

FACULTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of March 27, 1992

Present: J. Fernandez, S. Kirkpatrick, H. Lewis, P. McKeegan, R. Mukherji, President Pettigrew, G. Seidman

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 28, 1992 were approved.

II CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Dr. Hall has circulated a letter from the State Education Department to conveners/chairs and Stephen Kirkpatrick regarding unregistered concentrations/certificate programs. Some of our concentrations are not registered with the State Education Department in the way that they should be. Stephen suggested that Council members talk with the conveners/chairs about this issue. There is a May 1st deadline for responding to the State Education Department. Stephen has already talked to Evelyn Garrity about CAP discussing this issue.
- B. Stephen asked Faculty Council for their approval to conduct student evaluations during the last week in April. It was raised that the Honors Convocation will be held during that week. Stephen will talk to Mary D'Antonio about this.
- C. Naomi Rosenthal resigned from the Board of the Old Westbury Foundation. Stephen has not yet heard from the Foundation about seeking a replacement.
- D. Dr. Hall shared the budget figures with Stephen. They are also in today's newspaper. The legislature and the Governor have not reached an agreement. They are still talking about a 3 1/2 to 5 percent cut.

III ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES

The following members from the English Language Studies (ELS) Program met with Faculty Council regarding a letter of intent for a degree in English Language Studies: Onita Estes-Hicks, Michler Bishop, Charshee McIntyre and Vicki Wolfe. Faculty Council made it clear that they were not presuming anything was wrong by agreeing to meet with members of ELS.

Onita Estes-Hicks reported that ELS sent a letter of intent to the CAP Committee in October 1991, after submitting a report to CAP and the Long Range Planning Committee in 1990 that this was in the works. In

the Middle States Report it was stated that the elevation of ELS to degree status is essential.

ELS understands that CAP is going to return the letter of intent to ELS, because a proposal is being prepared by another program. However, ELS does not have CAP's response in writing yet. ELS met with CAP on February 28, 1992 and were told, by way of the minutes of that meeting, that the CAP Committee would conclude its discussion in a timely manner. Comparative Humanities expressed an interest, for the first time on March 13, 1992, in preparing their own letter of intent. This was the day that CAP was supposed to vote on the proposal from ELS. On April 6, 1990 Comparative Humanities wrote a letter stating that they thought the degree was inappropriate, that they saw no reason for an English literature major, that they would not be interested in pursuing it, but if anybody has one they will have one. They also sent a similar letter on November 27, 1991. One of the major concerns raised by ELS was that their proposal was not evaluated; it is being held up on the merits of another program expressing an interest in writing a letter of intent. ELS never received any feedback as to the merits of their proposal.

ELS is now being put on hold until Comparative Humanities is given the time to submit a letter of intent. ELS asked Faculty Council to review the process. They would like assistance in getting the letter of intent from ELS brought to the faculty by the May Faculty Meeting. It was agreed that a sub-committee of Faculty Council, consisting of Stephen and Runi Mukherji, will meet with Evelyn Garrity, Chair of the CAP Committee.

IV

BLOOD DRIVE

Last year Haitians and persons from Sub-Saharan Africa were not permitted to give blood. Therefore, Old Westbury declined to participate in a blood drive. This year Old Westbury has been asked to sponsor a blood drive now that those restrictions no longer apply. However, a pamphlet that President Pettigrew received lists certain restrictions. If restrictions are no longer in place, this should be clear to the public. It was agreed that Stephen will talk to a member of the Biological Sciences Department with the hopes of clarifying some issues that were raised at the meeting.

V

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Tom DelGiudice, Chair of the Personal Safety Committee, was asked by President Pettigrew to work on a policy and procedure for sexual harassment. This policy and procedure was distributed to Council members prior to the meeting. Sexual harassment of employees on campus fall under the SUNY grievance procedure. This procedure is for allegations of students against faculty and staff. The following issues were discussed: How is the preselected panel going to be done?

How is training going to be conducted? It was agreed that the document, including minor changes made at today's meeting, will be circulated to faculty for discussion at the April 3rd faculty meeting.

VI

QUALITY OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Faculty Council agreed to invite Dr. Batty to a meeting of Council to discuss what she and other people in her area are doing. The President suggested that Council members might try to visit the dorms to see what is going on.

VII

AGENDA FOR APRIL FACULTY MEETING

The following agenda was set for the April 3rd Faculty Meeting:

1. Approval of minutes
2. Chair's Report
3. Sexual harassment
4. Nominations and Elections Committee
5. New business
6. Announcements

VIII

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Faculty charged the Conveners' Council to prepare a faculty position on reorganization, reductions, etc. Conveners' Council sent a memo to Dr. Hall stating that they are not going to propose a position, that any changes be shared with them promptly, and that they are willing to meet with Dr. Hall on a moment's notice.
- B. With regard to a discussion of the mission that took place at the Faculty Council meeting on February 28, 1992, the President wanted to add that she sent a response to the Chancellor:
 1. Too few first-time-to-college students: The College at Old Westbury is under a resolution by the Board of Trustees to accept transfer students. We are surrounded by two of the largest community colleges.
 2. Ethnic make-up of first-time-to-college students: Long Island not only entails Nassau and Suffolk, but also Brooklyn and Queens.

The President will send a copy of her response to the Chancellor to Stephen.