

## **FACULTY SENATE**

### **Minutes of Meeting of March 5, 1993**

**Present:** L. Camnitzer, M. Casaccio, L. Collantes, T. Del Giudice, M. Derby, M. Dolan, C. Etheridge, M. Feder-Marcus, J. Fernandez, C. Franco, A. Galatianos, K. Hall, N. Hegde, S. Hickey, R. Hoyte, P. Impollonia, A. Jorge, D. Kelly, M. Leung, J. Llana, S. Mahmoud, M. McIntyre, P. McKeegan, R. McVeigh, A. Mickens, R. Mukherji, M. Mulhare, President Pettigrew, N. Rosenthal, J. Sanchez, G. Seidman, A. Smith, J. Speisman, S. von Winbush, K. Wood, G. Young Sing, L. Zhao

## **I**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Two amendments were made to the minutes of the meeting of February 12, 1993. The first amendment by Maureen Feder-Marcus said that the source of the projected number of majors for Philosophy and Religion was unclear. Also, Patricia McKeegan's name was added to the list of people present at that meeting.

The minutes, as amended, were approved unanimously.

## **II**

### **FACULTY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT**

- A. The Chair reported on the meeting of the Executive Committee with President Pettigrew. She said the meeting was called for by the President on Wednesday, February 24th, and that as a result of an informal meeting with members of the Faculty Senate on February 25th, a letter was written to the President for presentation to the President on February 26th. Copies of this letter addressed to the President, along with a response by the President, have been distributed to faculty by the President's Office.
- B. The Chair reported that Dr. Frank Pogue, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, and Dr. H.P. Swygert, President of the State University at Albany, visited the campus on Thursday, March 4th. It is still not clear who invited them or what their purpose was. A number of faculty attended meetings with them. Drs. Pogue and Swygert seemed to be willing to convey our concerns to the Chancellor. They stressed that they could not guarantee any action or any response, just that they would represent the issues as best they could.
- C. A subcommittee of Faculty Senate will be constituted to work with the Faculty Personnel Matters Committee in developing a viable and effective set of procedures to be followed in the future for the Distinguished Professorships and Chancellor's Awards. These procedures would then be included in a new set of ByLaws. Anyone interested in serving on this subcommittee should contact Runi.

- D. Access to budgetary information and to the planning process is a priority item. Runi would like to constitute a subcommittee of the Senate to work with Gene Leon, the Senate's representative to the Budget Committee, in developing a framework for a Budget Committee of the faculty. This committee is different from the Budget Committee that now exists that was put together by the President. Carolyn Etheridge and Jim Llana agreed to work on this subcommittee.
- E. Runi announced that at the meeting of the Executive Committee and the President on February 26th, the President agreed to sign the letter to Dr. Chen requesting a visit from a University Senate team. This letter, signed by Runi, was delivered to President Pettigrew. The President informed faculty that she has also signed off on the letter and has forwarded it to the Senate.
- F. Runi asked the administrators present about a box of flyers from SGA announcing a meeting that was approved over the telephone by Bill Nocera but was confiscated from the Print Shop. Pat Impollonia made it clear that he had not destroyed the flyers but had brought them to Mary Lynn Williamson's office and the SGA was then informed about the location of the flyers.

### III

#### RESOLUTION I

Two amendments were made to the resolution that was distributed with the agenda of today's meeting. In the rationale, the third to last sentence of the first paragraph should read, "So, the review proceeded without faculty input." The resolution itself was amended to read, "Be it therefore resolved that the Old Westbury Faculty Senate asks the Chair of the Faculty Senate to send a letter to the Chancellor, along with this resolution, requesting a return visit to the campus and an amendment to his review of the CAO after his discussion with faculty and the Faculty Senate."

The resolution (FS-20), as amended, passed unanimously (23-0-0) by a show of hands.

#### RESOLUTION II

This resolution was inadvertently left out of the package that was distributed with the agenda for today's meeting and was therefore forwarded under separate cover.

