitto)

The Faculty Fund, which started with \$1,050.81, has approved expenditures of \$350 so far this year for an approximate balance of \$700. Faculty were asked to contribute to the faculty fund based on their salary with suggested contributions unchanged from last year.

Senators Shumer and Clinton did not respond to our letters informing them of our resolution protesting a war in Iraq. Neither senator nor Rep. Crowley responded to our letters about the persecution of Hindu minority professors. Follow-up letters were sent December 6th but we still have no response.

A human-rights group, Global Importune has agreed to take the case of the Hindu professors by including it in its monthly letter-writing campaign. It has also allowed us to use its logo as letterhead to write our own letters. Faculty approved mailing expenditures for this purpose.

The secretary also asked chairs of committees who are giving reports to provide the major points of their reports in writing.

8. New Business

Cathy Bernard invited the faculty to bring students, family members, and friends to the Art Gallery reception on Feb. 12 from 4-6 p.m. to celebrate an exhibit on African-American history by Debra Priestly. There is also a Visual Arts design exhibit in the library on electronic media. The AVP asked faculty to support the Wallace Gallery and thanked the Visual Arts Department members for their work.

Tom DelGiudice has received a grant to offer a conference on campus on April 4th offering best practices in course migration and Web integration. Proposals are due March 31.

Nancy Sacks invited faculty to serve on the orientation committee and offered an early invitation to a luncheon to meet new students on July 12th which is renamed the faculty luncheon.

Rita Colón-Urban suggested faculty should have the opportunity to prepare a position on the pros and cons of the three-credit or four-credit model. Although the president has appointed a task force, and chairs are discussing the issue, they are not part of faculty governance.

A motion was proposed to encourage every department and senators to benefit from the fullest of discussions on the issue, since each department is impacted different. The motion reads: *Senate asks all departments to undertake full and prompt discussion of pros and cons of three credit versus four credit model and report to the Senate.* It was unanimously approved, with the item to be placed on the next Senate meeting agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.