

SUNY/ COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Friday, January 30, 2004
12:30 - 2:00 pm

Present: K. Velsor, E. Linger, J. Edelson, C. Butts, L. Cox, L.L. Davis, M. Colaneri, I. Ahmed, A. Martinez, A. Barbera, M. Metlay, C. Sawyer, M. Keefe, M. Crocitto, H. Lewittes, G. Snedeker, C. Ottenheimer

Visitors: W. Kimmins, R. Brown, M. Rankin, M. Kinane, W. Edwards, N. Sacks, R. Gonzalez, J.Lloyd, J. Harris, J. Spadaro, R. Welton, P. J. O'Sullivan, N.Vaid

- I. Report of the Chair (Kate Velsor):
The trip to Mexico was a resounding success.
- II. President's report (Calvin Butts):
Happy New Year and welcome back.
Enrollment: Enrollment is holding steady at 2,628 fulltime students (2,518 fulltime equivalent but 179 were cancelled and soon should be re-enrolled. We're hoping to grow, by retaining students and increasing transfer students.
We hired a new Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Janice Haynie, who is a well-prepared candidate. She will begin on Feb. 17, 2004. The decision to hire was made by President Butts after the inability to attract the top two choices of the Search Committee.
Professor Wayne Edwards has been asked and has agreed to serve as the Dean of Students.
- III. Report by Academic Vice President (Lawrence Cox):
Enrollment shows that majors are increasing in the departments.
Scheduling – while there is no change in the 4 to 3 credits, for the present the administration is leaving open the idea for a MWF schedule for some classes.
Jim Llana has procured a \$90,000 grant to teach Spanish to hospital employees at North Shore Community Hospitals. Dr. Harvey Waxman, a friend to the College and a member of the College Council, was instrumental and supportive to our efforts.
The same hospital is open to the recruitment of its employees to study at Old Westbury and is considering promoting internships for our students at the hospital.
There is also a request to expand bilingual Russian in addition to Spanish.
The NCATE process is about Old Westbury, not just about the Teacher Education program. It is about how we prepare our students in all areas.
The Arts Council includes Jacob Heller, Mandy Friskin, Nancy Sacks and others who are requesting suggestions for films for an academic film series.
New programs to increase enrollment:
Ruben Gonzalez is working with Hofstra University on a 3 + 3 (years) Law degree and Suffolk Community College on a 2 + 2 + 1 for an MBA or MA in Accounting
Our MS in Business should be going online by September 2004.
Diane Stalker is leaving her position to return to school to become a professor of sociology.
Discussion:
Questions raised about the possible use(s) of the dorms.

Question about who is on the Scheduling Committee. They are Student Government President, Adeoba (David) Oyero, Ed Bever, Kate Velsor, Jim Llana, Ibssa Ahmed, Nancy Sacks, Lynn Walsh, Joe Conforti, Mary Marquez Bell and Wayne Edwards. A plan for a transition to a new schedule would take effect in Spring 2005.

Our current schedule is not sufficient to meet the needs of the student market. We are trying to provide opportunities for participation in the life of the campus and we need flexibility. The rotating common hour has not met that need and is "less than successful."

Suggestion was raised for a regularly scheduled hour that has academic content.

Nancy Sacks, First Year Experience, will be asking people about its importance.

Weekend College – there are now some class offerings on Saturday.

IV. Minutes – November 21, 2003

Hedva Lewittes moved and the motion was seconded to approve the minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of November 21, 2003. Motion passed.

V. Minutes – December 5, 2003 - two corrections

The School of Business is applying for accreditation [not "certification"].

"NCAT" should be changed to NCATE.

Hedva Lewittes moved and the motion was seconded to approve the minutes, as corrected, of the Faculty Senate meeting of December 5, 2003. The motion passed.

VI. CAP report (Michael Colaneri):

Industrial Labor Relations (ILR) now can offer both the B.A. and the B.S.

ILR and the Business School have resolved any course conflicts

Discussion:

The catalog must distinguish between the different programs of study.

Motion made to approve the new degree passed unanimously.

VII. Assessment Report (Hedva Lewittes):

Faculty agreement was overwhelming throughout the SUNY system, more than over any issue in the history of SUNY. The Faculty on all campuses are unanimously opposed to system-wide assessment.

The letter from the Chancellor on entry-exit testing with a nationally standardized test was also opposed on the grounds that we are already assessing for both majors, and Gen-ed requires another kind of testing, and yet another round of testing would require serious expenditures.

The compromise resolution distributed was made NOT by the statewide Faculty Senate, but rather, only by the Executive Committee.

Hedva Lewittes moved and the motion was seconded that the SUNY College at Old Westbury go on record supporting and using the same wording as the Binghamton University Faculty Senate resolution,

The Old Westbury Faculty Senate reaffirms its commitment to support campus-based assessment as it is currently undertaken at Old Westbury and sees no need for an expansion of University-wide assessment.

Motion passed unanimously by 15 in favor.

VIII. Treasurer's report for 2002-2003 (Madeline Crocitto):

During the period of 13 months, income was \$265 in donations, an overall net increase bringing the total to \$1336 plus interest income.

Everyone should realize that those receiving the fruit baskets, flowers, or other gifts have been very appreciative. It is important to provide this recognition and concern for our colleagues in time of personal duress. However, to do that we must be informed by someone in the department of the name, home address and other relevant details.

IX. Report on the South African Appeal by Becke Kalmans was postponed.

X. Student Life Committee report (Caroline Sawyer):

A forum on student life revealed the issue of sexual harassment and the procedures by campus police, the administration, and generally how to deal with the problem.

Barbara Joseph, now on sabbatical, has worked on sexual harassment issues.

Mona Rankin is in charge of sexual harassment. There is a problem about getting information, in part due to privacy laws.

What does the Senate think we should do?

Discussion:

A committee worked on this ten years ago and came up with policies and procedures for reporting harassment and a list of places where students could turn for help.

The Affirmative Action Committee has some responsibilities.

The committee will get more complete information and assemble it for a written policy.

XI. Old Business

Bill Kimmins reports that there is no asbestos danger, although the substance has been used in several buildings. If we have any suspicion (open insulation around pipe or if a pipe is cracked), report immediately and we will bring in outside specialists to decontaminate.

Snow removal – expression of gratitude for the way snow was handled after the last storm.

Jill Edelson reports that some of the wheelchair ramps still have ice and that some lights are out near entrances.

XII. New Business

Announcement by Nancy Sacks to get recommendations to her by Feb. 6th for First Year Experience programs.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eloise Linger, Secretary-Treasurer and Senator for PES