

State University of New York College at Old Westbury
Faculty Senate Meeting
April 1, 2005

1. In Attendance:

Executive Committee: M. Dolan, J. Edelson, R. Mukherji, C. Sawyer

Ex-Officio: P. O'Sullivan, M. Marquez Bell

Representatives: I. Ahmed, L. Anker, E. Bever, C. Cocca, M. Colaneri, T. DelGiudice, N. Dorata, M. Foglino, A. Frisken, C. Hobson, M. Keefe, H. Lewittes, A. Martinez, C. Ottenheimer, G. Snedeker.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Corrections to Chair's Report: Under report on comments from SEMPRA, addbut they would never cut the trees down "without the permission of the campus". Also, add: "According to Semptra, removal of the trees was not in their scope of work." Minutes were approved as amended.

3. **Chairs Report:** (attached).

4. **President's Report:** President did not attend the meeting.

5. AVP Report:

- i. Recognized the scholarship of 4 faculty members who have recently published books. They are:

Carolyn Cocca, Jailbait (SUNY P).

Amanda Frisken, Victoria Woodhull's Sexual Revolution: Political Theater and the Popular Press in 19th Century America (U of Pennsylvania P).

Gay Wachman, Lesbian Empire: Radical Crosswriting in the Twenties (Rutgers P).

Judith Walsh, Domesticity in Colonial India: What Women Learned when Men Gave them Advice (Rowman and Littlefield).

Judith Walsh, How to be the Goddess of Your Home: An Anthology of Bengali Domestic Manuals (Yoda P).

It was noted that the accomplishments of these colleagues represent a distinctive advance for women's scholarship as well as for the College.

- ii. BPC is going to be the Steering Committee for Mission Review II.

Q. Why is BPC to be the Steering Committee?

A. Because BPC has representation of all the constituencies.

- iii. Following the April 15th Full Faculty Meeting there will be a meeting on the School of Arts and Sciences for faculty in the interdisciplinary departments (AS, H&L, PES).

6. Report from the Dean of Education: (R. Mattai)

R. Mattai gave a PowerPoint presentation of the relationship of the NCATE/NYSED accreditation process to the campus, emphasizing the importance of genuine, holistic collaboration across the campus.

Q. How far are we along in this process?

A. We are moving along very slowly. I am very nervous right now because there is a lot of work to be done. We need twelve school relationships, but at this point we have only four and no Director of Placement. Yesterday, we put up new consolidated framework for Admissions.

Q. What schools are we connecting with?

A. Middle Country Day School, because lower SES (socio-economic stratum) white kids are also disenfranchised; Wyandanch; Thurgood Marshall, which has gifted and talented from lower SES groups. These are some of the schools that we are looking at.

7. Discussion School of Arts and Sciences (P. O'Sullivan)

(see appended handout for the context of the discussion)

Goals I, II, & III are very important, and are not listed in order of priority. Why schools? Because they have higher visibility than departments. The Business and Education Schools already convey a sense of quality because of their accreditation; both will have graduate programs; and we can leverage strength with both programs. The School of Arts and Sciences will consist of:

- Natural Sciences, which have relative small numbers of students but are heavily invested in research.
- Disciplinary programs: Math; Psychology (planning an MS in Counseling Psychology) and Sociology (planning MS in Criminology)
- Interdisciplinary programs: American Studies, Humanities and Languages (encompassing English Language Studies), Modern Languages, and Comparative Humanities, and Politics, Economics, and Society.

Having a school gives the faculty and students an identity and becomes the center of advocacy for them. If the School structure is decided upon, then in consultation with Pres. Butts, an Interim Dean will be appointed, hopefully over the summer.

I envision that there will be opportunities to do centralized advising; there will CAP, and Personnel committees within the School.

The choice of the Dean is critical, because he/she must build consensus within the faculty. There should be a 5-year plan, which should be constantly revised.

Q. There has to be revision of the Bylaws, ARPT, among other things have to be revisited.

Q. We already have a problem recruiting faculty for College-wide committees. With the additional committees you are suggesting, this is going to exacerbate the problem.

A. We will need to think through these issues for effective solutions.

Comment: We have increasing trend towards bureaucratization. We have a School of Business, and a School of Education, is that why we need a School of Arts and Sciences. This seems to be major shift in focus.

Comment: I have qualified enthusiasm for this because there are a lot administrative initiatives that could be taken with respect to recruitment, retention, advising, summer/ winter programs, extracurricular activities. These things could be done by those whose job it is to do them.

Comment: The structure could work and we need to see how it solves the issues that are currently problems. However, we should maintain College-wide CAP and ARPT Committees to prevent the Schools from being isolated. Similarly, at the first level, advising should be done on a College-wide basis.

(Motion was made and approved to extend the time of the meeting.)

7. Old Business: SGA Resolution on Mission Review II:

Comments:

- There are a number of inaccuracies in the "whereas" clauses of the Resolution. There were a lot of Faculty who gave input to the Mission Review Guidance Document. The Academic Village is not the only precarious building.....all the buildings are in need of major rehab. Also, we have low faculty student ratios because we have such a bad financial situation. Also, it is not clear why we are taking up this resolution now. At this point it is very disruptive especially since MR II is in process, we have new AVP, and it doesn't make strategic sense to vote no confidence of a work in progress now.
- The specific content of the whereas clauses is not at really at issue. The point about this resolution is about not having confidence in the Mission Review II document, and many of us don't.

- I am glad to see that the students care about this, and that they have done their homework. There was faculty involvement, but there was no formal faculty governance involvement, and that is not the intent of the resolution. Also, although all the buildings on campus need rehab, the AV should carry the biggest weight.
- The question is how to commend the students for their concern about this issue, but not do something as disruptive as a vote of no confidence.
- Senate Chair asked the AVP if he might put a student on the continuing MR II committee, and he agreed to consider it.

AVP: I told System that major revisions were needed in the Mission Review II document. We should be concerned about our image and credibility at System. We should not act hastily. If there is a vote of no confidence or condemnation, it will have serious repercussions and it would interfere with my ability to function effectively with System.

- Perhaps one solution would be to rethink the resolution so that the 'whereas' become the body of the resolution as the issues which should be focused on in MR II?

M. Foglino agreed to withdraw the resolution and take it back to the SGA.

8. M. Colaneri was nominated and elected by unanimous vote as At-Large Representative to the Senate Executive Committee. A. Barbera had to step down from the position recently, owing to his appointment as Interim Dean of the School of Business.
9. R. Mukherji introduced a motion on the need for printed course schedules for advising: advising should be discontinued until such schedules were available. After brief discussion, motion was tabled. AVP asked L. Anker and R. Mukherji to meet with him to discuss the issue
10. M. Dolan asked faculty to consider nomination to the University Faculty Senate Committees. Forms will be circulated to the faculty.
11. Announcement was made of Earth Day activities, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday April 22. All are welcome.
12. Meeting was adjourned at 2:48 pm