Naomi Rosenthal moved to table the resolution. The motion failed by a vote of 11 in favor; 5 opposed; 5 abstentions, since a motion to table has to pass by a two-thirds majority of the Faculty Senate. The floor was then opened for discussion of the resolution itself. After discussion, the resolution was removed

from the floor and the Senate agreed by a vote of 14-2-3 to read the following into the record with concern:

On Monday, February 22, while the students were rallying in an effort to persuade President Pettigrew to meet with them, she stayed in her home. For much of Tuesday, February 23, the entire senior administration was absent from their offices and from the areas where demonstrations took place. On Tuesday morning, the entire senior staff was gathered at the President's home, invoking as a reason not to negotiate the fear of student violence, which if it had actually occurred, would have rendered their presence essential. In fact, it required the intervention of the University Senator and the Chair of the Faculty Senate to negotiate a meeting of the President with her students. Vice-Provost Burke had to contact the Chair of the Faculty Senate in his efforts to find ways to persuade students to leave the Library.

The President stated that her house is part of the campus and serves as a fully functioning office. The members of the senior administration were meeting at her home/office.

#### IV

##### CAP REPORT

The CAP Committee unanimously approved the proposal for a B.S. and B.A. in American Music. The following resolution (FS-21) was passed unanimously by voice vote: "Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate approves the B.S. and B.A. degrees in American Music."

It was brought to the attention of the Faculty Senate that some programs/departments are scheduling meetings during CAP meeting times. Runi will send a letter to programs/departments reminding them of the 10:00 a.m. time slot for committee meetings.

#### V

##### CONSEQUENCES OF VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE

The question has arisen as to what is faculty's responsibility on governance and administrative committees after the vote of no confidence. The following resolution (FS-22) was passed unanimously by voice vote to clarify the implications for faculty of the vote of "no confidence" at the Faculty Meeting of February 19, 1993:

Be it resolved that:

1. Faculty should continue to participate in the routine work of established governance committees (such as Conveners' Council, CAP and RPT).

However:

2. The Faculty should not participate in any structure where discussion of issues and concerns raised by the students or faculty in the current crisis are on the agenda, until confidence in the administrative function of the College has been reestablished through formal faculty action.

The Chair of Faculty Senate will communicate the intent of the motion to SGA and concerned students. A copy of the resolution will be distributed to faculty with a cover memo.

## VI

### DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Michael Leung discussed, in detail, what he sees as problematic procedures in the present mode of selection of nominees for the Distinguished Teaching Professorship.

## VII

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. 14 people from Old Westbury attended SUNY Day. The President thinks that the day was very successful.
- B. The President, Academic Vice President, and Vice President for Student Affairs met with students on Saturday and think that the meeting was useful.
- C. The President deplores the item about the incoming class in the Chancellor's letter, written upon her reappointment, and responded at length to it. The President will distribute copies of her response.
- D. The President looks forward to solving outstanding consultation problems and is extending herself to do so.

Angela Jorge suggested that we try to enlist regular support and friendship from the Black and Puerto Rican caucus. Samuel von Winbush reported that we have been trying to do that in other contexts.

## VIII

### NEW BUSINESS

- A. Naomi Rosenthal introduced a resolution proposed by Jonathan Collett. The resolution (FS-23), as amended, was passed unanimously by voice vote and reads as follows:

We reaffirm the resolution passed by the Senate on February 12 and by the full faculty on February 19 that "the Chair of the Senate has served admirably in these trying times, and that she has represented and led us skillfully as we try to

come to a satisfactory resolution of our grievances and at the same time continue the work of the faculty." We particularly appreciate the openness with which she conducts business and her efforts to be as inclusive as possible of faculty opinion.

We want to stress that any representative of the faculty interacting with the administration, as such should be treated as an embodiment of the faculty and spared ad hominem remarks.

B. The following resolution (FS-24) was passed unanimously:

Whereas a vote of no-confidence passing overwhelmingly at any campus is a compelling and demanding voice for action by the Chancellor and Board of Trustees

Be it therefore resolved that the Faculty Senate request a meeting as soon as possible with the Chancellor and the Chair of the Board of Trustees to seek a remedy for Old Westbury's ailment.

C. The faculty members of the Honorary Degree Committee presented a formal statement to the Senate (see attached memo).

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.